New Year's Eve in Dallas means parties in Uptown, packed patios on McKinney Avenue and a long night of rideshare surge pricing. July Fourth brings fireworks, lake days and backyard cookouts that run late. Both holidays also bring heavier DWI enforcement across Dallas County, and the people arrested usually have questions by the next morning. Dallas DWI Lawyers, a DWI defense firm based downtown, answers calls and texts around the Dallas DWI Lawyers clock, holidays included. The biggest difference on a holiday weekend is no refusal enforcement. Under Texas implied consent law in Transportation Code chapter 724, a driver arrested for DWI is asked for a breath or blood sample. A refusal can be used as evidence and can bring an ALR suspension of at least 180 days on a first arrest. During no refusal periods, Dallas County has on-call judges available to sign blood search warrants, so a driver who refuses a breath test may end up giving blood under a warrant local Dallas DWI lawyer anyway. As a result, many holiday cases involve blood evidence, which raises its own questions about how the sample was drawn, stored and tested.

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Holiday stops tend to cluster in familiar places, including the Dallas North Tollway, Central Expressway, Woodall Rodgers Freeway and the streets around Victory Park and the American Airlines Center after big events. In Highland Park and University Park, local departments patrol their own streets, and those arrests still go through Dallas County. Busy nights deserve a close look on review. The defense team checks whether there was reasonable suspicion for the stop, whether field sobriety tests were given correctly, whether the warrant paperwork holds together and what the video actually shows. The penalties do not change because it was a holiday. A first DWI is a Class B misdemeanor with 72 hours to 180 days in jail and a fine up to $2,000, rising to a Class A misdemeanor if the BAC was 0.15 or more. An open container in the car raises the minimum jail time to six days, which matters on a night when bottles are often rolling around the back seat after a party. A DWI defense attorney can also talk with first-time clients about deferred adjudication, which may be available in some first-offense cases though not with a BAC of 0.15 or more or a commercial license, and about whether nondisclosure may be possible later. The ALR clock keeps running through the holiday, with only 15 days to request a hearing after notice of suspension. Call or text Dallas DWI Lawyers at (945) 403-4331, 24/7, for a free case evaluation. The office is at 325 North St Paul Street, Suite 3100, in downtown Dallas.

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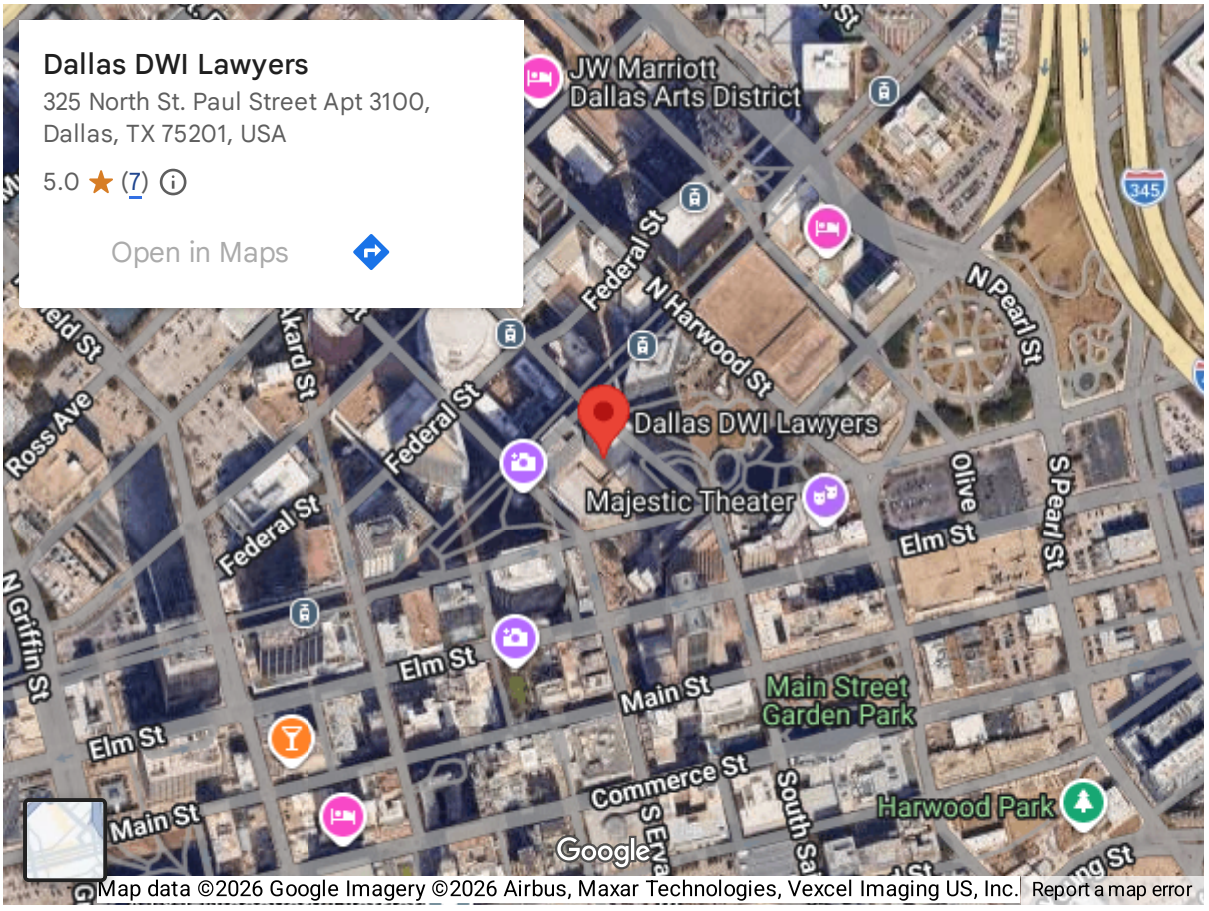

