

## 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

*Minot, 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.

"If you're driving by yourself, put your phone in the back seat or glove box to avoid distraction. These are all ways to take responsibility on the road," says Minot Police Chief John Klug. "If you are a passenger in a vehicle, speak up and volunteer to handle the electronics, including cell phones, so the driver can focus on the road."

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</u> wall to view memorials built on the hope of preventing another death on North Dakota roads.

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