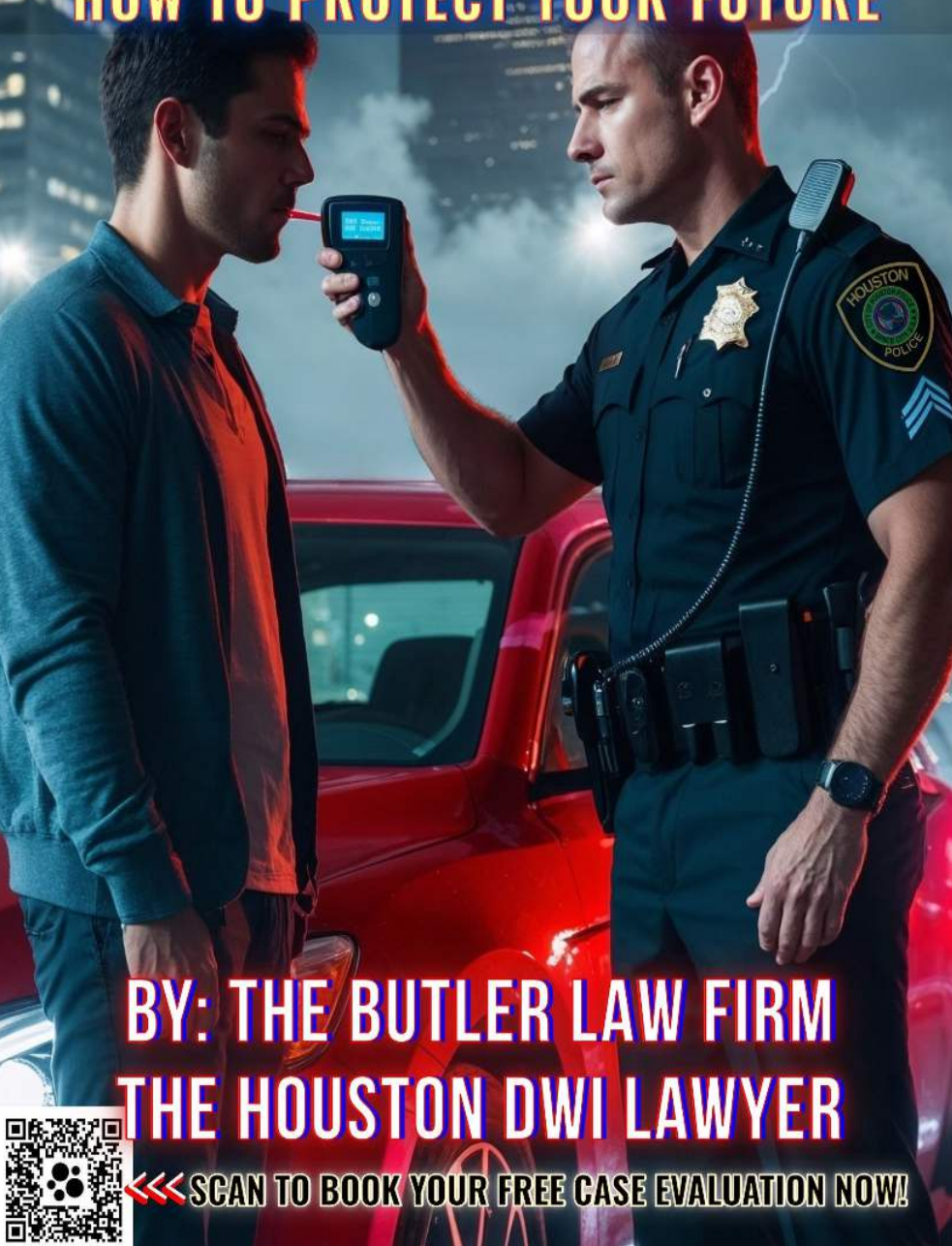


ARRESTED FOR DWI? GET EXPERT HELP INSIDE ↓

TEXAS DWI SURVIVAL GUIDE

WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO EXPECT, AND
HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FUTURE



