



Legislation Text

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An Ordinance amending Title 12 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Traffic Code,” to restrict the use of hand-held mobile telephones while driving, under certain terms and conditions.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Title 12 of The Philadelphia Code, entitled “Traffic Code,” is amended to read as follows:

TITLE 12. TRAFFIC CODE

* * *

Chapter 12-1100. Miscellaneous Regulations and Penalties

* * *

§12-1131. *Use of Hand-held Mobile Telephones While Operating Motor Vehicles.*

(1) *Definitions. The following definitions apply to this Section:*

(a) *Mobile Telephone. Any cellular, analog, wireless, or digital telephone.*

(b) *Park position. For an automatic transmission vehicle, placing that vehicle in the Park gear. For a standard transmission vehicle, placing that vehicle in neutral gear while engaging the brake.*

(2) *No person shall operate a motor vehicle on any street or highway while using a hand-held mobile telephone to dial, answer, talk and/or listen.*

(3) *Subsection (2) of this section shall not apply to a person who is using the mobile telephone;*

(a) *to contact police, fire, or other emergency rescue service in the event of an emergency, including dialing “911”; or*

(b) *while the vehicle is in parked position and not located in a lane of traffic; or*

(c) *as a member of law enforcement or any other emergency rescue department when on duty and acting in an official capacity.*

(4) *Any person violating the provisions of this Section shall, upon summary conviction before a magistrate, pay a fine of one hundred (100) dollars together with costs of prosecution.*

Explanation:

Italics indicate new matter added