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Meet and greet at the "Stand Up Paddle" Races supporting the Special Olympics of Collier County: Naples racer advocates safe motoring, second stop for the awareness campaign



NAPLES, Florida, May 20, 2010 – Michael Cenzi is supporting the Special Olympics of Collier County and will participate in the Stand Up Paddle Races being hosted by Tavern on the Bay - Bayfront Plaza. In addition, Cenzi will be collecting pledges for his "Stay Alive: Don't Text & Drive" campaign.

"Safety behind the wheel of a car is more important to race car drivers than most people," says Cenzi. "In the race car I communicate with my crew chief and spotter nearly constantly," says Cenzi. "It's hands-free in the race car, and it should be hands-free in a passenger car."


The campaign is aimed at educating motorists the importance of not texting while driving. More specifically, Cenzi's goal is to educate his peers the importance of the "No Phone Zone".

"We need a call to action to stop texting while driving. No text is that important that you put everyone driving around at risk. People die because of their lack of knowledge, the conversation can wait don't risk your life or others. Put the phone in the glove box until you get to your destination or pull over."

In 2008 over 6,000 people were killed in accidents related to distracted drivers, and more than 500,000 people were injured according to CBS news.

"We can make a big difference by respecting the "No Phone Zone", " says Cenzi. "Our goal is to collect 10,000 signed contracts from people pledging to not text and drive. I know we can do it."

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