

## As Of February 23, 2020 Hands-Free Driving Is The Law In Massachusetts!

The new law prohibits drivers of motor vehicles from using **any** electronic device, including mobile telephones, unless the device is used in hands-free mode. Distracted driving has sky-rocketed as an issue since the adoption of cellphones in everyday life and many states have instituted similar laws to curb the problem. In the United States, approximately 9 people are killed and more than 1,000 injured each day in accidents that are reported to involve a distracted driver. Did you know it only takes 3 seconds to get into an accident after getting distracted?

### The Penalties For Violating The Hands-Free Law:



- 1st offense – \$100 fine.
- 2nd offense – \$250 fine, plus mandatory completion of a distracted driving educational program.
- 3rd and subsequent offenses – \$500 fine, plus insurance surcharge and mandatory completion of distracted driving educational program.

### What Drivers 18 And Over Need To Know:

- You can only use electronic devices and mobile phones in hands-free mode and are **only permitted** to touch devices to activate hands-free mode.
- **You're not permitted** to hold or support any electronic device/phone.
- **You cannot** touch the phone except to activate the hands-free mode and can only enable when the device is installed or properly mounted to the windshield, dashboard, or center console in a manner that does not impede the operation of the motor vehicle.
- **You're not allowed** to touch devices for texting, emailing, apps, video, or internet use.
- Activation of GPS navigation **is permitted** when the device is installed or properly mounted.
- Handheld use **is allowed only** if the vehicle is both stationary **and** not located in a public travel lane or a bicycle lane, but is **not allowed** at red lights or stop signs.
- Voice to text and communication to electronic devices **is legal only** when device is properly mounted; use of headphone (one ear) is permitted.

### Drivers Who Are Under 18

- **Are not allowed to use any electronic devices.** All phone use while driving **is illegal**, including use in hands-free mode.

Signed and understood by :

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: / /