

To: All Drivers, especially A/P Connectors

August 29, 2006

From: Paul Schneider, UTU Chairman

Re: CELL PHONE USAGE

In the interests of safety, the union strongly recommends that we not use cell phones while driving. It is dangerous and shifts your attention away from the hazards of the roadway. This type of notice should truly be from the Safety Dept., however, I doubt we'll hear much from them on this subject.

One of the most dangerous situations would be with the Airport Connector vans. Do not talk on the Connector cell phone while driving. When answering the phone, be sure to pull over to a safe spot before answering. If you cannot find a safe spot quickly, then do not answer the phone. Let it ring.

Let's see. Connector responsibilities include:

- driving in congested traffic patterns all day
- answering a cell phone for pickups and giving schedule info
- answering a two-way radio to communicate with the buses
- selling tickets and collecting cash
- trying to provide customer service to passengers on board
- loading and unloading luggage up and down steps
- And they want us to take reservations, too! (and write them down)

As a senior, highly respected driver told me, this company needs to hire 3-armed drivers for this service!

It's a very demanding job. Perhaps the company might consider at least having a reservations department that could handle the phone portion of the job. It is an awful lot to expect from one person and safety should be the primary concern. Perhaps the Connector phone could remain in the dispatch office? There's an idea!