






Impaired Driving Update

Issue:
Spring 2023



Highlights

-  News from NHTSA, pages 2 & 3
-  DWI Courts and Judicial Resources, page 4
-  Newsletters, page 5
-  Law Enforcement, page 6
-  Lifesavers Conference, page 7

News from DOT

National Roadway Safety Strategy

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg marked one year since the launch of the National Roadway Safety Strategy (NRSS) with a new Call to Action. He encouraged anyone with a vested interest in decreasing roadway fatalities to join the Department and existing partners to join the Call to Action, work together to expand adoption of the Safe System Approach and a Zero Fatalities vision, and transform how we think about road safety across the country. DOT also released a progress report on actions it has committed to as part of the NRSS.

“When it comes to roadway deaths, we have a crisis that’s urgent, unacceptable—and preventable... We cannot and must not accept that these fatalities are somehow an inevitable part of life in America.”

- Secretary of Transportation
Pete Buttigieg

DOT Navigator Now Available

The DOT Navigator is a new resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services. Sections of the Navigator cover topics such as the DOT Grant process, how to find technical assistance resources, and information about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The webpage for the Navigator is transportation.gov/dot-navigator.

Impaired Driving Update

News From NHTSA

The Economic and Societal Impact of Motor Vehicle Crashes, 2019 (Revised)

.....

In addition to fatality data, NHTSA researchers look at the economic costs and societal harm of car crashes. [A report](#) shows that the total economic cost of motor vehicle crashes in 2019 is estimated to have been \$339.8 billion. Alcohol-involved crashes accounted for \$69 billion or 20 percent of all economic costs. Alcohol was the cause of the crash in roughly 82 percent of these cases, causing \$57 billion in costs. More information about the cost of congestion, lost market and household productivity, property damage, and motorcycle, pedestrian, and bicyclist-involved crashes can also be found in the report.

State of the Practice of Ignition Interlock Programs

.....

[A recently released Traffic Tech](#), *State of the Practice of Alcohol Ignition Interlock Programs*, is now available.

38 States provided data to populate an online inventory on key areas, including legislation, program funding, data management, vendor oversight, interlock technology, and monitoring of driver compliance. The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) and NHTSA released an accompanying report that covers the findings in-depth.



Impaired Driving Update

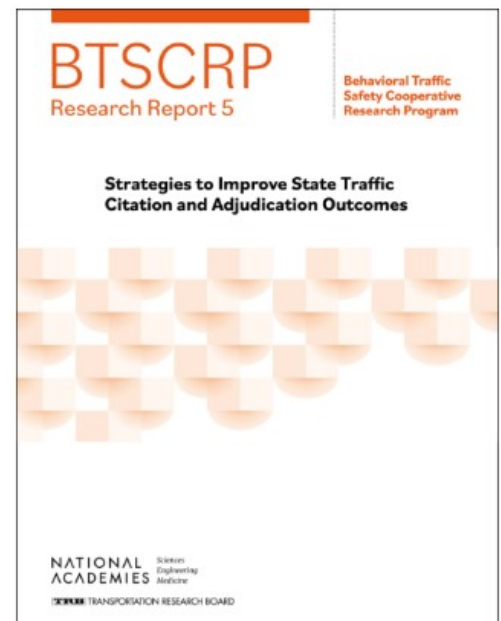
News From NHTSA

Study on Drug Prevalence Released

NHTSA recently released a [report](#), *Alcohol and Drug Prevalence Among Seriously or Fatally Injured Road Users*, which examined drug prevalence among seriously injured roadway users presenting to seven selected trauma centers and fatally injured crash victims presenting directly to four medical examiners at selected sites. While the study's results can only be used to describe drug prevalence among the populations sampled, the findings were notable: 55.8% of the injured or killed roadway users tested positive for one or more drugs (including alcohol) on the study's toxicology panel. An accompanying [Traffic Tech](#) is also available.

Strategies to Improve Traffic Citation & Adjudication Data

The TRB Behavioral Traffic Safety Cooperative Research Program's *BTSCRP Research Report 5: Strategies to Improve State Traffic Citation and Adjudication Outcomes* research report is now available through the National Academies. Supplemental to the report is a *Toolkit for Improving Citation and Adjudication Tracking*; both documents can be found [here](#).



Impaired Driving Update

DWI Courts & Judicial Resources

New Academy Courts

.....
The National Center for DWI Courts' Academy Court Network identifies exemplary DWI courts to host foundational trainings, receive staff from other jurisdictions for site visits, play a significant role in participating in research and media, and serve as a national model for DWI courts.



The recent addition of two DWI courts - the Buncombe County Sobriety Court in Asheville, North Carolina and the Larimer County DUI Recovery Court in Fort Collins, Colorado - increased the number of Academy Courts to 6 nationally.

The Academy Court Network was developed in collaboration with NHTSA.

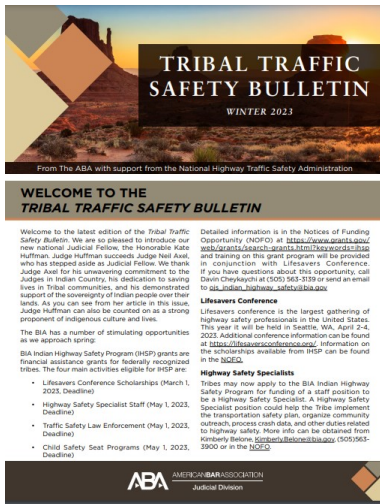
New Training Available

.....
The National Center for DWI Courts is once again offering in-person 3 and a half day foundational training. At little or no cost, DWI court teams can travel to an academy court, receive in-person training, be connected with one of NCDC's expert faculty members for one-on-one facilitation, and observe the host court. Applications for DWI Court Foundational Training are due on March 31, 2023. More information is available on [the NCDC website](#).

