

## **New Cell Phone Law in Effect July 1, 2008 & Provisional License Reminder**

It's important to be actively involved in shaping the driving habits of your teen. The Provisional License Action Network (PLAN) would like to raise awareness of the risks driving poses to teens and encourage parents to talk with their teens about staying safe behind the wheel.

Effective July 1, 2008, California Law will prohibit the use of "hand held" cell phones for drivers 18 years and older. More importantly for your teen, the new law prohibits any driver under the age of 18 from using **any** cell phone or wireless device, even if equipped with a hands-free or mobile service device.

The Provisional License Law limits high risk conditions while teens gain valuable driving experience with fewer distractions and build their driving skills. The Provisional License Law outlines that for the first 12 months after receiving a driver license (or until the driver turns 18) no passengers under age 20 are allowed in the car unless a licensed driver age 25 or older is present. Driving siblings to school is not an exception. Also, no driving is permitted between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m., unless accompanied by a licensed driver age 25 or older.

The Provisional License Law is in place for a reason. Two out of three teens who die as passengers are in vehicles driven by other teens. In addition, a disproportionate percentage of teen crashes occur at night when it is more difficult to drive and judge surroundings.

Take the time to sit down and talk with your teen about these laws and review the limitations they must follow for the first 12 months of driving. For more information, please refer to PLAN's website at [www.teensanddriving.org](http://www.teensanddriving.org)

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