



NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The National City Police Department Focuses on Distracted Driving Enforcement

National City, Calif. – During the month of April, the National City Police Department will have additional officers on patrol looking for drivers that are violating the state's hands-free cell phone law.

"Holding your phone and using it while driving is not only dangerous, but also illegal," Traffic Officer Miguel Lozano said. "For the safety of your family and others on the road, put the phone away and focus on driving."

According to the [2021 California Statewide Public Opinion Survey](#), nearly three out of every four drivers surveyed said that distracted driving, because of texting, was their biggest safety concern. In 2019, the California Highway Patrol (CHP) issued nearly 20,000 citations during the month of April to drivers for hands-free cell phone law violations.

Under current law, drivers are not allowed to hold a phone or electronic communications device while operating a vehicle. This includes talking, texting, or using an app. Using a handheld cell phone while driving is punishable by a fine. Violating the hands-free law for a second time within 36 months of a prior conviction for the same offense will result in a point being added to a driver's record.

If you have an important phone call, text, email, or need to program directions, pull over to a safe parking spot. Before starting the car, either silence your phone or put it somewhere you can't reach.

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