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rear-facing • forward-facing • booster seat • seat belts

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### **Jennifer Pelky Named to National Child Passenger Safety Board**

Itasca, IL – The National Child Passenger Safety Board (NCPSB) is proud to announce the appointment of Jennifer Pelky who will serve as the Board’s Vehicle Manufacturer Representative. Pelky is a Senior Engineer for the Interior Safety Group at Toyota Motor North America Research and Development.

Pelky joined Toyota in 2008 as an evaluation engineer in vehicle safety, specifically responsible for seat safety and airbag reliability. She ensures federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS) regulation requirements and rear impact performance. She became a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician in 2012 and evaluates child restraint fit in Toyota vehicles. Additionally, Pelky serves on the Society of Automotive Engineers Children’s Restraint Systems Committee and has been a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers since 2008.

Pelky earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Michigan. She was inspired to pursue a career in occupant protection and crash safety at her very first crash test during co-op rotation in college, however, her passion for child passenger safety came with motherhood. “When I was car seat shopping for my first child I found myself very confused searching for the right seat and how to install it,” said Pelky. “If I was having trouble as an engineer in crash safety, I wondered what was it like for the average parent or caregiver without a technical background. I decided to become a child passenger safety technician to help other families navigate the process of car seat safety. It was a natural fit with my crash background.”

Pelky has served as a national spokesperson for the Buckle Up for Life Program, a community-based passenger safety education program that educates the entire family on critical safety behaviors. Through this partnership between Toyota and Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, over 40,000 child restraints have been distributed to families in need.

As a mother of two boys, Pelky stresses the fact that she wants to do everything possible to protect her children, yet knowing that 75% of car seats are not installed correctly, she wants to help other families. She explains, "Parents don't intentionally put their children at increased risk. To me there's no better feeling than helping a child leave a car seat check safer than when they arrived."

For more about the new board members, please visit [www.cpsboard.org/learn-about-the-board](http://www.cpsboard.org/learn-about-the-board).

### **About the National Child Passenger Safety Board**

The National Child Passenger Safety Board, managed by the National Safety Council, seeks to maintain the quality and integrity of the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Training Program. The program is used to train and certify child passenger safety technicians and instructors. For more information about child passenger safety or the National CPS Board, please visit [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org).

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