



"A Customer First Company"

January 2021

Welcome to the January 2021 Edition of "On the Move"

Virginia's Phone Down Law is Now Being Enforced

On July 1st, 2020, it became illegal to hold a handheld personal communications device (a cell phone) in Virginia. Since July traffic safety organizations such as Drive Smart Virginia have launched educational campaigns to inform the public of this new law. The new law became effective on January 1st, 2021, to allow for educating the public about its provisions. As of January 1st, police will start enforcing this law.



This law is in response to the dangers of distracted driving in Virginia. Distracted driving is a major problem and has been identified as "a crisis that needs to be addressed now" by The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Prior to this law, Virginia was flagged as one of 11 states considered "dangerously behind" in driving safety laws. According to a study from Virginia Tech, 80% of all crashes and 65% of all near crashes involve driver inattention within 3 seconds of the crash.

It has also been found that texting while driving increases crash risk by 2300%, because it involves manual, visual and cognitive distraction. It is by far the worst form of distracted driving. In addition, it was found that Virginia drivers observed in a 2018 Insurance Institute for Highway Safety roadside survey were 57% more likely to be manipulating a cellphone than drivers in a 2014 survey. According to Zendrive, motorists with smart phones use hand-held devices in 88 out of every 100 trips in the US. From this information they estimate about 600 million trips involving distracted driving in the US every day.

The Virginia DMV provides even more information about the problem of distracted driving in Virginia. According to the DMV, 14.2% of all fatal crashes in 2020 involved distracted driving. It is believed that this number underrepresents the depth of the problem since distraction can be difficult to determine in the event of a fatality.

Under this new law you can still talk on your cell phone while driving just as long as you are doing it hands free. Some exceptions to this new law include:

- The operator of any emergency vehicle while he is performing his official duties;
- An operator who is lawfully parked or stopped;
- When a cell phone is being used to report an emergency;
- The use of an amateur or a citizen's band radio

For more information and educational resources visit Drive Smart Virginia at <https://www.drivesmartva.org/>.



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Emergency Ride Home Program Update

It is that time of the year again where you need to register for the Emergency Ride Home Program (ERH).



This program provides eligible, enrolled commuters who carpool, vanpool, bike, or ride the bus to work at least three days a week with a ride home or to their vehicle if an emergency occurs while at work. There is no cost to register for the program. RideFinders offers four free ERH rides per year per program restrictions.

Even if you have registered in the past you will need to register each year. You must renew your ERH registration by:

- Calling RideFinders at (804) 643-7433
- Faxing a completed form to (804) 649-2513
- Renewing online at www.ridefinders.com

The Emergency Ride Home Program is effective each year beginning January 1 and ending on December 31.

Due to the pandemic, RideFinders Emergency Ride Home Program is being revised to reimbursement only and illness/fever is not a covered emergency. RideFinders no longer will be offering taxi service provided through Napoleon Taxi.

Emergency ride home service will continue with the following options and criteria: eligible program participants may select a taxi service of their choice, Uber, Lyft, rental car, or train. Copies of all receipts should be submitted to RideFinders for reimbursement where they will be verified and upon approval reimbursed within 14 days. For more information visit <http://ridefinders.com/about-ridesharing/emergency-ride-home/>

K&K Connection January Birthdays

We would like to wish everyone born in January a special HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Adega Agack	Tin Dang
LaVonda Bailey	Nikita Cloyd
Roberta Caldwell	Fatima Golden
Feleica Dawson	Rafael Gomez
Kendall Dobison	James Knight
Kwame Donovan	Angela Kemp
Sheila Jackson	Ross Strom
Keisha Johnson	Rashita Swann
Darvi Matthews	Leslie Walker
Darnell Parham	Orlando Merritt
Balakishan Ranji	Jamyra Thorpe
Vanessa Wiggins	Ciara Wyche
Ronald Winston	Craig Yachuw

Welcome to K&K Connections

We would like to say a BIG welcome to all our new riders. We are so privileged that you have decided to make K&K your vanpool company of choice.