



NATIONAL  
**CHILD PASSENGER  
SAFETY BOARD**

A program managed by the National Safety Council

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rear facing • forward facing • booster seat • seat belts

April 26, 2021

Contact: Tammy Franks  
National Child Passenger Safety Board Secretariat  
Program Manager, National Safety Council  
[Tammy.Franks@nsc.org](mailto:Tammy.Franks@nsc.org)

**Bailey Bakouris Receives Child Passenger Safety Technician of the Year Award**

*Texas woman recognized for filling a void, connecting with caregivers during the pandemic*

In a time of need, Bailey Bakouris stepped up to ensure the Kyle Fire Department's child passenger safety program remained Texas-strong.

Bakouris was quick to jump in and fill a leadership role when the department's coordinator stepped down. Even though she was a relatively new Technician at the time of this transition, she was able to seamlessly manage and promote the program and keep the Kyle Fire Department's monthly car seat check schedule on track. The department partners with Dell Children's Medical Center through its Kids in Cars program.

She encouraged three firefighters to become trained as Technicians. In addition, she fielded calls and worked in a virtual environment to assist parents and caregivers during the pandemic. For her efforts, Bakouris is recognized today as the recipient of the Child Passenger Safety Technician of the Year Award presented by the [National Child Passenger Safety Board](#). The award is sponsored by [Toyota Motor North America](#).

"Clearly, the Kyle Fire Department's program is running strong because of Bailey and her dedication," National Child Passenger Safety Board Chair Lonny Haschel said. "Her colleagues use words such as passionate, pleasant, cordial and encouraging to describe her. These traits make her a model Technician and serve her well during interactions with caregivers."

Bakouris joined the Kyle Fire Department as an administrative assistant in 2018 and was promoted to the position of Community Outreach Specialist in 2019. She became a Child Passenger Safety Technician in 2018 out of a desire to instill confidence within caregivers and help them keep their little ones safe. While her role in community outreach encompasses many safety arenas, she continually strives to improve her knowledge of car seats by attending online

training sessions and conducting her own personal research on new products. She says child passenger safety is one of the best parts of her job.

“Bailey calls on the same leadership qualities that she uses working with fire department personnel when assisting community members,” said Haschel. “Her calm demeanor enables her to inspire confidence in those seeking to learn how to correctly install their child’s car seat. Her goal – and really the goal of every Technician – is that everyone who leaves an inspection can rest assured their child is riding safely.”

Bakouris grew up in Weatherford, TX, and moved to Hays County while attending college. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from Texas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in 2017. When off the job, she loves to spend quality time with her fiancé and their dog.

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

The National Child Passenger Safety Board, a program managed by the National Safety Council, seeks to maintain the quality and integrity of the National Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Training. 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 the Board’s website at [www.cpsboard.org](http://www.cpsboard.org).