

# Auto Insights



## PUT AN END TO TEXTING WHILE DRIVING

According to research done by the University of Utah, using a handheld or hands free mobile device slows a driver's reactions as much as someone with a blood alcohol content of .08, the legal limit in all U.S. states. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) also reported that almost 6,000 people were killed and close to 500,000 people were injured in crashes due to distracted driving in 2009. Using mobile devices to call, text or email is a leading cause of distracted driving and one of the most preventable.

### Texting Dangers

Text messaging is a useful way to communicate quickly, but safety should never be traded for convenience. Trying to write or read a text message while driving puts your full attention on your phone and not on the road, where it should be.



Distracted driving due to mobile devices isn't just a problem with teenagers. Drivers of all ages are susceptible to being dangerously distracted. Just because a driver is more experienced does not mean that they can drive more safely while being texting, calling or otherwise being distracted by a mobile device.

Every day there are new incidences of serious injuries and fatalities due to a person texting while driving. Because of the increasing danger of distracted driving, many states now outlaw the use of cellular phones in any capacity while driving, and your state may be one of them. To avoid a ticket and a potentially dangerous accident, **DO NOT USE YOUR CELL PHONE** while driving. If you must absolutely make a phone call or text, pull off the road in a safe area and then do so.

Remember... we do more than just help you avoid claims and arrive at your destination safely. Contact us today to learn more about all of our insurance solutions for your auto, home and life!

## SAFETY FIRST

Would you think it was okay for a doctor to be texting, emailing or carrying on an unrelated phone conversation while performing an operation? This may sound silly, but a driver and a doctor both have the safety of others in their hands. Protect both your and other people's well-being while driving and put down your phone to keep both you and them safe on the roadways.

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