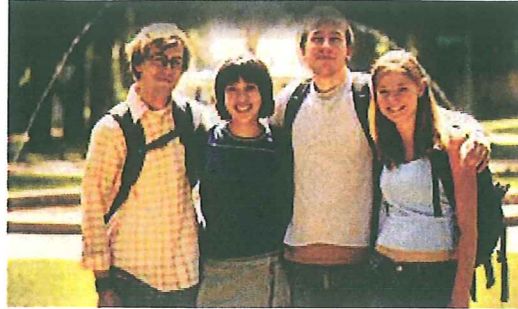


# THE COOPER FIRM

June 28, 2010

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## School's Out for the Summer!

### Basic Rules of Safety



Now is the time to be vigilant in protecting our children. The following are some not-so-new rules we feel compelled to remind you about in order to protect your children. If you diligently enforce these rules, they will greatly increase the safety of your children this summer.

#### BASIC RULES:

No cell phone use while driving (texting & hands free cell phone).

Never allow your teenager to have more than one passenger in the car with them. The incidence of teen fatalities goes up 50% for the first teen passenger and increases with each additional passenger.

**ALWAYS** buckle up. Approximately two-thirds of teens killed in vehicle crashes were not wearing their seatbelts.

Listen to one radio station and one station only while driving.

Do not blast the radio. You must be able to hear a siren or horn warning of possible trouble.

Limit nighttime driving. Set a responsible curfew and stick to it. States with graduated driving programs reduce the risk of nighttime fatalities by 60%.

Do not drive if you are sleepy. Studies show that 55% of teens who have been licensed to drive more than a year are most likely to fall asleep while at the wheel at night.

Report in every time you arrive at a new location.

Do not drive like you own the road; drive like you own the car.

Make sure your vehicle has gas in it. Do not ride around with the gauge on empty~~who knows where you might be stranded.

Make sure the windshield is clean. At sunrise and sunset, light reflecting off a dirty windshield can cause momentary blindness.

Do not use cruise control when you are driving late at night or when you are tired.

Always be on the lookout for bikes, motorcycles and pedestrians.

Slow down! The faster you drive, the longer it takes you to stop. Speed is a factor in 40% of all teen driver fatalities.

## Texting While Driving

### S.B. 360 "Caleb Sorohan Act for Saving Lives by Preventing Texting While Driving"



On Friday, June 4, 2010, Governor Purdue signed into law the ban on texting. This bill was inspired by the death of a Morgan County teen who died tragically in a single car collision while texting. The brave family of Caleb Sorohan went public, leading a campaign of dozens of Morgan County Teens to lobby legislators for a texting while driving bill. This bill passed unanimously in the state Senate and won a 113-24 bipartisan margin in the House.

Unlike drunk driving, texting behind the wheel requires your entire brain to concentrate. As a result of texting, there are 1.6 million accidents a year, half a million injuries and 6,000 deaths nation-wide, including 250 in Georgia. In fact, you are 23 times more likely to get into an accident while you are texting and driving.

Beginning July 1, 2010 all drivers are banned from texting while driving.

The Cooper firm asks you to consider the risks involved in texting while driving. Talk to your teens about the dangers of texting while driving and ask them to pledge to say "No."

### [Download Teen Pledge](#)

## The Cooper Firm

*Justice, justice, shalt thou pursue. - Dent. 16:20*

**Helping those who have been seriously injured**

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The Cooper Firm's expertise in wrongful death, product defects, personal injury and tractor-trailer collisions have gained the firm a reputation for obtaining justice for its clients.

