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BURBANK POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 North Third Street, Burbank, CA 91502

OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE

PUT DOWN THE PHONE AND JUST DRIVE

October 5 – 12 is Distracted Driving Awareness Week

October 8, 2020

Burbank, California – Despite the risks of phone use while driving, many California drivers continue to violate California’s hands-free cell phone law.

In support of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) “U Drive. U Text. U Pay.” high-visibility enforcement campaign, the Burbank Police Department reminds drivers to put down the phone when you drive.



According to an [online survey](#) conducted this year by the California Office of Traffic Safety, University of California, Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC), and Ewald and Wasserman Research Consultants, 75.1% of surveyed drivers listed “Distracted Driving because of TEXTING” as their biggest safety concern.

Distracted driving is dangerous, especially when it involves cell phones or other electronics that take your eyes off the road. Distracted driving laws have been in effect since 2008. Under the 2017 [hands-free cell phone law](#), drivers are not allowed to hold a phone or other electronic device while behind the wheel. First-time offenders face a \$157 fine.

If you need to make a call or text someone, pull over and park in a safe location. Drivers are encouraged to utilize Bluetooth technology, silence their phones before starting the car, or place the phone where you can’t reach it, such as in the glove box or trunk.



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QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS STATEMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:
SERGEANT DEREK GREEN | 818-238-3240 | DGREEN@BURBANKCA.GOV

24-HOUR: 818-238-3000

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE: 818-238-3240

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