Impaired Driving Update

Newsletters

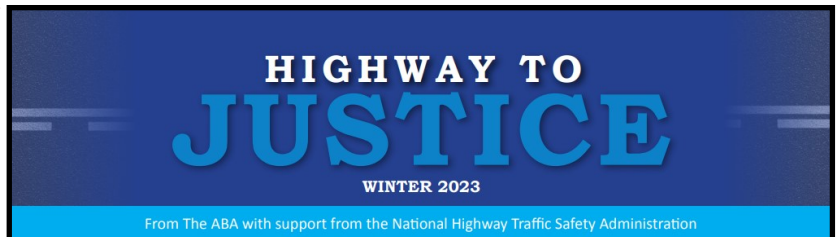
Tribal Traffic Safety Bulletin



The Winter 2023 edition of the Tribal Traffic Safety Bulletin is now available through the ABA. The Bulletin includes a wide range of information and resources, including an article titled *A New Perspective: DUI Recidivism Strategy Collaboration* by Dr. Kimberly Vachal and the Honorable John Grinsteiner (ret.), and links to information about how Tribes can apply for the BIA Indian Highway Safety Program to fund a Highway Safety Specialist position.

Highway to Justice

The Winter 2023 edition of the ABA's Highway to Justice newsletter features articles from Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors in Michigan and



Illinois, links to upcoming webinars this Spring, and an announcement about the selection of a new ABA Judicial Fellow, Judge Mary Katherine Huffman of the Ohio Second District Court of Appeals.

Directions Newsletter

The National Judicial College recently published issue 17 of the Directions newsletter. This issue includes articles on *Cannabis & Impaired Driving: What the Research Tells Us*, and a roundup of recent notable cases by Senior Judge Earl Penrod, Indiana Judicial Outreach Liaison and NJC Judge in Residence.

Impaired Driving Update

Law Enforcement

New Report and Traffic Techs

.....

NHTSA recently released the Sharing Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Resources report, which looked at how successful DRE programs share resources effectively. Researchers looked into what agencies are sharing their DRE resources, how they do it, the technology they use to locate and contact DREs, and how to cover costs. The [report](#) and accompanying [Traffic Tech](#) are both available.

New DRE & Prosecutor Training Now Available

.....



A new course, *Expert Insights: Testifying in Court as a Drug Recognition Expert* [is now available](#) through the US Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. The course is intended for law

enforcement officers who have previously completed the Drug Evaluation and Classification (DEC) Program or are already DREs. Although primarily intended for DREs, this course is also appropriate for prosecutors as a guide to working with DREs to prepare for drug-impaired driving trials. Attendees will feel better prepared and more confident when testifying at criminal trials, motion hearings, administrative license revocation hearings, and during pretrial conferences.

Impaired Driving Update

Lifesavers Conference

The 2023 Lifesavers Conference on Highway Safety Priorities will be held at the Seattle Conference Center in Seattle, Washington from April 2-4.

70 workshop sessions in 10 tracks and an extensive exhibit hall will give attendees the chance to learn and connect with people from across the country and around the globe. Visit [LifesaversConference.org](https://lifesaversconference.org) for more details.



Lifesavers Pre-Conference Training

**April 1, 2023
1 pm – 5 pm PST**

**Seattle Convention Center
Room 605**



Characterizing Motor Vehicle Crashes and Injury Severity Using Pre-Hospital Patient Care Data

Please join the National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Information System (NEMSIS) team at the Lifesavers conference in a discussion regarding how NEMSIS captures data from local EMS agencies which provide clinical descriptions of severe crash injuries.

This discussion will include the following topics:

- Overview of EMS post-crash care and the NEMSIS role.
- How to access EMS data through State EMS Offices and the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center.
- How to access and use data from the NEMSIS data cube.
- Injury vs Fatality data to assess post-crash care.
- EMS data descriptions of motor vehicle crashes:
 - Injury Type and Patient Demographics
 - Injury Severity
 - Pedestrians
 - Older Adults
 - Vulnerable Road Users
- The use of the Universally Unique Identifier (UUID) to link EMS records with hospital trauma registry records.
- Review of available MVC reports, research and publications using NEMSIS data.

Lifesavers Conference Registration:

<https://lifesaversconference.org/registration/>

No additional fee for participation at this pre-conference training.



Ahead of the Lifesavers Conference, join the National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Information System (NEMSIS) team for an important discussion about the data collected by local EMS agencies and how it can be used.

Impaired Driving Update

Campaigns

NHTSA's targeted awareness campaigns give the traffic safety community the chance to emphasize one message in a unified way across the country during a specific period of time. Each campaign has associated materials that can be found at [TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov](https://www.traffic-safety-marketing.gov). You can also sign up to receive email alerts about new campaign materials [here](#).

By raising public awareness through paid, earned, and social media, and maximizing your local resources, you can make a difference. Looking to plan ahead? Yearly Communications and Events calendars can be found [here](#). [The 2023 NHTSA Communications Calendar is now available](#).

Want to know more about the marketing tools NHTSA has available? Information on advertising, branding, types of media, and research on past campaigns can be found [here](#).

Contact Us

Dr. Tara Kelley-Baker
Chief, Impaired Driving Division
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590
Tara.KelleyBaker@dot.gov

