



Department of Police
710 Ridge Road
Wilmette, Illinois, 60091

Date: April 20, 2017

From the Office of:
Kyle Murphy, Deputy Chief of Police

In partnership with the Illinois Chiefs of Police, the Wilmette Police Department will be participating in the first ever Illinois Distracted Driving Awareness Week – April 24th through April 28th. Local, County, and State agencies throughout Illinois will work together to bring attention to the dangers and consequences associated with driving distracted. This campaign will also include the enforcement of applicable State distracted driving laws. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

- 3,477 people were killed and an estimated 391,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2015. That is a 9-percent increase in fatalities as compared to the previous year.
- 10 percent of fatal crashes, 15 percent of injury crashes, and 14 percent of all police reported motor vehicle crashes in 2015 were reported as distraction affected crashes.
- Texting while driving has become an especially problematic trend among millennials. Young drivers, 16 to 24 years old, have been observed using handheld electronic devices while driving at higher rates than older drivers since 2007.

These partnerships have been formed to help further a traffic safety culture in Illinois and to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries resulting from distracted driving. Please help the ILACP, AAA, and **Wilmette** to keep Illinois' roadways safe and Illinois strong. For additional information please visit www.wilmette.com/police-department