



Cellular Safety

*A guide to safe wireless phone operation
and emergency reporting*







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Driving is one of the most demanding activities that we do, but too many people treat it as a secondary activity when they're behind the wheel. It is estimated that driver distraction in all its various forms contributes to between 20 to 30 per cent of all collisions.

If cellular phones are provided by an employer, or if cellular phone use is a necessary component of a job, employers can be liable for problems created by an employee's use of cell phones while driving.

You should always refrain from using a cell phone while driving, but if you must, here are some tips for safe cellular use:

-  Safe driving is your first priority. When driving, always buckle up, keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road.
-  Keep calls as brief as possible. Alert the caller that you are on the road.
-  Don't dial the phone or try taking notes while you are driving.
-  Learn how to operate your phone without looking at it. By memorizing the location of all the controls, you'll be able to press the buttons "by touch" without ever taking your eyes off the road.



-  Use your hands-free microphone while driving. Make sure the phone is positioned where it is easy to see and easy to reach.
-  Program frequently-called numbers and emergency numbers and use your speed-dial feature. Most phones store up to 20 numbers that can be easily recalled by touching only two or three buttons.
-  Pull off the road at a safe location to use your cell phone, or have a passenger take or give a message on your behalf; even hands-free can be distracting.
-  Most cellular phone services provide customers with voice mail. If your phone rings while you're driving, let it go to the voice mail.
-  Don't be a drifter. Driving takes concentration. Don't get so involved in a conversation that you drift into the other lane. It's best to drive in the right-hand lane while talking. Then you'll only have to worry about checking traffic to the left. Or better yet, pull off the road entirely.
-  Never use an uninstalled portable phone while driving. To be safe, have a hands-free unit installed.
-  Wireless enables you to report crimes, life-threatening emergencies, collisions or drunk drivers. Be a wireless Samaritan.
-  Being in the right will not save you from a crash. You must be prepared for the unsafe actions of other motorists or poor driving conditions.

