



## Washington Police Department

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TO: Honorable Mayor Manier and City Council  
FROM: Michael D. McCoy  
DATE: September 7, 2018  
SUBJECT: Two Week "Hands Free" Enforcement Period

The Illinois Legislature has passed a law that changes the way a violation of the Hands Free Driving statute is to be applied to violators.

After January 1, 2019 if someone is issued a ticket in violation of the Hand Free Driving Act it will go on the record as a MOVING VIOLATION. This type of violation can have severe consequences including ...loss of driving privileges and increased insurance costs.

Recently the Washington Police Department set aside one week to issue tickets instead of warnings for violations of the Hands Free Act. That week 69 violations were issued. Since then we have taken the approach to assist MOST drivers with warnings.

We believe that having a two week TOTAL ENFORCEMENT period, prior to January 1<sup>st</sup>, will make the citizens aware of the changes in the law. In addition, we are going to do Facebook, Washington Police and Washington City social media blasts to inform all the citizens of the enforce net period and the law change date.

Between the dates of September 17<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup> The Washington Police will be issuing violations to those who violate the Hands Free Driving Act by either texting or talking on the phone while operation a motor vehicle.