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**June 5, 2003**

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## **NTSI Joins Federal Panel in Calling for Ban on Cell Phone Use Among Novice Drivers**

(TUCSON, Ariz.) --- Citing the increasing rate of vehicular accidents involving driver distractions, the National Traffic Safety Institute (NTSI) has joined the call for a ban on cell phone use among drivers with learners' permits. The position was declared on the heels of a similar recommendation issued by the National Transportation Safety Board, a federal government agency. Laws governing cell phone usage among drivers are under the jurisdiction of the individual state legislatures, and the NTSI has pledged to work aggressively to promote the ban in all 50 states.

"Driver distractions are a leading contributor to traffic collisions," stated Paul Hallums, Vice President of NTSI. "The National Traffic Safety Institute has historically held that new drivers need to understand the consequences of their decisions, and need to devote their full attention to the driving task," he continued. "The privilege of driving combines appropriate knowledge with personal behavior and values, and this ethic can be significantly compromised among new drivers who allow themselves to be distracted."

The National Traffic Safety Institute has trained millions of people across the country to be safer drivers. Through classes and educational programs in 24 states, the nation's oldest and largest traffic safety program stands among the Tucson's most valuable and reliable public services.

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