BY: THE BUTLER LAW FIRM
THE HOUSTON DWI LAWYER



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BUTLER LAW FIRM
— DWI DEFENSE —

TEXAS DWI SURVIVAL GUIDE

WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO EXPECT, AND
HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FUTURE



By The Butler Law Firm

The Houston DWI Lawyer

**Defending Texas Drivers
for Over 32 Years**

www.TheHoustonDWILawyer.com

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Take Action Now

Voted By Multiple Legal Organizations As A
Leader in All of Texas For DWI & Your New Secret
Weapon Your Case

Call Jim Butler at The Butler Law Firm Today

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ers Can't

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The #1 Mistake That Can Cost You Your Freedom

Introduction

You're Here Because You Need Answers...*FAST*.

If you or a loved one has been arrested for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) in Texas, you're likely feeling overwhelmed, anxious, and unsure of what to do next. What happens now? Will you lose your license? Are you going to jail? Can you fight this?

First, take a deep breath. You are not alone. Thousands of people in Texas face DWI charges every year, but not all of them suffer devastating consequences because they make the right decisions, hire the right legal team, and take action at the right time.

This Texas DWI Survival Guide is designed to give you a clear, step-by-step roadmap through the DWI legal process,

from the moment you're pulled over to the final outcome of your case.

Why This Guide is Critical to Your Future

A DWI charge in Texas is more than just a ticket; it can have serious, long-term consequences:

- **License Suspension:** You may lose your ability to drive for months or even years.
- **Jail Time & Fines:** First-time offenders face up to 180 days in jail and \$2,000 in fines, while repeat offenders can face years behind bars and fines up to \$10,000.
- **Criminal Record:** A DWI conviction can follow you for life, affecting job opportunities, professional licenses, and even travel.
- **Insurance Hikes:** Your auto insurance premiums can skyrocket, making it incredibly expensive to stay on the road.
- **Career & Reputation Damage:** Employers and colleagues may view a DWI as a serious red flag,

impacting promotions and job security.

But here's the good news: A DWI charge does NOT mean a conviction. There are legal defenses, procedural errors, and rights violations that can be leveraged to get your charges reduced or even dismissed entirely.

That's why who you hire to represent you is one of the most important decisions you'll ever make.

Meet One Of Texas' Top-Rated DWI Defense Attorneys: Jim Butler

Not all lawyers are created equal. You need a legal expert who specializes in DWI defense, someone who has fought and won cases just like yours, time and time again. That's where Jim Butler and The Butler Law Firm come in.

- 30+ years of DWI defense experience
- 100% focus on DWI and DUI cases, no distractions
- Proven track record of case dismissals & reduced charges
- Licensed to practice across all of Texas, including, but not limited to, the following counties: Harris

County, Fort Bend County, Montgomery County, Austin County, Brazoria County, Matagorda County, Galveston County, Chambers County, Liberty County, San Jacinto County, Waller County, Wharton County, and Colorado County

- Aggressive defense strategies that get results

You cannot afford to risk your future. The sooner you act, the better your chances of protecting your license, freedom, and reputation.

Contact The Butler Law Firm now for a FREE consultation here: **Free Case Evaluation**

Visit: **<https://www.thehoustondwilawyer.com>**

What You'll Learn in This Guide

This book is designed to take the guesswork and fear out of a Texas DWI charge. Inside, you'll discover:

- **What to do if you're pulled over for DWI:** The exact steps to take to avoid making your situation worse
- **How to invoke your rights correctly:** What to say (and what NOT to say) to police officers

- **Understanding the DWI legal process in Texas:** From arrest to trial and everything in between
- **How to fight your charges:** The best legal defenses that can get your case dismissed or reduced
- **How to keep your driver's license:** What you must do within 15 days to avoid automatic suspension
- **The real costs of a DWI:** Fines, court costs, legal fees, and hidden expenses you must prepare for
- **When to take a plea deal vs. when to go to trial:** Understanding your legal options

Most importantly, this guide will show you why hiring the right attorney can make all the difference and why The Butler Law Firm is the best DWI defense team in Texas.

Time is NOT on Your Side; Take Action Now

Texas law does not wait. If you've been arrested for DWI, you have only 15 days to request an ALR (Administrative License Revocation) hearing to fight your license suspension.

If you miss this deadline, your license will be automatically suspended, even before your case goes to trial.

Your future depends on making the right moves right now.

Don't risk your job, your freedom, or your reputation. It's imperative that you consider securing a top-tier defense for your support today.

Call The Butler Law Firm Now: +1-713-236-8744

Visit:

<https://www.thehoustond-wilawyer.com/free-case-evaluation>

Main Office Address: 11500 Northwest Freeway, #400, Houston, TX 77092

You only get one shot at defending yourself. Make it count.

One Question You Must Ask Yourself Right Now...

If you were about to step into a high-stakes battle that could decide your future... would you go in alone?

No one would. **Because the cost of losing is too high.**

A DWI charge is no different. Prosecutors want a conviction. The system is stacked against you. **But you don't have to fight this battle alone.**

- The Butler Law Firm knows Texas DWI laws inside and out.
- They have successfully won thousands of cases just like yours.
- And right now, you can get a **FREE** case evaluation.

Your Next Move Is Everything!

Scan the QR code below now and schedule a Free Case Evaluation



**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF THE INTRO-
DUCTION.
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 1**

CHAPTER 1
DWI IN TEXAS
WHAT YOU NEED
TO KNOW



Chapter 1

DWI in Texas

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Why A Single Night Can Change Everything

I magine this: You're driving home after a night out. You had a couple of drinks, but you feel fine. Then suddenly, flashing red and blue lights appear in your rearview mirror. Your heart starts racing. Questions flood your mind: Am I over the limit? What should I do? Will I go to jail?

This moment can determine your future, your freedom, and your finances. Texas has some of the strictest DWI laws in the country, and the consequences of a conviction are severe. Whether you're facing your first offense or are a repeat offender, understanding the laws, penalties, and your rights is critical.

This chapter will break down everything you need to know about Texas DWI laws, including legal definitions, penalties, and key differences between DWI and DUI. You'll also learn why acting fast and hiring a top-rated DWI lawyer like Jim Butler could mean the difference between a dismissal and a conviction.

What Is a DWI in Texas? (Legal Definition Under Texas Penal Code § 49.04)

A DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) in Texas is legally defined under Texas Penal Code § 49.04. According to the law, a person commits a DWI offense if they are operating a motor vehicle in a public place while intoxicated.

What Does "Intoxicated" Mean in Texas?

Under Texas law, a person is considered intoxicated if:

- 1. They have a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08% or higher (Per Se Intoxication).**
- 2. They lack the normal use of mental or physical faculties due to the consumption of alcohol, drugs, or a controlled substance (Impairment).**

Intoxication).

This means that even if your BAC is below 0.08%, you can still be arrested and charged with a DWI if an officer believes you are impaired.

Understanding Texas BAC Limits & Zero Tolerance Laws

Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) Limits in Texas

The legal BAC limits for different types of drivers in Texas are as follows:

Driver Category	Legal BAC Limit
Adults (21+ years old)	0.08%
Commercial Drivers (CDL Holders)	0.04%
Minors (Under 21 years old)	0.02% (Zero Tolerance Law)

Texas' Zero Tolerance Law for Minors

If you are under 21 years old, you are subject to Texas' Zero Tolerance Law, which means ANY detectable alcohol in your system while driving is illegal. Even a BAC as low as 0.01% can result in a DUI (Driving Under the Influence)

charge, but the state of Texas recognizes it as a DWI (Driving While Intoxicated).

DWI vs. DUI in Texas: What's the Difference?

