

NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 28, 2024

## Vision Zero encourages drivers to keep their eyes on the road

GRAND FORKS, N.D. – Law enforcement across the state will have extra patrols to enforce the state's distracted driving law during the month of April as a part of the national distracted driving enforcement campaign *Put the Phone Away or Pay*.

Distracted driving is dangerous and illegal; and it's more than taking your eyes off the road. Distracted driving also includes taking your hands off the wheel or taking your mind off driving. Distracted driving takes on many forms; however, texting is one of the most common across the nation.

"Driving distraction-free is not just a choice; it's a responsibility to yourself and others on the road. Let your attention be the guiding force to get you home safely," said UND Police Chief Rodney Clark.

In conjunction with the distracted driving enforcement campaign, Vision Zero is asking all North Dakotans to take the <u>Buckle Up Phone Down</u> pledge and commit to wearing a seat belt and driving distraction-free every trip, every time.

This campaign is part of the <u>Vision Zero</u> strategy to eliminate motor vehicle crash fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roads.

Visit the <u>North Dakota Crash Memorial Wall</u> to view memorials built on the hope of preventing another death on North Dakota roads.

###

## CONTACT:

Lauren Wahlman, Safety Public Information Program Manager

North Dakota Department of Transportation <a href="mailto:lwahlman@nd.gov">lwahlman@nd.gov</a> | 701-328-2598 Law enforcement contacts available upon request.



