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APPENDIX 1

Appendix 1. Script for focus group discussions concerning cell phone use while driving law enforcement

Question	Remarks/Rationale
<p>Introduction: Before the focus group sessions begin, introductions between the study participants and researchers will take place. The discussion leader will provide the participants an overview of the study and why they were asked to participate. It will be re-iterated to participants that the discussion will be recorded and that their responses and participation are completely voluntary. Participants will also be ensured that their confidentiality will be maintained and no one else other than the research team will have access to these files. Participants will be encouraged to contribute, answer freely, interact with one another, and that there are no right or wrong responses—we want to know more information about their experiences as a law enforcement officer who can issue cell phone use while driving citations. Remind the officers that the discussion will likely last 45 minutes.</p>	<p>The purpose of the introduction is to make sure everyone is comfortable and aware of the purpose of the discussion; we also want to stress that their participation is completely confidential and voluntary.</p>
<p>Q1: This question is to get the conversation started. From a law officer's point-of-view, we'd like to know about your perspectives, thoughts, and/or experiences regarding distracted driving, particularly cell phone use while driving?</p>	<p>This question's purpose is to break the ice and frame the discussion.</p> <p>Probe as needed to determine:</p> <p>1) Their general opinion about cell phone use while driving laws.</p>
<p>Q2: From a law officer's point of view, do you feel cell phone use while driving is a problem among drivers?</p>	<p>This question's purpose is to gauge how extensive this problem is locally and state-wide.</p> <p>Probe as need to determine:</p> <p>1) If they feel the problem is more or less extensive than other traffic safety violations such as seat belt use, speeding, etc. 2) Do they see people using their phones more or less than other traffic offenses? 3) Do they think people use their phones and drive a lot, sometimes, etc.? 4) Do they think people, in general, talk or text more? 5) Do they see any age-related differences in cell phone use while driving behaviors?</p>
<p>Q3: In a given week, generally speaking, how often would you say that you write cell phone use while driving citations compared to other traffic violations?</p>	<p>This question's purpose is to see how much these laws are enforced compared to others.</p>

	<p>Probe as needed to determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If they cite less often, are there any reasons why? 2) Does anything influence why they cite for this violation? 3) How many traffic citations are written by an average officer in their jurisdiction in a given week?
<p>Q4: As you know, most states have issued a primary texting ban, primary hand-held ban, and a young driver ban. Of the three types of cell phone use while driving laws, do you write citations for one type of violation more than others? Why or why not?</p>	<p>This question's purpose is to see if there is something about the different laws that make them more or less enforceable than others.</p> <p>Probe as needed to determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) If so, is this because drivers do this behavior more frequently where you patrol or is it easier to cite them for this specific violation?
<p>Q5: We'd like to know how enforceable these laws are. Are cell phone use while driving laws such as texting, hand-held use, and young driver bans hard for you to enforce?</p>	<p>This question's purpose is to determine if barriers or challenges to enforcement exist.</p> <p>Probe as needed to determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Are there any specific barriers/challenges to enforcement? 2) If there are differences between bans, why?
<p>Q6: Are there any ways that you could think of that would make these laws easier for you to enforce? (Examples if needed: a clearly written law, taller patrol vehicles to increase vantage point, etc)</p>	<p>This question's purpose is to determine possible solutions for enforcement barriers, if any.</p>
<p>Q7: Do you think these laws were/are effective in curbing distracted driving? Why or why not?</p>	<p>The purpose of this question is just to determine if the officers think the law is effective?</p> <p>Probe as needed to determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Is there anything from a law officer's point of view that would decrease cell phone use while driving?
<p>Q8: Is there anything else pertaining to cell phone use while driving that you would like to discuss?</p>	<p>The purpose of this question is just to see if they have anything to add on the subject matter that possibly the research team was unaware of.</p>
<p>Conclusion: Thank the officers for their time and re-state how valuable this information was to fulfilling the study purpose. Because they may think of something they want to share after the session's completion, offer the participants contact information.</p>	