Texting while Driving will cost you. First citation, minimum $162.

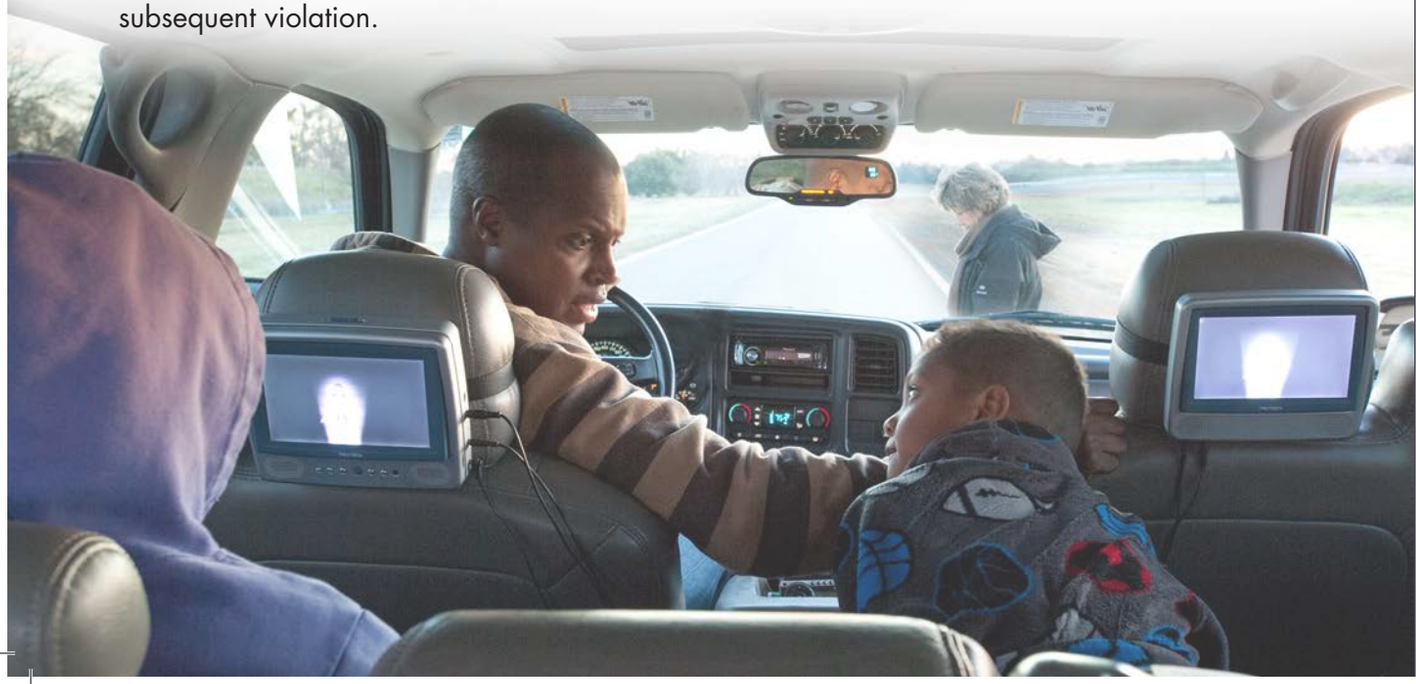
Driving while using the cell phone is a violation of Califonia Vehicle Code (VC):

- 23123 (a) VC - Driving while talking on cell phone, non-hands free device (over 18)
- 23123.5 (a) VC - Texting while driving
- 23124 (b) VC - Driving while talking on cell phone (under 18)

California has primary laws prohibiting ALL drivers from texting, or using a handheld cell phone while driving unless it is a hands-free device. The law only allows a driver to use a cell phone to make emergency calls to law enforcement, a medical provider, the fire department, or other emergency services agencies. The fine for a first time texting or cell phone violation will cost a minimum of $162. The fine amount increases with each subsequent violation.

Distracted driving can take many forms, but cell phones are the number one distraction. Distracted driving can lead to collisions, injuries, and death, in addition to citations for traffic violations. Drivers are 23 times more likely to be involved in a collision if they text while driving. The best advice is to focus on your driving and the road ahead.

Distracted driving takes a person's eyes off the road, hands off the steering wheel, and mind off of driving. Most collisions occur in less than three seconds, based on perception and reaction time. It takes the average person 4.6 seconds to read or send a text message. Just three seconds of texting while driving at 65 mph is equal to driving 100 yards, or the length of a football field, blindfolded.



Distracted Driving is not worth:

- Losing a family member or loved one.
- Getting into a collision.
- Increased insurance rates.
- Getting a citation.

Distracted driving is an umbrella term that covers many behaviors. Cell phone use and texting while driving are the most common. However, anything from drinking coffee to managing children can take your mind and eyes off the road at critical times.

Texting and driving increases a driver's risk of getting into a collision. A cell phone conversation while driving is also dangerous. Talking on hands-free or handheld cell phones requires the brain to multitask. This is a process the brain cannot do safely while driving. Not only does cell phone use impair driving performance, it also weakens the brain's ability to recognize driving cues and hazards.

The primary responsibility of a driver is to operate a motor vehicle safely. The task of driving requires full attention and focus. Drivers should resist engaging in any activity that takes their eyes and attention off the road.

The use of a cell phone while driving increases your chances of being involved in a collision by 400%.

The California Highway Patrol encourages all drivers to put their cell phones away while driving. Keeping a cell phone out of reach while you are on the road is a great way to start. Other tips include: do not eat or drink while driving, do not program your electronic devices while driving, pull over and stop to read maps, and refrain from personal grooming, reading, or watching videos. If something falls to the floor, pull over to a safe location before trying to retrieve it. By eliminating distractions, your risk of being involved in a collision decreases significantly.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION GO TO:

www.chp.ca.gov

CALIFORNIA OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

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DISTRACTED *Driving*

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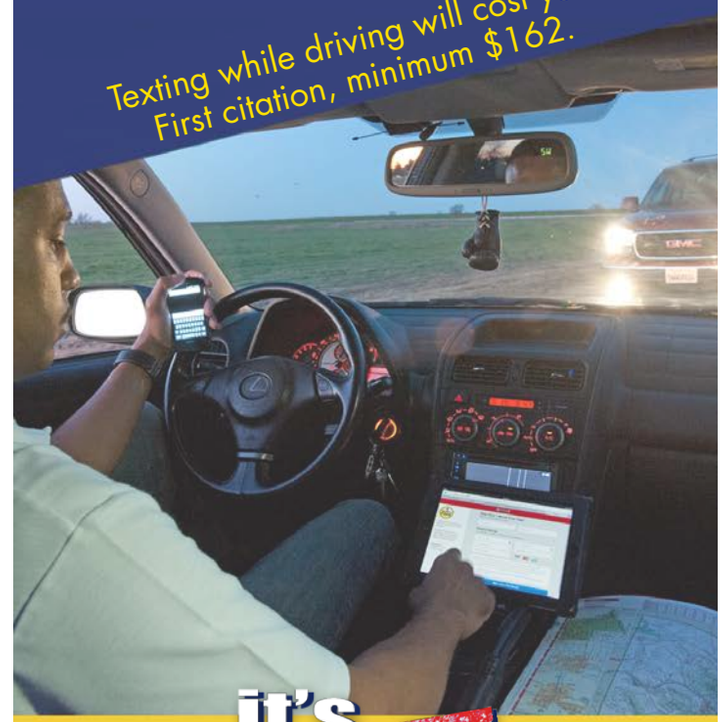

it's NOT worth it!