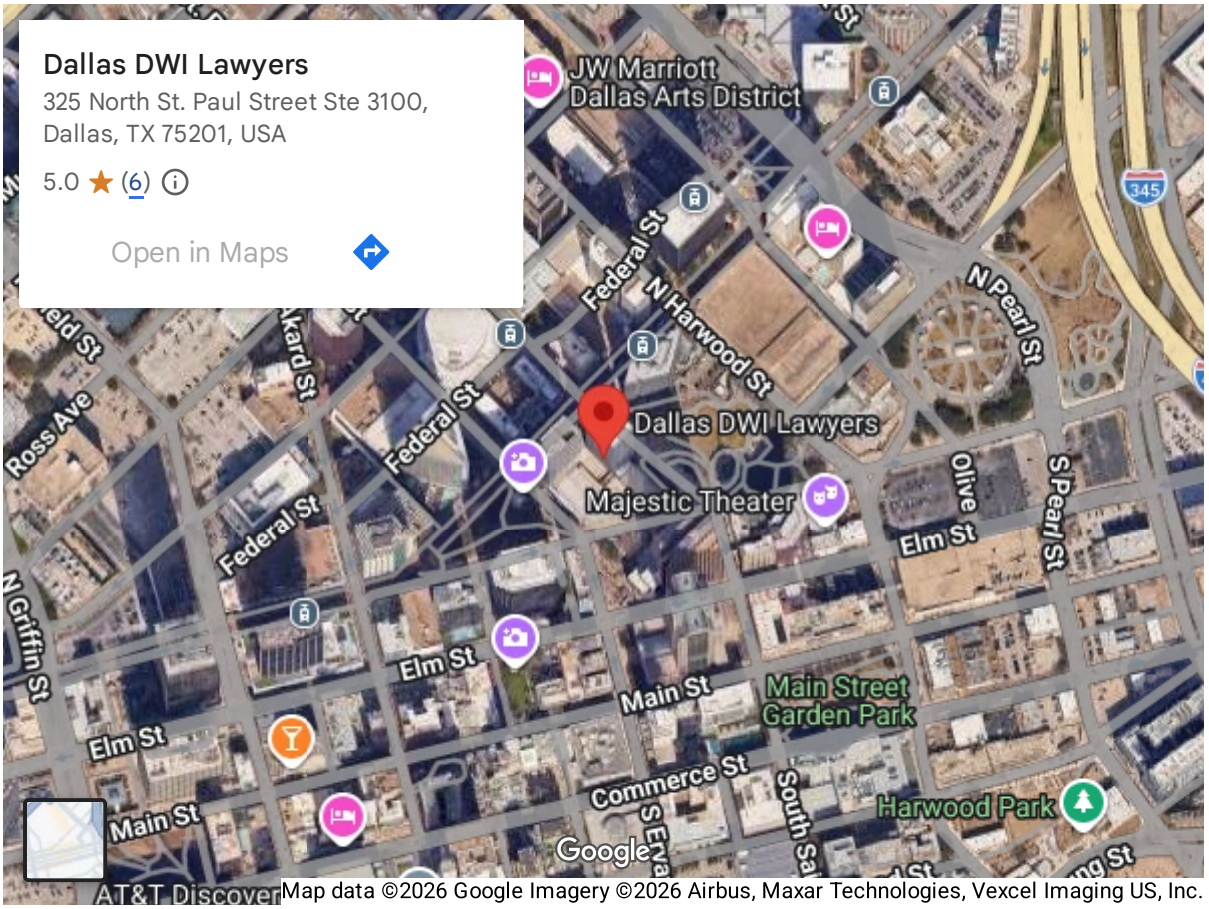
Holiday weekends in Dallas fill the patios on McKinney Avenue and pack the streets around the American Airlines Center. They also bring no refusal enforcement. During those periods, Dallas County has on-call judges available to sign blood search warrants, so a driver who declines a breath or blood test on Lower Greenville or near Victory Park may see a warrant signed quickly and a blood draw follow. Dallas DWI Lawyers helps drivers charged during these weekends understand what happened and what Dallas DUI and DWI lawyers comes next. The name can be misleading. No refusal does not mean a person loses the right to refuse. Under Texas implied consent law in Transportation Code chapter 724, a driver can still decline, but the refusal can be used as evidence and can lead to a license suspension of at least 180 days for a first refusal. What changes is how quickly officers can get a warrant. Once a judge signs one, the blood draw can go ahead even though the driver said no, and the draw itself may take place at a jail or a medical facility. A blood case raises its own questions, and a DWI defense attorney will want to look at each step. The warrant starts it, so the affidavit the officer swore to should support probable cause with facts specific to the stop rather than generic language. Then comes the draw itself, including who performed it and whether proper procedures were followed. After that, the sample has to be stored and sent to a lab, with a chain of custody showing every hand it passed through. Lab results can take longer after holiday weekends when many samples arrive at once, and the testing methods and records can be examined too.

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The rest of the case looks much like any other DWI. The stop still needs reasonable suspicion, whether it happened on Woodall Rodgers Freeway leaving Klyde Warren Park or on Inwood Road near Love Field. Field sobriety tests still have to be given and scored correctly. The ALR case still applies, and the request for a hearing must be made within 15 days of receiving notice of suspension. Magistrates may also set bond conditions such as an ignition interlock, particularly if the alleged BAC is 0.15 or more or there is a prior DWI. The date on the calendar does not make the State's evidence any stronger. If you were arrested over Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, Labor Day or New Year's, call or text Dallas DWI Lawyers at (945) 403-4331, 24/7, for a free case evaluation. Our team includes Gary L. Medlin, Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1989, and we work from our office at 325 North St Paul Street 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.