



City of St. Charles

ILLINOIS

# Proclamation

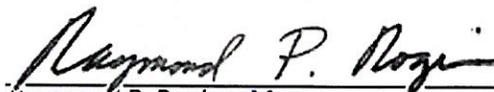
## DISTRACTED DRIVING AWARENESS WEEK APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2017

- WHEREAS,** distracted driving is a risky behavior that diverts a person's attention away from the primary task of driving and poses a danger to vehicle occupants and others such as pedestrians and bicyclists. Distracted driving activities include: texting, using a cell phone, eating and drinking, grooming, reading, watching a video or adjusting the radio; and
- WHEREAS,** driver inattention is a factor in more than 1 million crashes in North America annually, resulting in serious injuries, deaths, and an economic impact that experts say reaches nearly \$40 billion per year. Every single time someone takes their eyes or their focus off the road - even for just a few seconds - they put their lives and the lives of others in danger. Distracted driving is unsafe, irresponsible and in a split second, its consequences can be devastating; and
- WHEREAS,** distracted driving is a growing threat to safety on our roads, with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reporting that 40,200 people were killed and an estimated 4.6 million injured nationwide in motor vehicle crashes in 2016; and
- WHEREAS,** 18 percent of fatal crashes, 15 percent of injury crashes and 18 percent of all police-reported motor vehicle traffic crashes in the United States in 2016 were reported as distraction-affected crashes; and
- WHEREAS,** texting while driving is illegal in Illinois and has become a problematic trend, especially among younger drivers. According to NHTS, cell phone use while driving is highest among drivers 16-24 years old, and female drivers 15 to 39 years old are most at-risk for being involved in a fatal crash involving a distracted driver; and
- WHEREAS,** the American Automobile Association, the Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Truck Enforcement Association, Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police and the St. Charles Police Department are partnering in the month of April as part of a national effort to increase awareness of the dangers of distracted driving.

THEREFORE, I, **Raymond P. Rogina**, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, so proclaim April 24<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017, as **Distracted Driving Awareness Week** in St. Charles and call its significance to the citizens of the City of St. Charles.

SEAL:



  
Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor