

## Cell Phone Use

This week is Special Enforcement Week, when Michigan State Police increase traffic safety enforcement to deter unsafe driving behaviors by commercial motor vehicle drivers. During Special Enforcement Week a PK employee was pulled over for holding a cell phone up to his ear while driving a PK vehicle.

All PK employees are required to comply with the law and company policy. Federal and State laws restrict hand held mobile device use (cell phones) in any moving vehicle unless the phone is being operated by a hands free device located in close proximity to the driver.

### ***US DOT FMCSA MOBILE PHONE RESTRICTIONS FACT SHEET:***

#### **What is the definition of using a mobile telephone?**

- The use of a hand-held mobile telephone means:
  - Using at least one hand to hold a mobile phone to make a call;
  - Dialing a mobile phone by pressing more than a single button; or
  - Reaching for a mobile phone in a manner that requires a driver to maneuver so that he or she is no longer in a seated driving position, restrained by a seat belt.

#### **Compliance**

- Make sure the mobile telephone is within close enough proximity that it is operable while the driver is restrained by properly installed and adjusted seat belts.
- Use an earpiece or the speaker phone function.
- Use voice-activated dialing.
- Use the hands-free feature. To comply, a driver must have his or her mobile telephone located where he or she is able to initiate, answer, or terminate a call by touching a single button. The driver must be in the seated driving position and properly restrained by a seat belt. Drivers are not in compliance if they unsafely reach for a mobile phone, even if they intend to use the hands-free function.

If a cell phone needs to be used to communicate and the outgoing call can't be made or an incoming call can't be answered safely, in compliance with the law, do not make the call or do not answer. Wait until the call can be made or answered safely and legally.

Remember that all PK employees may carry a personal cell phone to use in case of emergencies. However, at no time may employees use their phones for personal business while driving or working. Phones may briefly be used during lunch breaks and permitted during work hours only in case of emergency.