

New Ga. Distracted Driving Law (July 1st ,2018) and Dist. of fleet vehicle phone holding devices

Effective **July 1, 2018**, under Georgia House Bill 673, it will be illegal for Georgia drivers to hold or support a cellphone or stand-alone electronic device (e.g., an iPod) with any part of their body, send or read text messages, or record or broadcast video while operating vehicles on state roads.

Georgia now becomes the 16th state to prohibit all drivers from using hand-held cell phones while driving. The new law requires drivers to use an earpiece, wireless headset or smartphone watch to make and receive calls. The new law will not apply to voice based communications that are converted to a text message or the use of a device specifically used for navigation. In addition, drivers are not allowed to check, send or receive messages when at a stop sign or stopped at a traffic signal.

Motorists will still be able to use their cellphones when driving for emergency situations, such as reporting a medical emergency, fire, actual or potential criminal act, hazardous road conditions or a traffic accident.

According to law enforcement officials, drivers will need to pull into a parking lot or find a place to legally park to make or receive a phone call or use an electronic stand-alone device.

Distracted driving kills nine people daily across the country and injures another 1,000. In Ga. In 2016 and 2017 distracted driving killed at least 89 drivers.

Financial penalties, including points against your license, will be issued to violators of the new law.



Please insure that these vehicle phone holding devices get issued to all of our supervisors ASAP.

Thank You . . . The Safety Dept.