

# Just Drive

Texting = \$150 fine



## Did you know. . .

- **80%** of all crashes result from driver distraction.
- Drivers who text while driving leave their lane an average of **10%** more often than those who do not.
- Looking down to check a text message takes an average of **4.6 seconds**—enough time to travel the length of a football field at 55mph.
- Between **2,000** and **3,000** people have died in car crashes involving texting while driving.

# Know the Law

**Do you know the rules?** Under the new, tougher anti-texting law, you can be stopped for texting as a **primary offense**. That means, if you text and drive in Erie County, you can be pulled over and fined.

- **“Texting”** is defined as: the manual entry or retrieval of a text message, instant message or email using a mobile phone or other portable, hand-held electronic device.
- A “portable, handheld electronic device” includes cell phones, blackberry, iPhone or other “smart” phone, iPod, or other handheld music player, game player, etc. **If it’s a handheld electronic you may not operate it while driving except for emergency response purposes.**
- Tickets for driving while texting will cost you **\$150** dollars, even for a first offense. **As of February 16, 2011, you will also receive two points on your driving record.**

**Be safe: don't text & drive.**

Questions? Concerns?



Erie County Clerk's Office  
92 Franklin Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
Phone: 716-858-8865  
Fax: 716-858-6550