

Philadelphia's Anti-Texting Law Needs More Bite

Pennsylvania finally joined the ranks of progressive American states when its ban against texting while driving went into effect earlier in March. However, [Philadelphia car accident lawyers](#) have doubts about how effective the ban will be, considering that there is no accompanying ban on the use of hand-held cell phones while driving.

Under the new law, motorists caught texting while driving will be fined \$50. These are primary enforcement laws, which means that police officers can pull a driver over merely because he's texting while driving, without needing any other reason to pull him over. The law supersedes all other local ordinances related to cell phone use while driving, including a law from 2009 that bans all kinds of cell phone use while driving.

Under the new law, motorists in Philadelphia who are texting while driving are in violation of the law, while persons using a hand-held cell phone are not. In such a situation, [Philadelphia car accident lawyers](#) expect that enforcement will be a problem. For instance, what's to stop a motorist who has been texting while driving to claim that he was just punching numbers to call a friend?

There are several studies that show that texting is the most distracting cell phone-related behavior. However, there is no denying the fact that the use of hand-held cell phones is also extremely dangerous. People who are using hand-held cell phones have only one hand on the steering wheel, and these people may be at a high risk of accident.

[Philadelphia car accident lawyers](#) believe that the anti-texting law would have had more teeth if the administration had had the courage to extend the ban to handheld cell phone use too.