FAQ About

DWI Defense Attorney in Dallas How much is a DWI lawyer in Texas? Fees depend on whether the case is a first offense misdemeanor or a felony, whether there is an ALR hearing to fight, and whether the case goes to trial. Dallas DWI Lawyers starts with a free case evaluation so you can hear what your specific case involves before you commit to anything. Call or text (945) 403-4331 to set one up. What happens after a DWI arrest in Dallas? Most people arrested in Dallas are booked at the Lew Sterrett Justice Center and released on bond, often with conditions such as an ignition interlock. Misdemeanor DWI cases then move through the County Criminal Courts at the Frank Crowley Courts Building, while a separate license suspension case starts with DPS. The team at Dallas DWI Lawyers deals with both tracks from the first call. How long do I have to request an ALR hearing in Texas? The request must be made within 15 days of receiving notice of the license suspension, which is usually the day of the arrest. Missing that window means the suspension can take effect without a hearing. Dallas DWI Lawyers files ALR requests and represents drivers at the hearing, so call (945) 403-4331 as early as you can. Is a first DWI a felony in Texas? A standard first DWI is a Class B misdemeanor with a minimum of 72 hours and up to 180 days in jail, and a fine of up to $2,000. It becomes a Class A misdemeanor if a test shows 0.15 or more, and it can be a state jail felony if a passenger under 15 was in the car. Our downtown Dallas office on St Paul Street handles every level of these charges. Can a DWI be dismissed in Texas? Dismissals do happen, usually when the stop lacked reasonable suspicion, the arrest lacked probable cause, or the breath or blood evidence has problems. No lawyer can promise a dismissal, but Dallas DWI Lawyers prepares each case as if it is going to trial and reviews the video, reports and lab records for weak points. Should I refuse a breath test in Texas? Texas is an implied consent state, so a refusal can bring a license suspension of at least 180 days and can be mentioned at trial. Officers can also get a blood warrant, especially during Dallas County no refusal weekends. Every situation is different, so talk to a DWI defense attorney about how a refusal affects your own case. Can I still drive after a DWI arrest in Dallas? Usually yes, at least for a short time, because the suspension does not start right away and a timely ALR request can hold it off until the hearing. If a suspension does take effect, an occupational license may let you drive to work, school and essential errands. Dallas DWI Lawyers helps with both, starting with a call to (945) 403-4331. How long does a DWI stay on your record in Texas? A DWI conviction stays on your Texas criminal record permanently unless the law gives you a way to seal or clear it. Some first-offense cases may qualify for nondisclosure, and expunction is generally limited to dismissals, acquittals and no-bills. The firm can review your eligibility during a free case

evaluation. What makes a DWI a felony in Texas? A DWI becomes a felony with two prior intoxication convictions, a passenger under 15, a serious injury (intoxication assault) or a death (intoxication manslaughter). These carry prison ranges from 180 days in a state jail up to 20 years. Managing Attorney Gary L. Medlin has been Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1989. Do I need a lawyer for a first DWI in Texas? You are not required to have one, but a first DWI can still mean jail time, fines, a license suspension and a permanent record. A lawyer can challenge the stop and the testing, and may be able to pursue options such as deferred adjudication where the law allows it. Dallas DWI Lawyers answers calls and texts 24/7 at (945) 403-4331. Can a DWI be reduced to a lesser charge in Texas? In some cases, problems with the evidence lead prosecutors to offer a reduced charge such as obstructing a highway or reckless driving. Whether that is possible depends on the facts, the test results and your history. Attorneys at Dallas DWI Lawyers include former prosecutors who understand how those decisions get made in Dallas County. What is the difference between a DWI and a DUI in Texas? In Texas, DWI is the charge for adults who are intoxicated while driving, while DUI is a Class C charge for drivers under 21 with any detectable amount of alcohol. A young driver can face either charge depending on the evidence. Dallas DWI Lawyers defends underage drivers from SMU, University Park and across Dallas.