

NATIONAL
**Child Passenger
Safety** BOARD

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Emily Burton Appointed to National Child Passenger Safety Board

Ohio Engineer Looks to Support Mission Through Unique Access to Auto Safety Research

ITASCA, IL – The National Child Passenger Safety Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Emily Burton to the Board. She will serve the Board as its Vehicle Manufacturer representative.

Burton lives in Ostrander, Ohio, a tiny village just north of Columbus, and is a principal engineer in Advanced Safety Controls at Honda Development & Manufacturing of America. She is currently focused on active safety and advanced driver assist systems. Previously, she worked in passive safety where she was responsible for restraints and LATCH requirements.

Burton replaces Matthew Gapinski, who served on the Board from 2023 to 2024.

“I’d like to be the first to welcome Emily to our team,” National Child Passenger Safety Board Chair Jim Savage said. “She brings impressive credentials. Engineers are known for planning, designing and testing prototypes for various applications. These skills will serve her well as she helps the Board think about car seats, their use in the modern vehicles of tomorrow and developing a curriculum to serve Child Passenger Safety Technicians nationwide.”

Burton’s interest in child passenger safety was sparked by a desire to learn how child restraints interact with vehicles. She became a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician in 2017.

“I quickly realized it’s very complicated, and I could support my family, friends, coworkers and community members with some of the most important decisions they have to make about their children’s safety,” she said.

Burton looks forward to working with Board members in a collective effort to improve safety for all road users in an environment rapidly changing due to advancements in technology. She is passionate about reducing distracted driving and sharing research on young and inexperienced drivers. Some teens are regularly tasked with transporting siblings.

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“Through my work in both active and passive safety at Honda, I have access to a great deal of research in the automotive safety area that I hope can support the Board’s mission and provide data-driven and up-to-date information for Board programs, CPSTs, parents and caregivers,” she said.

Burton lives with her husband, Blaine, and their two dogs, Arnie and Winston. During their spare time, the two enjoy kayaking – “as much as the Ohio weather will let us,” Emily said. They also travel to visit extended family in Indiana and California. They love to explore beaches and national parks. Emily’s hobbies include home improvement projects, photography and stained glass work.

About the National Child Passenger Safety Board

The National Child Passenger Safety Board’s mission is to save lives and prevent injuries by promoting child passenger safety through education, mentorship, engagement and innovation. The Board’s work is managed by the National Safety Council. For more information about child passenger safety or the National CPS Board, please visit the Board’s website at www.cpsboard.org