

Cell Phone Ban for Commercial & Bus Drivers

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Starting October 28, 2013 it will be illegal to drive a commercial vehicle or a bus while talking on the phone.

The Michigan Law reports that texting while driving is still illegal for all drivers, but now the legislation goes a step further and also prevents commercial and bus drivers from even speaking on the phone while traveling down Michigan roads and highways. Under this new law, these drivers are required to move off the road and come to a complete stop in a safe location before making or answering a phone call.

Violation of this law will cost a \$100 fine for the first offense. Any additional offenses will cost \$200 each.

The law does provide a few exceptions, but only in cases of emergencies (such as reporting a traffic accident, medical emergency or serious road hazard).

The federal government has been involved in the Distracted Driving campaign for several years in an effort to diminish car accidents. Their website, <u>distraction.gov</u>, highlights that phone calls, texting, eating, applying makeup and even reaching for objects in the car have all led to tragic accidents. Their motto is "one text or call could wreck it all."

The new cell phone ban in Michigan for commercial and bus drivers compliments this national effort to make the roadways safer. To learn more about this law, visit the <u>Michigan Legislature Website</u>.

