



November 1 Texting & Driving Ban

Frequently Asked Questions

"It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle on any street or highway within this state while using a hand-held electronic communication device to manually compose, send or read an electronic text message while the motor vehicle is in motion."

[-The Trooper Nicholas Dees and Trooper Keith Burch Act of 2015](#)

1. Can I still use maps on my phone?

Yes, but the directions must be set while stopped and then your device may only be used through voice operation while moving. You can still continue the debate of Apple vs. Google maps with your passengers.

2. Am I allowed to text at a stoplight?

Yes, if the motor vehicle is not in motion. While not advised to do this, be aware of the tendency to lift your foot off the brake before your phone is completely put away.

3. Is posting to social media included in the ban?

Yes. The legislation defines "text message" as a text-based message, instant message, electronic message, photo, video or electronic mail.

4. What about taking selfies while driving?

A definite no-no.

5. Is e-mailing while driving banned?

Yes. Emails are considered a "text message" by the legislation. Consider it an opportunity for work-life balance.

6. What about hands-free technology?

Still permitted. This law only covers electronic devices where you must manually transmit written text or data. You may continue to talk to Siri.