

VISION ZERO

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information: NDDOT Safety Public Information Program Manager, 701-328-2598 or law enforcement contact information provided upon request.

U Drive. U Text. U Pay. Begins Statewide on April 1

Dickinson, ND - Law enforcement across the state will have extra patrols to enforce the state's distracted driving law from April 1 – 30 for the national *U Drive. U Text. U Pay.* campaign.

Distracted driving is illegal and dangerous. Distraction is more than just taking your eyes off the road. It also includes taking your hands off the wheel or taking your mind off driving; however, texting is one of the most common driving distractions across the nation.

Nearly 300 citations were issued in North Dakota for distracted driving during the enforcement period in September 2020.

“Put the phone away and send your text message when you get to your destination,” said Stark County Major Eldon Mehrer. “You would never dream of driving down the road blindfolded, yet when you send one text at 55 miles per hour, it is like driving the length of a football field blindfolded.”

Preliminary crash fatalities in 2021 are trending higher than previous years with 21 fatalities to date, making this campaign a vital part of the Vision Zero strategy to eliminate motor vehicle crash fatalities and serious injuries on North Dakota roads.

Visit the [North Dakota Crash Memorial Wall](#) to view memorials built on the hope of preventing another death on North Dakota roads.

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