

## Driving Under the Influence

What does Driving Under the Influence Mean? Does it only apply to being under the influence of alcohol? Well to answer the first question, Driving under the Influence (DUI) means a person is operating a motor vehicle in a state where their abilities are materially and appreciably impaired. DUI does not only occur at South Carolina's inference level of .08% Breath Alcohol Concentration (BAC), but can set in earlier depending on one's physical characteristics and other factors. To answer the second question, no. DUI can be caused by prescription drug use or illegal drug use. Always remember to heed a Doctor's or Pharmacist's warning about a medication you are taking.

### Some Helpful Hints if You Intend on Drinking:

- Have a Designated Driver
- If necessary sleep over at a friends
- Call a friend that has not been drinking to pick you up
- Call a cab

<b>BAC</b>		<b>What does it mean?</b>
(Blood Alcohol Concentration)		
0.00%	0 drinks	Only safe level
0.01-0.02%	1/4 - 2 drinks	Impairment begins
0.03-0.07%	1-4 drinks	Reflexes, judgement, concentration and vision affected. Combined with fatigue, illness, stress, other drugs, or poor driving conditions increases the risk of having a crash!
0.08-0.14%	3-10 drinks	Illegal in Utah! Greater levels of impairment in all of the above! Average risk of crash is 10 times normal for an adult, 70-80 times normal for someone under 21!
0.12-0.15%	4-12 drinks	Motor skills, mental functions, and vision are severely impaired!
0.16-0.24%	6-14 drinks	Extreme health and crash risk!
0.25-0.34%	8-18 drinks	Unconsciousness!
0.35-0.45%	9-20 drinks	Death will occur!

Alcohol affects everyone differently. BAC may be affected by age, gender, physical condition, food consumed, medication, and other factors. Also, different mixed drinks contain different amounts of alcohol, so it's important to know how much alcohol has been consumed, not just how many drinks a person has had.



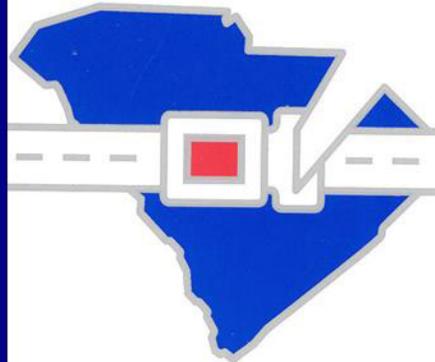
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## Aggressive Driving

As a fact of life in today's world many people have places to go and limited time to get there. With that comes the need for personal transportation. With more people moving about our streets traffic becomes heavy and/or congested. That's when some people lose their ability to cope with the stress and take their anger out upon others on the road.

### Some Common Identifiers of Aggressive Drivers:

- Run stop signs and red lights
- Speeds in far excess of the norm
- Weaves in and out of lanes of traffic
- Makes sudden improper and unsafe lane changes
- Tailgates
- Makes obscene hand or facial gestures
- Flashes their lights

### What to do if faced by an Aggressive Driver:

- Make every attempt to get out of their way
- Refrain from challenging them
- Always remember to wear your seatbelt
- Avoid making eye contact with the driver
- Ignore any gestures or facial expressions by the driver, don't return them
- Call the Police, 911 can direct your call to the proper authorities

## Teenage Drivers

More and more teenagers get their licenses each day. This translates into more and more inexperienced drivers on the road each day. Nothing replaces experience when it comes to driving.

### Helpful hints for Teenage Drivers:

Wear your seatbelt at all times when inside a vehicle

Leave early, give yourself time for those unexpected things

If you are late, you are late; speeding will not solve the problem.

Speeding can equal large fines, or possibly even death.

Don't think that because someone else breaks the laws that it's ok for you to do the same. Breaking the Law usually comes with hefty fines and sometimes even jail.

You need all your attention focused on your driving, so tell your friends to keep it down so that you can get yourselves where you want to go safely.

Remember Driving is a Privilege **NOT** a Right!



## Child Safety Seats and Seatbelts

Over 98% of the child seats in South Carolina vehicles are installed improperly. We the Officers of the Lexington Police Department are dedicated to the safety of our youths, by this the Lexington Police Department wishes to extend to the community an open invitation to schedule a child seat safety check with one of our certified Child Seat Safety Technicians. Furthermore if you are of age to have a license and are stopped, driving or not, without wearing your seat belt you will be issued a Traffic Ticket. If you are stopped and found to have a youth that does not have a license unbuckled in your vehicle you will also be issued a Traffic Ticket.



### Seatbelt Facts:



The fatality rate for people **who wear** their seatbelt is **1** in **732**. In contrast, the fatality rate for those **who do not** wear their seatbelt is **1** in **40**.

Every hour someone dies in America because they were not wearing their seatbelt.

Wearing your seatbelts is the most effective means of reducing fatalities and serious injuries in traffic crashes.

You, your child, friend, or loved one, are **18** times more likely to die in a crash if riding unrestrained.

**A seat belt can save your life or greatly reduce the severity of your injuries in the event of a crash in a number of ways:**

Preventing ejection.

Shifting crash forces to the strongest parts of the body's structure

Spreading forces over a wide area of the body

Allowing the body to slow down gradually

Protecting the head and spinal cord