

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 26, 2021

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 September 1

Jamestown, ND - Distracted driving is dangerous and often deadly. Law enforcement across the state will have extra patrols to enforce the law on distracted driving for the *U Drive*. *U Text*. *U Pay*. enforcement period during the month of September.

186 citations were issued for distracted driving during April's enforcement period. Distracted driving takes on many forms; however, texting is one of the most common across the nation and is illegal in North Dakota.

"Drivers should take personal responsibility for themselves and others by always driving distraction-free. Texting while driving is a behavior so dangerous that drivers are 23 times more at risk of a crash or a near-crash," says Valley City Police Chief Phillip Hatcher.

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 North Dakota Crash Memorial wall to view memorials built on the hope of preventing another death on North Dakota roads.

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