

OUR DRIVING CONCERN

TEXAS EMPLOYER TRAFFIC SAFETY PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



September 2015

The **Safety Coach** and **Tailgate Talk** are quick and easy tools to help you keep your employees safe on the road.

Safety Coach is designed for an office setting. You can use these resources at a staff meeting, or incorporate into email communications and newsletters.

Tailgate Talks allow you to take the message on the road and connect with your employees in the field.

Visit our website for resources www.txdrivingconcern.org

Know someone who would benefit from receiving this monthly newsletter?
[Add them](#) to our email list.

Questions?
Contact [Lisa Robinson](#),
(512) 466-7383.

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Keep your employees safe.
[Join the Journey to Safety Excellence](#) today!

Safety Coach

A new law affecting all Texans went into effect September 1. Make sure your employees are aware of the new drunk driving law, and take the time to reinforce your employer's policy on impaired driving.

The new law requires drunk driving offenders to install an ignition interlock on their vehicles before hitting the road again [with the intent of reducing repeat drunk driving offenses](#).

Texas still leads the nation in drunk driving deaths, so make sure you support your workforce with education on the new law and feel free to incorporate the talking points below into your next safety talk. Don't forget to include communication around your employer's policies on impairment to strengthen the message.

- [Sample Employer Policy](#)
- [Drunk Driving Poster](#)
- [Excessive Alcohol Use Infographic](#)

Tailgate Talk

A new Texas law will impact all of your employees in the event that they are pulled over for driving impaired. Make sure they understand the consequences and follow up with consistent communication on your employer's policies around impairment.

How Does the New Texas Drunk Driving Law Work?

- The law requires in the installation of an interlock for first-time offenders with a BAC of .08 or greater if they choose to drive following a DWI arrest during a license suspension
- The previous law allowed arrested DWI offenders to obtain a non-interlock restricted license following arrest
- The law allows for drivers arrested for DWI to either apply for an interlock 15 days after arrest or to choose not to drive
- The interlock-restricted license period is at least 90 days for first-time offenders and 180 days for repeat offenders
- Courts also can order an interlock upon conviction per current law
- If an individual does not want the ignition interlock device installed, they will be [prohibited from gaining the ability of having a license](#) that allows them to drive while under suspension for the

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DWI, according to justipedia.com

What is an Ignition Interlock Device?

- It is [similar to a breathalyzer, according to DrivingLaws.org](#), however an IID is connected to the vehicle dashboard or other location inside the vehicle and required that a driver breath into the device prior to starting the vehicle
- If the ignition interlock device detects the blood alcohol concentration of the driver to be above the programmed limit in the ignition interlock device, the engine of the vehicle will not work

The Our Driving Concern Newsletter

Our Driving Concern is a monthly e-newsletter from the Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program, a landmark driving initiative funded by a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation. This initiative is building a statewide network of employer involvement in crash prevention for employees both on-and-off the job.

Do you have a friend or colleague who would benefit from receiving this monthly newsletter? Add them to our email list.

Our goal is to help employers put traffic safety into their safety culture. Please feel free to contact me,

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