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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Wilmington, NC Allstate Agency Urges E. A. Laney High School Students to “X the TXT”

- WHAT:** Allison Hunt, of the Randy Gibson Allstate Agency in Wilmington, NC, is encouraging E.A. Laney High School students to join the more than 125,000 Americans who have pledged to not text and drive through Allstate’s “X the TXT” campaign by adding their thumbprints to a pledge banner as a symbol of their promise not to text and drive. Thumb bands given to participants serve as daily reminders to put their cell phones down behind the wheel and stay focused on the road. The SAVE Chapter will host Arrive Alive and SAVE a Life activities throughout the week, focusing on seat belt usage, distracted driving, impaired driving, speeding, and pledging to drive safely. Also assisting the SAVE Chapter with their events is the Cape Fear Coalition for a Drug-Free Tomorrow, National Guard, New Hanover County Sheriff’s Office School Resource Officers, and UNC-Wilmington Crossroads.
- WHEN:** **May 21-25, 2012**  
\* Allison Hunt from the Randy Gibson Agency will be on hand to speak with students about the dangers of texting and driving on Thursday, May 24, 2012 in the cafeteria from 11:45 am - 2:00 pm.
- WHERE:** **E.A. Laney High School**  
**2700 N. College Rd.**  
**Wilmington, NC 28405**
- WHY:** Texting is one of the most dangerous distractions facing drivers today, particularly among teens, of which car crashes are the number one killer. According to a recent Allstate Foundation study, 49 percent of driving teens admit to being extremely distracted by texting and instant messaging while driving. And, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports driver distraction contributes to 25 percent of all police-reported traffic crashes.
- WHO:** The SAVE Chapter at E. A. Laney High School will host the X the Text event, and Ms. Hunt will talk to the attendees about the dangers of driving while being distracted, including texting. Students, faculty and staff will be encouraged to take the pledge not to text and drive. The SAVE Chapter advisor at E.A. Laney High School is Beth Scheirer. For more information on the “X the TXT” program, visit [www.facebook.com/thumbsuppledge](http://www.facebook.com/thumbsuppledge).

**About the Allstate Corporation:**

[The Allstate Corporation](#) (NYSE: ALL) is the nation's largest publicly held personal lines insurer known for its "You're In Good Hands With Allstate<sup>®</sup>" slogan. Now celebrating its 80th anniversary as an insurer, Allstate is reinventing protection and retirement to help nearly 16 million households insure what they have today and better prepare for tomorrow. Consumers access Allstate insurance products (auto, home, life and retirement) and services through Allstate agencies, independent agencies, and Allstate exclusive financial representatives in the U.S. and Canada, as well as via [www.allstate.com](http://www.allstate.com) and 1-800 Allstate<sup>®</sup>.

**About the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere:**

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School in Charlotte, N.C. in 1989 following the tragic death of a student who was trying to break up a fight at an off-campus party. Students met first to console each other, then as an organization to promote youth safety and to work together to prevent future incidents from occurring. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities. For more information on SAVE or starting a SAVE chapter, visit [www.nationalsave.org](http://www.nationalsave.org), or contact SAVE at (866) 343-SAVE to receive free start-up materials and guidance.

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