

Florida Texting Ban Now in Effect

by Carmen Dellutri on October 17, 2013



As of October 1, Florida's texting ban is in effect. The law, which took several years to pass, aims to cut down on distracted driving on our roadways.

According to national statistics, 3331 people were killed in crashes attributed to a distracted driver in 2011. In Florida, texting was linked to 180 crashes in 2011, with drivers ages 15-24 responsible for 50 percent of the accidents, according to the Florida Highway Patrol.

While teens may be more likely to text behind the wheel, as Port Charlotte injury lawyers, we encourage all drivers to take the texting ban seriously. Under the new law, drivers are prohibited from sending text messages while driving. However, they can continue to do so if stopped in traffic or at traffic lights.

The law also only makes texting while driving a secondary offense, which means law enforcement must stop drivers for another reason, such as careless driving, before they can be cited for texting while driving. A ticket will cost drivers \$30 plus court costs for the first offense and increases to \$60 for a second offense.

Only time will tell if the penalties are strong enough to encourage drivers to change their ways.

*The [Dellutri Law Group](#) is focused on making bad situations better and putting lives back together. If you or someone you love has been seriously injured in a **Port Charlotte distracted driving accident** caused by someone else's negligence, you may be entitled to compensation.*

To learn more about your legal options, contact our experienced [Port Charlotte injury attorneys](#) for a free consultation.

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