Many people use the terms DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) and DUI (Driving Under the Influence) interchangeably, but they have important legal differences in Texas:

Charge	Who It Applies To	Legal Standard	Penalties
DWI (Driving While Intoxicated)	Adults (21+)	BAC of 0.08%+ or impairment	Fines, jail time, license suspension
DUI (Driving Under the Influence)	Minors (Under 21)	Any detectable alcohol	Fines, community service, alcohol education

A DWI is more serious than a DUI and carries harsher penalties. However, both offenses can impact your record, insurance rates, and employment opportunities.

Penalties for a Texas DWI: Fines, Jail Time & Long-Term Consequences

The penalties for a DWI conviction depend on whether it's your first, second, or third offense, along with other aggra-

vating factors like BAC level, accidents, or injuries (Texas DWI Penalties).

First-Offense DWI Penalties (Class B Misdemeanor)

- Fines: Up to \$2,000
- Jail Time: 3 to 180 days in county jail
- License Suspension: Up to 1 year
- DWI Education Program: Mandatory 12-hour alcohol education course

Second-Offense DWI Penalties (Class A Misdemeanor)

- Fines: Up to \$4,000
- Jail Time: 30 days to 1 year
- License Suspension: Up to 2 years
- Ignition Interlock Device (IID) Required

Third-Offense DWI Penalties (Felony DWI - Third Degree Felony)

- Fines: Up to \$10,000
- Prison Sentence: 2 to 10 years
- License Suspension: Up to 2 years
- Mandatory Alcohol Treatment Program

Aggravated DWI (Enhanced Penalties)

If your BAC is 0.15% or higher, or if there was an accident, injury, or child passenger in the car, you could face:

- Higher fines
- Mandatory jail time
- Felony charges
- Longer license suspensions

Your Next Step: Contact a Texas DWI Lawyer ASAP

If you've been arrested for a DWI in Texas, it's imperative that you seek legal assistance immediately. The clock is ticking, and waiting too long can hurt your case.

Call The Butler Law Firm NOW for a FREE Consultation: +1-713-236-8744

**Visit: <https://www.thehoustonwilawyer.com>
Click Here To Schedule Your Free Case Evaluation**

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: Can I be charged with a DWI in Texas if my BAC is under 0.08%?**
 - **A:** Yes. Even if your BAC is below 0.08%, you can still be arrested and charged with a DWI if the officer believes you have lost the normal use of your mental or physical faculties due to alcohol or drugs.
- **Q: What's the difference between DWI and DUI in Texas?**

- **A¹:** DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) applies to adults (21+) and requires a BAC of 0.08% or evidence of impairment.
- **A²:** DUI (Driving Under the Influence) applies to minors (under 21) and is charged when any detectable alcohol is found in their system, even if they are not impaired.
- **Q: How long will a DWI stay on my record in Texas?**
 - **A:** A DWI conviction stays on your record for life unless it is expunged or sealed through a non-disclosure order. Texas does not allow expungement for a DWI conviction unless your case was dismissed or you were acquitted.
- **Q: What happens if I get a second or third DWI in Texas?**
 - **A¹:** Second DWI: Up to \$4,000 fine, 1 year in jail, and a 2-year license suspension
 - **A²:** Third DWI (Felony DWI): Up to \$10,000 fine, 10 years in prison, and a 2-year license suspension

- **Q: How does a DWI affect my driver's license in Texas?**
 - **A:** If arrested for DWI, you have 15 days to request an ALR (Administrative License Revocation) hearing to fight your license suspension. Failing to act within 15 days results in an automatic suspension.

- **Q: What is an ALR hearing, and do I need one?**
 - **A:** An ALR (Administrative License Revocation) hearing is separate from your criminal case and determines if your license will be suspended. If you fail a breathalyzer or refuse a BAC test, you must request an ALR hearing within 15 days to contest the suspension.

