

# HANDS FREE LAW

## Chapter 90, § 13B



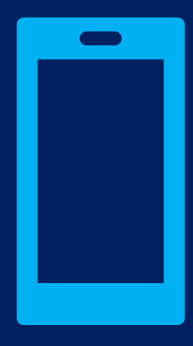
Drivers are now prohibited from:



**holding** a mobile electronic device



**looking** at a mobile electronic device unless:  
-viewing navigation &  
-device affixed to vehicle



**using** a mobile electronic device unless in **hands-free mode\***

\*operation of a mobile electronic device by which a user engages in a voice communication or receives audio without touching or holding the device; provided, however, that a mobile electronic device may require a single tap or swipe to activate, deactivate or initiate the hands-free mode feature

## Emergency Defense

Evidence that the use of a mobile device was in response to an emergency is a defense

**For qualifying emergencies, remember: HANDS-free**

- H**elp needed (medical)
- A**ccident on roadway
- N**eeds assistance (police, fire, emergency services)
- D**isabled vehicle

### Fine Structure

-  \$100 fine (not surchargeable)
-   \$250 fine + program completion (not surchargeable)
-    \$500 fine + program completion (surchargeable)

### First Responder Exemption

This law does not apply to public safety personnel or emergency first responders using a mobile electronic device while operating an emergency services vehicle and engaged in the performance of their duties

**Feb. 23, 2020**  
Law becomes effective



**Mar. 31, 2020**  
citations for all violations

citations issued for only subsequent offenses and typing or reading of electronic message

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