

PARK THE PHONE

BEFORE YOU DRIVE



MARYLAND'S CELL PHONE
AND TEXTING LAWS

ZERO DEATHS
MARYLAND

The law.

Maryland law prohibits the use of a handheld cell phone or texting while driving.

The fine.

Police can stop and ticket drivers for using a handheld cell phone.

Drivers will face fines (including court costs) of:

\$83 first offense

\$140 second offense

\$160 third offense (and subsequent offenses)

Drivers can also be ticketed for writing, sending or reading a text or electronic message while driving.

The fine is: **\$70 and 1 point**

If the use of the device contributes to a crash, the fine may increase to: **\$110 and 3 points**

Cell phone use and texting
are leading causes of
distracted driving.

be the
driver
who saves lives

zerodeathsmd.gov

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Jake's Law.

A driver who causes **serious injury or death** while talking on a handheld cell phone or texting may receive a **prison sentence of up to 3 years** and a **fine of up to \$5,000.**

What can you do?

- **Park your phone before you drive.**
- **Manage your time.**
Driving is not the time to talk or text on a cell phone.
- **Have a designated texter.**
Ask someone else to send or read text messages for you.
- **Ride responsibly.**
If you are a passenger and a driver is using a handheld cell phone, ask him/her to wait until arriving at a safe location.
- **Buckle up!**
It's the single most important step to save your life in the event of a crash!
- **Be an alert driver.**
This includes not driving while drowsy. Learn more at www.miemss.org/home/drowsy-driving-awareness

Approximately **27,000 people** are injured or killed annually in Maryland because of **distracted driving crashes.**