- **Q: What are the consequences of refusing a breathalyzer in Texas?**
 - **A¹:** First refusal: 180-day license suspension
 - **A²:** Second refusal: 2-year license suspension
 - **A³:** Police can obtain a warrant for a forced blood test

- **A⁴:** Refusal can still be used against you in court
- **Q: Do I need a lawyer for a first-time DWI?**
 - **A:** Absolutely. Even a first-time DWI conviction can lead to high fines, jail time, license suspension, and a permanent criminal record. A skilled DWI defense attorney can work to reduce charges, fight evidence, and possibly dismiss your case.

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 1
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 2**

CHAPTER 2

WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE
PULLED OVER FOR A DWI?



Chapter 2

What to Do If You're Pulled Over for a DWI

**CRITICAL STEPS TO PROTECT
YOUR RIGHTS AND YOUR
FUTURE**

The Moment That Changes Every- thing

You're driving home, the city lights reflecting off your windshield. Suddenly, you see flashing red and blue lights in your rearview mirror. Your stomach drops. Is this really happening? Panic sets in as you pull over. What you do next could determine whether you go home or end up in handcuffs.

Many people make critical mistakes when stopped for DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) in Texas, mistakes that cost them their license, their freedom, and thousands of dollars in fines. Understanding your rights, knowing what to say, and knowing what not to say can make the difference between a dismissed case and a conviction.

This chapter will walk you through step-by-step exactly what to do when you're pulled over for a Texas DWI, how to invoke your rights properly, and the biggest mistakes that could destroy your case.

Step 1: Pull Over Safely & Stay Calm

When you see police lights flashing behind you, your first instinct might be to panic. However, your actions in the first few seconds can make a huge difference. Here's what to do:

- Put your signal on immediately and pull over to a safe location. Avoid stopping in a dangerous spot (like on a highway curve). If necessary, drive slowly until you find a safe place.
- Turn off your engine and place both hands on the steering wheel. This shows the officer that you're not a threat.

- Avoid making sudden movements. Reaching into your glove box too quickly could raise suspicion.
- Roll down your window and wait for instructions. Keep your interactions polite and calm.

What Not to Do:

- Don't try to evade the stop (even if you think you're under the legal limit). A high-speed chase will escalate the situation into a felony offense.
- Don't immediately admit to drinking. Officers are trained to use your words against you in court.
- Don't fumble around for your documents while the officer is approaching. Keep your hands on the wheel until asked.

Step 2: How to Handle the Officer's Questions

Once the officer approaches, they will ask you a series of questions. Their goal? To gather evidence against you for a DWI charge.

Common Questions Officers Ask at a DWI Stop:

1. "Do you know why I pulled you over?"
2. "Have you had anything to drink tonight?"
3. "Where are you coming from?"
4. "How much have you had to drink?"
5. "Would you mind stepping out of the vehicle?"

How to Respond (Without Incriminating Yourself)

- If asked, "Have you been drinking?", You are not legally required to answer. Instead, say: "Officer, I prefer not to answer any questions without my attorney present."
- Stay respectful and cooperative, but do not volunteer information.
- If asked where you were coming from, you can politely decline to answer.

- If pressured, simply repeat, "I would like to remain silent until I speak with my attorney."

IMPORTANT: Texas law does NOT require you to answer self-incriminating questions. Everything you say will be used against you in court.

Step 3: Field Sobriety Tests (FSTs): Should You Take Them?

Field Sobriety Tests (FSTs) are designed to make you fail. Even sober people struggle with them.

Types of Field Sobriety Tests in Texas:

- **Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN) Test:** Following a pen with your eyes.
- **Walk-and-Turn Test:** Walking heel-to-toe in a straight line.
- **One-Leg Stand Test:** **Balancing** on one leg for 30 seconds.

You Have the Right to Refuse Field Sobriety Tests!

Best Response: "Officer, I respectfully decline to take any field sobriety tests."

Why You Should Refuse:

- These tests are highly subjective and unreliable.
- Failing them gives officers probable cause to arrest you.
- The officer already suspects you're intoxicated; passing won't necessarily prevent arrest.

Step 4: Should You Take a Breathalyzer or Blood Test?

