



# "A LITTLE BIT OF COUNTRY"

## LINDON CITY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2011

### Mayor

James A. Dain

### City Center Offices

100 North State Street  
Upper Level  
785-5043

### Community Development

100 North State Street  
Lower Level  
785-7687

### Public Works

946 West Center Street  
796-7954

### Justice Court

100 North State Street  
Upper Level  
785-1971

### Police

100 North State Street  
Lower Level  
Emergency - 911  
Non-emergency Dispatch  
229-7070  
Police Department Offices  
769-8600

### Fire

Emergency - 911  
Non-emergency Dispatch  
229-7070  
Other Fire Services  
229-7327

### Aquatics Center

60 West 60 North  
610-4160

### Community Center

25 North Main  
769-8637

### City Website

[www.lindoncity.org](http://www.lindoncity.org)

## Distracted Driving Enforcement

The next time you are out driving, as safely as you can, pay attention to the other drivers who are on the road. Notice how many are texting and not driving, or are holding their phone to their ear with one shoulder while trying to turn and are so wrapped up in their conversation that they are totally oblivious to what is going on around them. Here are some scary numbers from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). Did you know that 20 percent of injury crashes in 2009 involved reports of distracted driving? Of those killed in distracted-driving-related crashes, 995 involved reports of a cell phone as a distraction (18% of fatalities in distraction-related crashes). In 2009, 5,474 people were killed on U.S. roadways, and an estimated additional 448,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes that were reported to have involved distracted driving. The age group with the greatest proportion of distracted drivers was the under-20 age group – 16 percent of all drivers, younger than 20, involved in fatal crashes were reported to have been distracted while driving. Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. (Source: Insurance Institute for Highway Safety) and that using a cell phone while driving, whether it's hand-held or hands-free, delays a driver's reactions as much as having a blood alcohol concentration at the legal limit of .08 percent. (Source: University of Utah) There are three main types of distraction: Visual — taking your eyes off the road, Manual — taking your hands off the wheel and Cognitive — taking your mind off what you're doing. A distracted driving definition is; any non-driving activity a person engages in that has the potential to distract him or her from the primary task of driving and increase the risk of crashing. While all distractions can endanger driver's safety, texting is the most alarming because it involves all three types of distraction. Other distracting activities include: using a cell phone, eating and drinking, talking to passengers, grooming, reading, (including maps), using a PDA or navigation system, watching a video, changing the radio station, a CD, or Mp3 player.

The Utah Traffic Code Section 41-6a-1715 covering Distracted Driving says;

**(1) A person operating a motor vehicle is guilty of careless driving if the person:**

**(a) commits two or more moving traffic violations under this chapter in a series of acts within a single continuous period of driving covering three miles or less in total distance; or**  
**(b) commits a moving traffic violation under this chapter other than a moving traffic violation under Part 6, Speed Restrictions, while being distracted by one or more activities taking place within the vehicle that are not related to the operation of a motor vehicle, including:**

**(i) using a wireless telephone or other electronic device unless the person is using hands-free talking and listening features while operating the motor vehicle;**

**(ii) searching for an item in the vehicle; or**

**(iii) attending to personal hygiene or grooming.**

**(2) A violation of this section is a class C misdemeanor.**

**(3) In addition to the penalty provided under this section or any other section, a judge may order the revocation of the convicted person's driver license if the violation causes or results in the death of another person in accordance with Subsection 53-3-218(6).**

Here in Lindon we are seeing distracted drivers so often that it is time to do something about it. Starting in November, I will assign Patrol Officers to special traffic shifts watching for people who are driving while distracted. As with our other safety efforts we will first try education, giving minor violators information about the dangers of not paying attention to the road. However, this doesn't mean amnesty for all violators, the issuance of citations will be at the discretion of the Officer if they feel it appropriate and necessary. To be safe, please drive when you're driving and text when you are pulled off the road. What message could be so critical that it won't wait a few seconds or minutes?

Cody Cullimore, Chief of Police, Lindon City Police Department

**SECOND ANNUAL  
THANKSGIVING DINNER**  
**See the enclosed flyer for  
details on this new  
tradition and how you  
can help! Contact  
Mayor Dain at  
[jdain@lindoncity.org](mailto:jdain@lindoncity.org)  
with questions or to help**