



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 6, 2010

## **Village Council Approves Ordinance Prohibiting Texting While Driving**

(New Albany, Ohio) At its April 6 meeting, New Albany Village Council approved Ordinance O-13-2010, which prohibits the sending, reading, or writing of text messages and accessing the Internet while driving. Such violations will be considered a primary offense, and convicted violators will be guilty of a minor misdemeanor. The ordinance will take effect May 5.

Texting while driving has been shown to increase the possibility of accidents by as much as eight times. The new law will provide opportunities to educate the public about the dangers of texting and driving. The maximum fine for this violation is \$150.

Violators will most likely be identified when erratic driving is observed, much like the way impaired drivers are stopped for OVI arrests.

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