Texas has an 'Implied Consent Law', which means refusing a breathalyzer or blood test comes with consequences.

Refusing a Breathalyzer/Blood Test:

- First refusal: License suspension for 180 days.
- Second refusal: License suspension for 2 years.
- Police can obtain a warrant for a blood test anyway.

When Should You Refuse?

- If you know you are over the limit, refusing may limit the evidence against you.
- If this is your first offense, refusing may give your lawyer a better defense strategy.
- If you refuse and have prior DWIs, the consequences may be harsher.

Step 5: What Happens Next? Arrest & Your Rights

If the officer believes you are intoxicated, you will likely be arrested for DWI. Stay calm and follow these steps:

- Remain silent. Do NOT answer questions or make statements beyond basic identification.
- Do not resist arrest. Even if you believe you're innocent, resisting can lead to additional charges.
- Ask for an attorney immediately. Say, "***I want to speak with my attorney before answering any questions.***"

IMPORTANT: Anything you say will be recorded and used against you in court.

Step 6: Contact a Texas DWI Lawyer Immediately

A DWI arrest is **NOT** a conviction, but time is critical. You need an experienced Texas DWI lawyer on your side ASAP to protect your license, freedom, and future.

Why Jim Butler is the Best DWI Lawyer for Your Case

- **31+ years of exclusive DWI defense experience.**
- **Proven record of dismissals & reduced charges.**
- **Licensed in all of Texas, including the following counties: Harris County, Fort Bend County, Montgomery County, Austin County, Brazoria County, Matagorda County, Galveston County, Chambers County, Liberty County, San Jacinto County, Waller County, Wharton County, and Colorado County.**

Call The Butler Law Firm NOW for a FREE Case Evaluation: +1-713-236-8744

Visit: <https://www.thehoustondwilawyer.com>

Click Here To Schedule Your Free Case Evaluation

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: Can I refuse a field sobriety test in Texas?**
 - **A:** Yes. Field sobriety tests are voluntary, and you have the right to refuse without automatic penalties.
- **Q: Will refusing a breathalyzer get my DWI dismissed?**
 - **A:** Not necessarily. Refusal may limit evidence but can result in automatic license suspension.
- **Q: Should I hire a lawyer after a DWI arrest?**
 - **A:** Absolutely. A DWI conviction can ruin your future, but an experienced lawyer can fight to reduce or dismiss the charges.
- **Q: What should I do if the officer asks me to step out of the car?**

- **A:** You must comply with the officer's request to step out of the vehicle, as refusing can lead to further suspicion and potential arrest. However, you do not have to answer any questions beyond providing your license and registration.
- **Q: Can an officer arrest me for DWI if I refuse all tests?**
 - **A:** Yes. Even without a breathalyzer, blood test, or field sobriety tests, an officer can still arrest you if they subjectively believe you are intoxicated based on your behavior, speech, or physical appearance.
- **Q: What happens if I refuse both the breathalyzer and blood test?**
 - **A:** Refusing both tests triggers an automatic driver's license suspension (under Texas' Implied Consent Law), and the police may obtain a warrant to perform a forced blood draw.
- **Q: Do I have to answer where I'm coming from or going?**
 - **A:** No. You have the right to remain silent when asked about your activities before the stop. Po-

lately decline to answer by saying, “Officer, I prefer not to answer any questions without my attorney present.”

