

PART B

TRAFFIC RULES & REGULATIONS

Use Of Mobile Communication Device While Driving

USE OF MOBILE COMMUNICATION DEVICE WHILE DRIVING

("Use", in relation to a mobile communication device, means to hold it in at least one hand while operating any of its functions)

125 It is an offence to use a mobile communication devices [including mobile telephone and any hand held devices (e.g. tablets, walkie-talkies, handheld gaming consoles, etc) which are designed or capable of being used for a communicative function) when driving or riding a bicycle or powered assisted bicycle (PAB) on the roads. Should you need to use the mobile communication device while driving, you should drive to a safe place such as a carpark and use it when you are stationary. Communicative function, in this context, refers to any of the following functions:

- (a) Sending or receiving oral or written messages;
- (b) Sending or receiving electronic documents;
- (c) Sending or receiving still or moving images;
- (d) Sending or receiving audio or video files; and
- (e) Providing access to the internet.

126 Any driver caught using a mobile communication device whilst driving will be charged in court. The penalty for this offence is a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or both. The offender's driving licence is also likely to be disqualified.

127 Any cyclist caught using a mobile communication device while riding a bicycle or a powered assisted bicycle can be fined \$75 for this offence.

128 Typical scenarios of using a mobile communication device while driving includes driving with one hand holding a mobile communication device and communicating with another person on that device while the vehicle is in motion; texting with a mobile communication device, dialling a phone number or pressing a button to receive a call while holding the mobile communication device are also against the law. Using hands free devices, such as wireless or wired headsets, is acceptable unless the driver is holding on to the mobile communication device while using the hands free device while the vehicle is in motion.

In short, an offence is committed if the driver satisfies all the 3 conditions below:

- (a) At least one hand is holding a mobile communication device; and
- (b) Driver is using any function of the mobile communication device; and
- (c) The motor vehicle is in motion.