



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Martin Malavé Dilan

## Senator Dilan Announces Implementation of “Operation Hang-Up” this Thanksgiving Holiday

MARTIN MALAVÉ DILAN November 23, 2011

| ISSUE: **TRANSPORTATION, CELL PHONES, HIGHWAYS**

Brooklyn—Senator Martin Malavé Dilan (D-Bushwick) today announced the implementation of “Operation Hang-up” – an initiative created under the leadership of Governor Cuomo to discourage drivers from using their cell phones and other electronic devices while driving this Thanksgiving holiday.

“Driving while using a handheld electronic device is not only extremely dangerous, but it is also illegal,” Senator Dilan explained. “And since Thanksgiving is one of the busiest travel days of the year, we will heighten our enforcement of this law to ensure that our friends and family get to their destinations safely.”

Senator Dilan voted in favor of the law, signed by Governor Cuomo in July, to strengthen enforcement of texting-while-driving violations. The law makes using a handheld electronic device for activities such as texting while driving a primary traffic offense, giving law enforcement the power to stop motorists solely for engaging in this activity. Additionally, the penalty for using a handheld device while driving has increased from two to three points.

“Thanksgiving is a time for family and friends to come together and give thanks,” said Senator Dilan. “With the onset of this new safety initiative, we hope New Yorkers can

celebrate many more joyful Thanksgivings to come.”

“Operation Hang-up” is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through a Distracted Driving Enforcement Grant. Under this grant, similar enhanced enforcement periods will be conducted throughout the year.

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