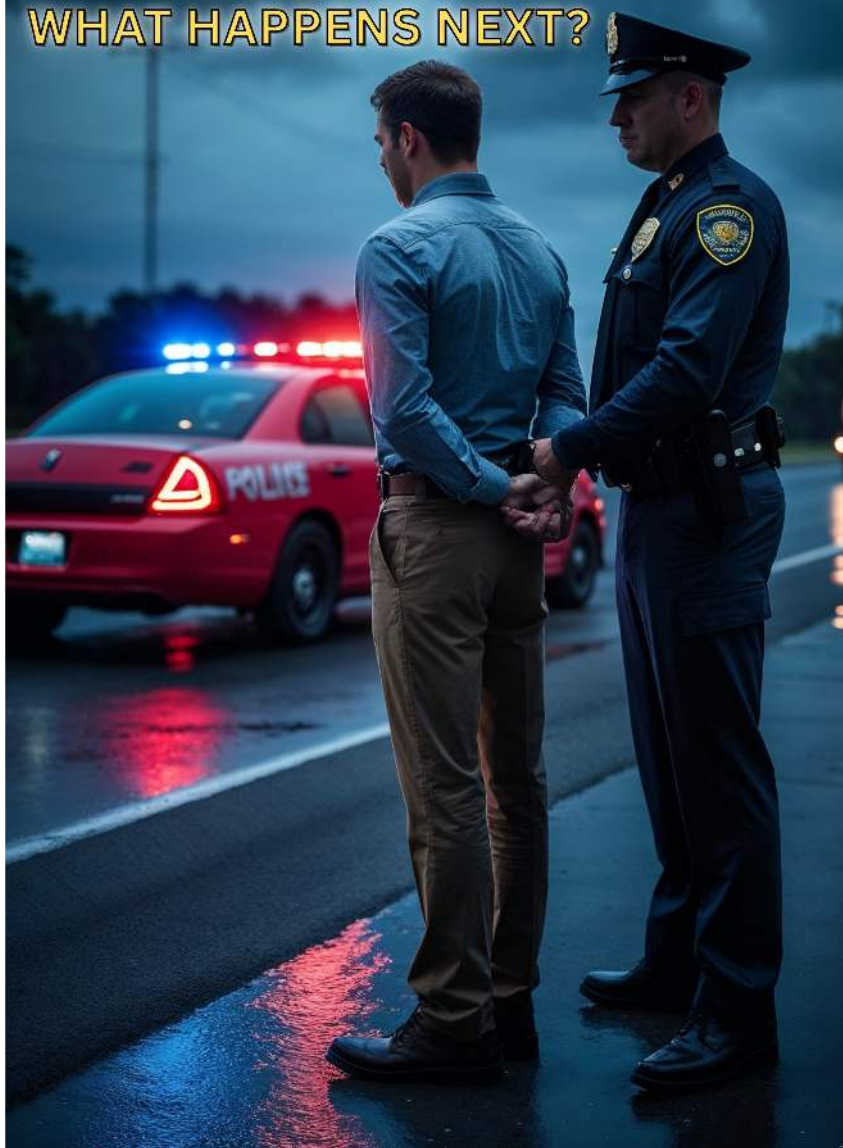
- **Q: What if the officer didn’t read me my rights?**
 - **A:** The Miranda Warning (right to remain silent) is only required after you are officially arrested and before questioning. If the officer fails to read you your rights before an interrogation, your statements may be inadmissible in court.

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 2
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 3**

CHAPTER 3

DWI ARREST

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



Chapter 3

What to Expect During a DWI Arrest in Texas

FROM TRAFFIC STOP TO JAIL
CELL, WHAT REALLY HAPPENS

The Reality of a DWI Arrest

It happens fast. One moment, you're behind the wheel; the next, you're facing flashing police lights, an officer at your window. Then, the words: "You're under arrest for DWI." Your hands are cuffed, and you're led to the patrol car.

At this exact moment, it's not uncommon for panic to start creeping in. Many people say too much, resist, or make costly mistakes. But staying calm and knowing what to expect can make a significant difference in your case. This chapter walks

you through each stage of a DWI arrest and how to protect your rights.

Step 1: The Arrest Process

When an officer arrests you for a DWI in Texas, you are no longer free to leave. Everything you say and do can be used against you.

Here's what to expect:

- The officer formally places you under arrest for **DWI**.
- You are handcuffed and transported to jail or a processing facility.
- Your vehicle is likely to be towed, leading to additional impound fees.
- At the station, you will undergo **booking and processing**.

