

Before you turn up the volume or bass on your car stereo, think about this.....

- ❖ Loud music can prevent you from hearing approaching emergency vehicles and other cars.
- ❖ Loud music is against the law and may result in a traffic citation.
- ❖ Loud music distracts you while you're driving. It can also annoy those nearby.
- ❖ Loud music has become an affront to the tranquility of our community.



## OUR VISION

In an effort to improve our communities' quality of life and address the increasing concern for public safety the Orange County Sheriff's Office is implementing a public awareness campaign. The Orange County Sheriff's Office intention is to create a positive change in behavior which would result in a better, safer community.

This public awareness campaign is not intended to restrict anyone's driving privileges. It is an effort to address the public safety concerns and quality of life issues affected by distracted drivers and excessively loud music.



**ORANGE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Non-Emergency 407-737-2400  
Emergency 9-1-1

*The #1 complaint reported to law enforcement agencies nationwide are noise and speeding.*



**ORANGE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**Kevin Beary, Sheriff**

The key to reducing accidents is to make drivers aware that they are distracted. Then they can reduce those dangerous activities.

## Background

Listening to loud music while driving can seriously hamper reaction times and cause accidents, new research suggests.

A Canadian study found that a driver's reaction time dropped up to 20% when listening to loud music.

Research by the RAC Foundation found drivers were twice as likely to skip a red light while listening to loud music. "The findings of the study proved that not only is loud music a nuisance to others, it is also the cause of accidents on the roads."

An Indiana University study identified **driver inattention** as the leading cause of automobile accidents.

A Canadian study found that driver's reaction time dropped up to **20%** when listening to loud music.

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety using in-car video cameras revealed that **91.4 %** of the drivers were distracted by Manipulating music/audio controls.

Annually around **6 million** traffic crashes are caused by distractions; your lack of attention can be catastrophic."

The number one complaint to the NYPD's Quality of Line Hotline is not prostitution or drug dealing. The biggest concern for New Yorkers is that there is too much disruptive noise in our communities. Noise complaints made up nearly 83 % of the calls received last year, and the problem is getting worse. In the last nine months, 93,000 noise complaints have already been made.

## Music vs. Noise

*The United States Supreme Court* held that it permits one to listen to anything he or she wishes so long as it cannot be heard at the prohibited distance. In other words, the statute permits one to listen to anything he or she pleases, although **not as loudly as one pleases**.

The Census Bureau notes that noise is Americans' No. 1 complaint about their neighborhoods. Noise levels have risen six-fold in major U.S. cities in the past 15 years, and automobiles are the largest source of noise. A decent home stereo might pump out 200 watts, but boom car units often boast 1,000 watts of power. The human pain threshold for noise is 120 decibels (dB) but these rolling sonic factories often exceed 150.

## Just the Facts



- ❖ Approximately 50% of all auto accidents are caused by distracted drivers. **(More than drunk drivers)**
- ❖ Auto accidents are the **#1** cause of death among teens.
- ❖ Florida is the **#1** state in the nation for pedestrian deaths caused by motor vehicles.
- ❖ The **#1** police complaint nationwide is noise and speeding.
- ❖ Emergency vehicles are delayed in their response due to distracted drivers.

**When you're behind the wheel, little things can become deadly!**



**If you can't give the road 100% of your attention, PULL OVER!!!**