



## FAMILY SAFETY & THE LAW



### Prom Night and Distracted Driving: A Deadly Couple

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If you have teen aged kids, chances are the talk at home recently has centered around tuxedos, gowns and hair appointments. But there's a darker side to prom time that's worth discussing with your children directly. In recent years great efforts have been made to create awareness of underage drinking and driving during prom season. Today, distracted driving, including texting while driving, is another danger for young people who get behind the wheel. In fact 16% of teen drivers involved in a fatal crash were reported to have been distracted. What can you do to protect your kids? Encourage them to never be a passenger in a car when the driver is texting. Remember, there is nothing so important that it can't wait until

they reach their destination safely.

- If your driver is texting and driving tell them you feel uncomfortable and offer to type for them.
- Don't try to reach your child or anyone you know is driving until you think they're off the road.
- Parents, set a good example, don't text and drive! If you need to take a call, use a hands free device and keep it brief.

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#### **Commit to Quit: Don't Text and Drive**

Andrew Finkelstein is Managing Partner of Finkelstein & Partners Personal Injury Attorneys. The firm has a "Commit to Quit Don't Text and Drive" program and encourages you and your teen driver to take the pledge not to text and drive.

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