

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, cellular phones provide a number of services that enhance our lives in ways that not long ago were unimaginable and provide various means of communicating with one another, including text messaging; and

WHEREAS, texting while driving takes one's eyes off the road for an average of five seconds and a driver that sends a text message not only jeopardizes his or her safety, but also the safety of passengers, pedestrians, and other drivers, those who read and send text messages while driving are twenty-three times more likely to be in a crash; and

WHEREAS, almost all of American commuters know sending a text or email while driving is not safe, yet nearly fifty percent of drivers text while behind the wheel and more than forty percent who text while driving reported the activity as being a habit; and

WHEREAS, motivated by the frightening statistics related to distracted driving by text messaging, AT&T is committed to putting an end to texting and driving with its "**It Can Wait**" Campaign that focuses on educating the public, especially teenagers, on the dangers of texting and driving, and encourages others to make a lifelong commitment to never text and drive by making a pledge; and

WHEREAS, the 2013 *It Can Wait Campaign* theme **Drive 4 Pledges** focuses on getting individuals involved in taking the pledge to never text and drive while encouraging others in their community to do the same, because no text is worth a life, and they will join AT&T, Sprint, T-Mobile US, Inc., Verizon and more than 200 other organizations by sharing their commitment while also increasing awareness of the dangers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida do hereby proclaim September 19, 2012 as

"DRIVE 4 PLEDGES DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida and encourage all residents to take the pledge to *never text and drive*.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 12th day of September, 2013.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor

City of
Tampa
Florida