

	<b>Wireless Communications Devices</b>	
	<b>SOG Number</b>	<b>RTS-2</b>
	<b>New/Revised Date</b>	<b>June 10, 2010</b>
	<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>June 24, 2010</b>
	<b>Approved by: Jesus Gomez, Transit Director</b>	

**POLICY:**

The use of wireless communications devices has been shown to be dangerous when operating a vehicle. RTS prohibits the use of all personal wireless communications devices while sitting in the driver's seat of a RTS bus transit vehicle or while driving City vehicles or motorized equipment other than RTS bus transit vehicles.

**PRACTICE:****Wireless communications devices**

A "wireless communications device" means an electronic device used to transfer information over a distance without the use of wires. Such devices include, but are not limited to, mobile (cell) phones, personal digital assistants, two-way radios, global positioning systems, handheld gaming devices, and wireless computers.

**PROCEDURE:****Use of Wireless Communications Devices on a RTS Bus Transit Vehicle:**

The use of wireless communications devices while sitting in the driver's seat of a RTS bus transit vehicle is a safety hazard and strictly prohibited. All wireless communications devices shall be turned off and any earpieces or other "hands-free" devices shall be removed from the Operator's ear while occupying the driver's seat of a RTS bus transit vehicle. If there is an on-scene emergency, Operators may pull over to the nearest safe location to contact the Dispatch Office or other emergency services agency through the use of a personal wireless communications device.

**Use of Wireless Communications Devices on other RTS or City Vehicles:**

The use of wireless communications devices while driving City vehicles or motorized equipment other than RTS bus transit vehicles is a safety hazard and strictly prohibited with the exception of earpieces or other "hands-free" devices installed on City-issued mobile (cell) phones for business purposes.

**DISCIPLINARY ACTION:**

Use of Wireless Communications Devices on a RTS Bus Transit Vehicle:

Failure to comply with this work rule will result in progressive disciplinary action as defined below:

First Offense	40 hour suspension
Second Offense	Termination of employment

Use of Wireless Communications Devices on other RTS or City Vehicles:

Failure to comply with this work rule will result in progressive disciplinary action in accordance with City of Gainesville Personnel Policy E3, Rule 30 “Violating a safety rule or safety practice”.