



LAGNIAPPE

MONTHLY EMPLOYEE NEWS



Distracted Driving By: Jeremy Olivier, Lofton Safety Services



Distracted driving occurs any time you take your eyes off the road, hands off the wheel, and mind off your primary task: driving safely. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of being involved in a motor vehicle crash. Workers in many industries and occupations spend all or part of their workdays in some type of motor vehicle. On average, distracted driving accounts for 300,000 vehicle accidents and 3,000 deaths annually in the US. One study showed that compared with other drivers, those who were at work were more likely to be in a hurry to reach their destination, think about work, be tired, or use a cell phone.

Here are three main types of distractions. Visual (involving the use of limbs), and cognitive (engaging the brain). Talking and texting on a phone are driving

distractions. Texting while driving is especially dangerous because it combines all three main types of distractions. Hands-free phones are not the solution. Research shows that they are just as distracting as handheld phones.

Your brain has a limited capacity for attention. Any non-driving task you perform while behind the wheel reduces the amount of attention available to you for detecting and reacting to potential dangers on the road. The less attention you give to driving, the greater the chance you will be involved in a crash. A worker who is driving a motor vehicle while negotiating a complex or contentious business deal over the phone at the same time is giving neither task the attention it deserves.

- Do not use your phone while driving.
- Pull over in a safe location to look up directions, text, or to make or receive a call.
- Make necessary adjustments (e.g., adjust controls, program directions) to your car before your drive.
- Do not reach to pick up items from the floor, open the glove box, or try to catch falling objects in the vehicle.
- Avoid emotional conversations with passengers or pull over in a safe location to continue the conversation. For normal conversation, passengers in the vehicle can often help lower crash risk for adult drivers.
- Focus on the driving environment — the vehicles around you, pedestrians, cyclists, and objects or events that may mean you need to act quickly to control or stop your vehicle.

10 Years of Service Little Rock, AR

Congratulations to **Officer Demika Adams** on 10 years of dedicated service with Lofton Security Service. If you've visited the Simmons Building, you've likely encountered Demika. He not only provides security in the lobby but also steps in wherever he is needed. Dedication is part of his fabric, and we truly appreciate everything he does for us.

Congratulations again Demika, we look forward to many more years together.



*Captain Carson Griggs presents
Officer Demika Adams with his
10 Year Service award.*

Open Enrollment Information

Open enrollment for major medical coverage will start August 31, 2026, and last through Friday, September 11, 2026.

Benefits guides will be sent electronically prior to the start date.

September 2026

September 7
Labor Day



September 11
Patriots Day



September 13
Grandparents' Day



September 22
First Day of Autumn



STAY CONNECTED





The Excellist: What Skip Bertman Taught Us About Winning

By: Glenda Lofton, Ph.D

When the news broke on August 14 that Skip Bertman had passed away at 88, my mind went straight back to 1958, my first year as an LSU Golden Girl, marching across that field to a packed LSU stadium. LSU baseball wasn't the powerhouse then that Coach Bertman would eventually build it into. Tommy and I have always said Lofton Staffing was built on things we learned long before we opened our first door in 1979, and a good bit of it, whether we realized it at the time or not, was shaped years later by watching what Coach Bertman built with LSU baseball.

For those who didn't grow up purple and gold, here is the short version: Skip Bertman took over LSU baseball in 1984, when the Tigers were drawing fewer than 500 fans a game to a tired, aging Alex Box Stadium. Eighteen years later, he had built the winningest program in college baseball since 1990, with five national championships (1991, 1993, 1996, 1997, 2000), seven SEC titles, and eleven College World Series appearances that still stand as one of the greatest coaching records the sport has ever seen. He later served as LSU's athletic director. He is one of only three coaches in NCAA history to win five College World Series titles.

Numbers like that tell you what he did. They don't tell you how. And how he did it is the part I keep coming back to.

Coach Bertman had a saying that has stuck with me for years: *"A perfectionist fails every time. It's*



Photo credit:
tigerrag.com

J. Stanley "Skip" Bertman
May 23, 1939 - Aug. 14, 2026

the excellist that never stops getting better." Read that twice. A perfectionist sets an impossible bar and calls every honest effort a failure. An excellist (his word, not a typo), shows up, does the work, gets a little better, and shows up again. That is not a small distinction. It's the difference between a person who burns out chasing flawlessness and a person who builds something that lasts eighteen years, or forty-five.

He also believed, and said often, that success should not be measured by the outcome of a single game, but by preparation, attitude, and effort. Anyone who has ever built a business or raised a family knows exactly what he meant.

You don't control the scoreboard. You control how ready you are, how you carry yourself when

things go sideways, and whether you gave it everything you had. Coach Bertman used to tell his players that if they could vividly imagine a goal, ardently desire it, sincerely believe in it, and enthusiastically act on it, it would come to pass. That's not just a pep talk. That's a work ethic dressed up as a motto.

What strikes me most, though, is that Coach Bertman never treated winning and learning as two separate things. He treated them as the same discipline. His players didn't get better despite losing, they got better because they were coached to treat every loss as information and every win as a checkpoint, not a finish line. That's a lesson we try to live out here at Lofton every day. We don't measure our people, or ourselves, by any single placement, any single shift, any single "win." We measure by whether we showed up prepared, whether our attitude served the person in front of us, and whether they left feeling better than when they first came in, because that's what compounds, year after year, into something like a dynasty.

Lofton Staffing has grown right alongside that same philosophy: excellists, not perfectionists. People who keep getting better, who measure themselves by preparation and effort rather than a single outcome, and who understand that learning never really stops, it just changes uniforms. Coach Bertman built a program on that belief and turned it into the most successful era in LSU baseball history.

There is comfort in knowing what no championship, no record book, and no historical marker can quite match. He is now at peace in the presence of the Lord, and the farewell we express today is not the final chapter. Rest in peace, Coach Bertman. We are grateful for the victories, the championships, and the invaluable life lessons you imparted.

Making a Good First Impression on the Job

By: Julie East, Corp. Marketing & Recruiting

When starting any new job or assignment, the first impressions about people often turn into long-term perceptions and reputations. That first impression about you and your potential can make a major impact on your future success with the organization.

How can you improve your chances of making a strong first impression when starting a new job? Check out these tips to help you make a great impression:

- Arrive early (Don't be late).
- Have a positive attitude.
- Dress professionally / Blend in with co-workers.
- Show your team spirit (working well with team members).
- Learn co-workers' names quickly.



- Ask questions / Ask for help.
- Be a self-starter / Take initiative.
- Work full days (Don't leave early).
- Don't call out sick or ask for time off.
- Avoid office politics and gossip.
- Have lunch with different people in the company.
- Keep cell phone time to a minimum.

- Keep personal business on company time to a minimum.
- Take advantage of after-hours activities.
- Listen more than talk.
- Own up to your mistakes (Don't blame others or point fingers).
- Show appreciation.
- Find a mentor.
- Get and stay organized / Set goals.
- Keep your boss informed — of everything.
- Meet and network with key people in the organization & profession.
- Don't post negative or proprietary information about the company on social media.

A great first impression can lead to long-term success in your career.