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Garden Grove Police Department

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## **DISTRACTED DRIVERS GET EXPENSIVE LESSON DURING NATIONAL DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS MONTH**

In just 30 days in April, Garden Grove police cited over 700 drivers for distracted driving. As part of the City's Accident Reduction Campaign and National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, the Garden Grove Police Department joined other law enforcement agencies and the California Office of Traffic Safety to enforce California's new cell phone law, which took effect January 1, 2017.

Police Chief Todd Elgin stated, "This was a heavy enforcement, not just in Garden Grove, but statewide. That tells you how serious distracted driving has become; it's become a deadly addiction for drivers."

According to Chief Elgin, tickets from this year more than doubled from last year's National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, when 305 drivers were cited.

According to GGPD's Traffic Investigator Royce Wimmer, police were dispatched to a traffic collision in April involving a single vehicle collision with a tree. Based on the investigation, the driver admitted to looking down at his phone to either read or send a text message when the collision occurred.

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## DISTRACTED DRIVERS GET EXPENSIVE LESSON

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The City's Accident Reduction Team, comprised of GGPD motorcycle officers, is asking Garden Grove drivers to put down their phones. The Accident Reduction Team reaches out to commuters through various media outlets, as well as through presentations and community meetings to educate the public on the dangers of not following traffic laws. The City's website, social media, and other mediums will be used to promote the campaign.

For more information, visit [www.garden-grove.org/stayalert](http://www.garden-grove.org/stayalert), search for #StayAlertGG and #SafeStreetsGG on Facebook or Instagram @GardenGroveCityHall, or contact the Garden Grove Police Department Community Liaison Division at (714) 741-5760.

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