



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2, 2020

Silverton Police Department
Jeff Fossholm, Chief of Police
306 S. Water St.
Silverton, OR 97381

2019 - 2020 Oregon Impact/ODOT Distracted Driving Grant for Silverton Police

The Silverton Police Department has been awarded a 2019 - 2020 Distracted Driving Grant through Oregon Impact and ODOT. To meet the requirements of the grant, enforcement and education will occur throughout the year. The intent of this grant is to reduce distracted driving in Silverton and raise awareness to the dangers of distracted driving. It is our hope this will change driver behavior resulting in less distracted driving crashes, fatalities and injuries. For December 2019, the Silverton Police Department conducted **(23)** traffic stops for **mobile electronic device** use.

The penalties for operating a motor vehicle while using a mobile communication device are as follows:

- **\$265.00 fine** for first conviction.
- **\$440.00 fine** for a person's first conviction, if commission of the offense contributes to a crash.
- **\$440.00 fine** for a person's second conviction if within a 10 years period following the date of the person's first conviction.
- **Class B Misdemeanor Crime (\$2,500 fine and up to 6 months jail time)** if within a 10-year period preceding the date of the person's current conviction.