

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF STAFFORD
STAFFORD, VIRGINIA

ORDINANCE

At a regular meeting of the Stafford County Board of Supervisors (the Board) held in the Board Chambers, Stafford County Administration Center, Stafford, Virginia, on the 13th day of August, 2013:

<u>MEMBERS:</u>	<u>VOTE:</u>
Susan B. Stimpson, Chairman	Yes
Robert “Bob” Thomas, Jr., Vice Chairman	Yes
Jack R. Cavalier	Yes
Paul V. Milde III	Yes
Ty A. Schieber	Yes
Gary F. Snellings	Yes
Cord A. Sterling	Yes

On motion of Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Snellings, which carried by a vote of 7 to 0, the following was adopted:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN STAFFORD
COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 15, “MOTOR VEHICLES AND
TRAFFIC”

WHEREAS, the Sheriff’s Office handles motor vehicle incidents and accidents that result from driver inattention/improper driving; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Code authorizes the courts to reduce a reckless driving charge to improper driving, but it does not allow for law enforcement to make an initial charge of improper driving; and

WHEREAS, the Board is authorized to adopt ordinances regulating the operation of motor vehicles on highways in the County that are consistent with the Virginia Code; and

WHEREAS, other Virginia jurisdictions have adopted local ordinances that make distracted driving a traffic infraction; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to ensure and protect the health, safety, and well-being of County citizens and those visiting the County, including while they travel on County roads, streets, and highways; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to regulate distracted driving in the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board carefully considered the recommendations of the Sheriff's Office, the Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, County staff, and the testimony, if any, at the public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that this ordinance promotes the health, safety, and welfare of the County and its citizens, and all persons utilizing roads, streets, and highways in the County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, that the Stafford County Board of Supervisors, on this the 13th day of August, 2013, that it be and it hereby does amend and reordain Stafford County Code Chapter 15, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic," as follows, all other parts remaining unchanged:

Sec. 15-126. – Drivers shall devote their full time and attention to driving.

No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any street, road, or highway in the county without giving their full time and attention to the operation of the motor vehicle. Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a traffic infraction. Any violation of this section shall be punishable by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).

State law references: Virginia Code §§ 46.2-1300, 46.2-113.

Cross reference: County Code Sec. 15-2.

Secs. 15-126 127—15-135. - Reserved.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

A Copy, teste:

Anthony J. Romanello, ICMA-CM
County Administrator

CLS:afs