EL SEGUNDO POLICE DEPARTMENT

348 MAIN STREET, EL SEGUNDO, CA 90245
(310) 524-2200
MITCH TAVERA, CHIEF OF POLICE

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

El Segundo Police to Enforce Cell Phone Violations

In an effort to educate the public and increase the safety of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, on October 26, 2010, officers of the El Segundo Police Department will be conducting a cell phone/distracted driver enforcement operation throughout the city. This operation is being conducted in conjunction with the California Highway Patrol who is sponsoring a Distracted Driving/Cell Phone "Zero Tolerance" campaign during the month of October.

Officers will be looking for motorists who are unlawfully using their cell phones or are otherwise visibly distracted from driving. Examples of actions that divert the focus of drivers include driving while reading and applying make-up while operating a motor vehicle. The intent of this operation is to eliminate those actions committed by drivers that increase the likelihood of accidents and injuries on the roadway.

The law that prohibits all drivers from using a handheld wireless telephone while operating a motor vehicle went into effect on January 1, 2008 and the law that prohibits drivers from texting while operating a motor vehicle went into effect on January 1, 2009. Despite prior education and enforcement campaigns, officers continue to see drivers talking and texting with phones in their hands. The law stresses "hand free" operation of cell phones which prohibits the utilization and holding of a cell phone in a driver's hand while operating a motor vehicle.

Please contact Lieutenant Carlos Mendoza at 310-524-2254 if you have any questions regarding the enforcement efforts.