BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

AMENDED CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE EXPANDS RULES AGAINST CELL PHONE USE

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CHIEF OF POLICE

DATE: January 4, 2017

The California Vehicle Code (CVC) has been amended, effective January 1, 2017, expanding the prohibitions on the use of electronic wireless communication devices while driving.

CVC §23123.5 prohibited a person from driving a motor vehicle while using an electronic wireless communications device to write, send or read a text-based communication, unless the electronic communication device was specifically designed and configured, and was used, to allow voice-operated and hands-free operation. A driver could dial a telephone number or use a map application while driving.

Effective January 1, 2017, Assembly Bill 1785 amends CVC §23123.5 to prohibit a person from driving a motor vehicle while holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communications device. However, a driver may operate a handheld wireless telephone or a wireless electronic communications device if:

    * the device is mounted on a vehicle's windshield in the same manner as a portable Global Positioning System (GPS) or is mounted or affixed to a vehicle's dashboard or center console in a manner that does not hinder the driver's view of the road, <u>and</u>

    * the driver uses his/her hand to activate or deactivate a feature or function of the device with the motion of a single swipe or tap of the driver's finger.

This section does not apply to manufacturer-installed systems that are embedded in the vehicle.

Questions about the new law should be directed to the Department of Motor Vehicles, www.dmv.ca.gov.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT MAY BE DIRECTED TO
OFFICER CLAUDIO LOSACCO @ 818-238-3240 OR CLOSACCO@BURBANKCA.GOV

24-HOUR: 818-238-3000	**PRESS INFORMATION OFFICE:** 818-238-3240	**DETECTIVE BUREAU:** 818-238-3210
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