**Media Release**

**[Company Name] Supports Distracted Driving Awareness Month**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE [Contact Information]

[City Name], VA – April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month in Virginia. [Company Name] encourages its employees, and all other drivers, to put down the phone and buckle-up. It is now illegal in Virginia to hold a handheld personal communications device while driving.

Company officials say that [Company Name] will use Distracted Driving Awareness Month as an opportunity to remind motorists of the dangers of using a handheld phone while driving and other distracted driving behaviors.

“It’s not just texting and making phone calls,” said [Name, Title of Company Official]. “Drivers are using apps like Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat behind the wheel.”

Traffic safety researchers say using a smartphone while driving can be extremely dangerous because all three types of distraction – visual, manual, and cognitive – are involved.

Throughout April [Company Name] will remind employees that anything they do that diverts attention from the task of driving is potentially dangerous. Company officials say that occasional emails will be sent to employees reminding them that grooming, eating, adjusting the radio, etc. while driving are distractions that can contribute to a devastating crash.

“We want our employees to be safe on and off the job,” said [Name, Title of Company Official].

In 2017, distraction-related crashes in Virginia killed 208 people and injured more than 14,500.

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