

Tim Carroll

From: Dennis Jason [djason@chilmarkma.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2011 9:38 AM
To: 'Chief Brian Cioffi'; 'Tim Carroll'; 'Frank M. Fenner Jr.'; 'Jonathan E. Mayhew (jonathanmayhew@ymail.com)'; 'Warren Doty'
Cc: 'ginnyj@vineyard.net'; 'codyspoppy@aol.com'; 'twalsh3710@hotmail.com'; 'ddeblase@chilmarkma.gov'; 'Chuck Hodgkinson'; 'planningboard@westtisbury-ma.gov' (planningboard@westtisbury-ma.gov)
Subject: FW: MSIB 14-11, USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES WHILE ON WATCH (Read in HTML)

I don't know whether you get this but please read and post; there have been some tragic train, subway (and who knows about airplanes?) and other accidents caused by an operator using their cell phone while operating a train/bus/vehicle/18 wheeler/boat. And I'm, frankly, very sick of seeing vehicles on our local roads veering around as the driver is apparently using a cell phone (sometimes while eating with the other hand or applying makeup) and you have to assume that a driver who is looking down, rather than towards the road, is texting.

By the way, the FCC is considering a license from a commercial broad band vendor named LightSquared and has issued a report stating that use of their broadband services interferes and compromises existing, deployed GPS. One has to wonder what else cell service and broadband and all the techno gadgets interfere with so much of our lives.

Our roads are too narrow, the state road shoulders are overhung in many places by dense vegetation, and we've got young drivers "trying out their new driver's licenses" on their summer vacation. Use of cell phones underway, in fact use of any electronic device should be absolutely banned in any moving vehicles/boat/fire truck/police vehicle etc. unless on an emergency run. Even then there should be a driver and someone actually operating the device.

Please consider a ban on any use of electronic gadgets by operators of moving vehicles in Chilmark (and I'll work on West Tisbury) and fines.

I'll circulate this to the harbor staff.

Ginny Jones

From: Edward.G.LeBlanc@uscg.mil [mailto:Edward.G.LeBlanc@uscg.mil]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2011 3:39 PM
To: djason@chilmarkma.gov
Subject: MSIB 14-11, USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES WHILE ON WATCH (Read in HTML)

Prevention Department
20 Risho Avenue
East Providence, RI 02914-1208
Tel: 866-819-9128
<http://homeport.uscg.mil/sene>

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN

[MSIB # 14-11]

JUNE 23, 2011

USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES WHILE ON WATCH

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) recently issued an Executive Summary of its

7/1/2011

investigation into a fatal marine accident on the Delaware River in 2010. On one vessel, which was underway, the mate serving as master on the bridge of the vessel was engaged in personal business on both his cell phone and laptop computer at the time of the accident. On the other vessel, which was anchored in the waterway due to a mechanical emergency, the crewmember posted to the bow to keep a proper lookout was texting personal messages from his cell phone. While other factors also contributed to the accident, these two actions by key crewmembers in critical positions on each vessel highlight the dangers of inappropriate use of personal electronic devices while on watch.

We are all aware of the well-publicized dangers of using personal electronic devices while driving on our roads. Similar dangers occur at sea, as tragically demonstrated by this accident on the Delaware River. I strongly urge all mariners to examine their current practices regarding use of personal electronic devices while operating a vessel or on watch aboard a vessel. Vessel operators and crew must ensure appropriate measures are always taken to prevent distractions from inappropriate use of the wide variety of personal electronic devices prevalent today. Constant vigilance and continuous focus on maritime safety is paramount.

The NTSB executive summary “*Collision of Tugboat/Barge Caribbean Sea/The Resource With Amphibious Passenger Vehicle DUKW 34*” can be found at:

http://www.nts.gov/news/events/2011/philadelphia_pa/index.html

Questions regarding this Bulletin may be addressed to Mr. Edward G. LeBlanc at Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England, 401-435-2351 or edward.g.leblanc@uscg.mil.

V. B. Gifford, Jr.
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port
Southeastern New England