

From: DOECAST

Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2010 3:59 PM

Subject: MULTIPLE DOECAST MESSAGE

Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving

In accordance with the recently released Executive Order 13513, Federal employees shall not engage in text messaging using Government issued or privately owned electronic equipment when operating a government owned vehicle or when operating a privately owned vehicle while on official Government business. Also, Federal employees may not text using electronic equipment issued by the Government while operating any vehicle (Government or private).

Texting means reading from or entering data into any handheld or other electronic device, including SMS texting, e-mailing, instant messaging, obtaining navigational information, or engaging in any other form of electronic data retrieval or electronic data communication. Driving means operating a motor vehicle on an active roadway with the motor running, including while temporarily stationary because of traffic, a traffic light or stop sign, or otherwise. It does not include operating a motor vehicle with or without the motor running when one has pulled over to the side of, or off, an active roadway and has halted in a location where one can safely remain stationary.

It is anticipated that refraining from texting while driving will help save lives, reduce injuries, and set an example for State and local governments, private employers, and individual drivers. Federal employees who violate the requirements of the Executive Order may face appropriate disciplinary action. Implementation of this Executive Order with respect to contractors, subcontractors, and grantees will be forthcoming.