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NEW YEAR NEW LAW

Louisiana's New Hands-Free Driving Law: What You Need to Know

As of January 1, 2026, Louisiana has fully begun enforcing a new hands-free driving law that makes it illegal to drive while holding a cellphone or other handheld electronic device.

Under the law drivers may only use phones through hands-free technology such as Bluetooth, voice commands, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, or a securely mounted GPS system. Any physical interaction with a phone while the vehicle is in motion is prohibited.

Exceptions are limited to emergency use (reporting a crash, hazard, or other urgent situation) and when the vehicle is lawfully parked. Simply stopping at a traffic light or in traffic does not make handheld use legal.

Law enforcement began issuing warnings during a grace period that ended December 31, 2025, and citations are now being issued under the fully effective law.

The hands-free law aims to reduce distracted driving, a significant factor in traffic crashes and fatalities. Fewer distractions mean safer roads for motorists, pedestrians, and roadside workers alike.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

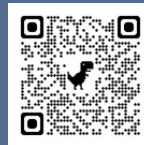


MONTHLY MEMO

EDITION 24 | DECEMBER 2025

RYAN E.
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MEET NIKOLAS



Nikolas is a recent graduate of East Texas Baptist University and is currently obtaining his Master of Business Administration. He is recently engaged to his fiancée, Abi, and will begin law school this fall after being accepted into several law schools. During his time at ETBU, Nikolas was a member of the ice hockey team and proudly served as Captain, demonstrating strong leadership both on and off the ice. In addition to his athletic and

academic achievements, Nikolas is fluent in Koine Greek and authored an award-recognized paper examining the evolution of racism in the City of Marshall. With his wide-ranging knowledge, leadership experience, and dedication to excellence, we are excited to have Nikolas join our team.

2025 RECAP

Celebrating 25 Years of Service



Our firm began 2025 by giving back to ChristFit Gym, a local nonprofit ministry who serves the community through a blend of faith and fitness.

Our team traveled to Minden in support of the St. Jude Auction and provided a donation on behalf of Ryan Gatti in memory of his daughter, Rebecca Gatti.



Ryan and his family hosted the 7th annual Good Friday family crawfish boil open to all members of the community with the help of his team.

Our firm was honored to win the Locals Love Us – Shreveport-Bossier awards for both, Best Law Firm and Best Lawyer.



Our firm won the following Shreveport-Bossier Advocate People's Choice Awards: Bronze in Personal Injury, Silver in Law Firm, and Gold in Estate Planning, Criminal Law, and Family Law.

December provided an opportunity to reflect and look ahead with purpose. Over the past month, our firm wrapped up another productive year of serving clients, strengthening relationships, and continuing our commitment to thoughtful, effective legal advocacy. We are grateful for the trust our clients and community place in us and for the dedication of our attorneys and staff who make that work possible every day.

This season of reflection is especially meaningful as 2025 marks 25 years of Ryan E. Gatti Law Firm. Over the past quarter-century, the firm has grown alongside the communities we serve, guided by a commitment to integrity, responsiveness, and results. What began as a small practice has evolved into a firm grounded in experience, while never losing sight of the values on which it was founded.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building on this legacy in the year to come. With new opportunities, ongoing advocacy, and a continued focus on serving our clients with excellence, we step into 2025 thankful for the past 25 years and optimistic about what lies ahead.

*From all of us at Ryan E. Gatti Law Firm,
Thank You for being part of our journey.*