

Section/Division Email Bulletin Archive

Message sent to **Orange Section** by Carl H. Gardenias, WU6D at Jul 01, 2008 09:17 ET:

Subject: July 1, 2008 Cell phone law California

To All Amateur Radio Operators in my Section

The new California State law goes into effect July 1, 2008 which prohibits you to talk on your CELL PHONE. If you are 18 and under. You CAN NOT TALK ON A CELL PHONE OR YOUR AMATEUR RADIO WHILE DRIVING. YOU MUST PULL OFF THE ROAD TO USE EITHER. DON'T GET CAUGHT...BE SAFE.

For 18 years and older...DO NOT DRIVE WHILE USING CELL PHONE UNLESS YOU HAVE AN EAR PIECE (ONE EAR ONLY) You may use your Amateur Radio.

Here is the statement made by the CHP:

CHP POSITION ON THE "HANDS-FREE" WIRELESS TELEPHONE LAWS

CGC has been flooded with opinions on the subject of the "hands-free" wireless telephone laws that go into effect in California on July 1, 2008. However, two readers sent us copies of the following letter from the California Highway Patrol (CHP) that appears to be great news for not just ham radio operators, but two-way users in general.

CGC has verified the authenticity of the following e-mail. Please, no more letters on "hands-free" unless you have breaking news from official sources. We greatly appreciate your input but do not have the staff to summarize all of the views, many from individuals who have not yet seen the CHP letter.

While the following letter is not necessarily binding on non-CHP law enforcement officers, we plan to carry a copy of the letter in our two-way radio equipped vehicles to reduce our chances of becoming a legal test case come July 1.

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL E-MAIL

Date: Tue, 27 May 2008 07:48:20 -0700
From: Fran Clader <FClader@chp.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: New Cell Phone Laws - July 1, 2008

The new cell phone laws involve only wireless telephones. They do not concern radios such as your (Amateur Radios), unless they are also wireless telephones.

Again, the law only applies to wireless telephones.

Thanks for your inquiry. If you have any further questions, please give us a call. Or, you can call your local San Diego area CHP office.

Fran Clader
Commander
Office of Media Relations
California Highway Patrol
(916) 657-7202

P.S.

In a separate communication, Commander Fran Clader reminds us that, as always, "safety is the CHP's primary concern. All motorists are strongly encouraged to operate a motor vehicle safely, paying attention to their safe operation of the vehicle, the changing road and weather conditions and the actions or anticipated actions of other drivers."

PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY AND DON'T ABUSE THE LAW!

73

Carl Gardenias WU6D
Orange Section Manager

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