Critical Reminder: *DO NOT TALK* to the police about your case. Say, “*I invoke my right to remain silent and request an attorney.*”

Step 2: Booking & Processing: What Happens Next?

After your arrest, you will be taken to the local jail for booking and processing. This includes:

- **Mugshot Taken:** Your booking photo becomes part of the police record.
- **Fingerprinting:** Your prints are entered into state and federal databases.
- **Personal Belongings Confiscated:** Your phone, wallet, and keys will be held until your release.
- **Holding Cell Placement:** You may be placed in a cell while awaiting further processing.

How Long Will You Be in Jail?

- **First-time offenders** may be released within a few hours if eligible for bail or a personal recognizance bond.
- **If you have prior DWIs** or aggravating factors, you may remain in custody until a judge determines bail.

What Should You Do? Call a Texas DWI Attorney immediately to begin working on your release.

Step 3: Posting Bail & Getting Released

Once booking is complete, the next step is securing your release from jail, which often requires posting bail.

How Does Bail Work in Texas?

- **Personal Recognizance (PR) Bond:** In Texas, a judge may grant a Personal Bond.
 - A PR bond allows an individual to be released from custody without paying bail.
 - The individual in most cases must meet certain criteria:
 - Have a clean record (no serious criminal history, previous serious offenses, or prior failures to appear in court).
 - Be a low flight risk (strong ties to the community, such as a job, family obligations in the state, or residence in the area).

- A **Personal Recognizance (PR) Bond** is a type of release known by different names depending on the state. Some jurisdictions may refer to it as Personal Recognizance Release, Pretrial Release, or simply a PR Bond, but the concept remains the same: release based on the court's trust that you will appear for all required proceedings.
- **Bail Amount Determined:** The judge sets your bail based on prior offenses, BAC level, and case details.
- **Bail Payment Options:**
 - Pay the full amount (**cash bail**).
 - Use a **bail bondsman**, who typically charges **10% of the total bail**.

Why You Need a Lawyer Now: A DWI Lawyer can argue for a **lower bail** or request a **PR release to minimize costs**.

Step 4: License Suspension: The Clock is Ticking!

You Have Only 15 Days to Save Your License

- One of the biggest mistakes people make is not requesting an ALR hearing (Administrative License Revocation).
- **Deadline:** You must request an ALR hearing within 15 days of your arrest, or your license will be automatically suspended.

What is an ALR Hearing?

- It is a **separate civil case** that determines if your license will be suspended.
- If you **failed a breathalyzer** or **refused a BAC test**, the Texas DPS will attempt to suspend your license.
- A board-certified DWI lawyer can fight this suspension and protect your driving privileges.

Call Now to request an ALR hearing and safeguard your ability to drive!

Step 5: Common Mistakes That Can Hurt Your Case

Many people unknowingly make *critical mistakes* after a DWI arrest. Avoid these at all costs:

- **Talking to the Police Without a Lawyer:** Anything you say can be used against you.
- **Refusing a Breathalyzer Without a Plan:** While you have the right to refuse, this can lead to an **automatic license suspension**.
- **Missing the ALR Hearing Deadline:** If you don't act within **15 days**, you lose your chance to fight your license suspension.
- **Delaying Hiring a Lawyer:** The sooner you hire a DWI defense lawyer, the better your chances of dismissal.

Take action now: call The Butler Law Firm before it's too late!

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: How long will I be in jail after a DWI arrest?**
 - **A: First-time offenders** may be released within a few hours if eligible for bail. If **aggravating factors** exist (high BAC, accident, repeat offense), you may remain in jail until a judge sets bail.

- **Q: Will I automatically lose my license after a DWI?**
 - **A: No**, but you must **request an ALR hearing within 15 days** to fight the suspension.

- **Q: Should I refuse a breathalyzer test?**
 - **A: Refusing a breath test** can result in an **automatic license suspension** but can also limit the evidence against you. Consult a DWI lawyer immediately.

- **Q: What should I say to the police after my arrest?**
 - **A: Say, “I invoke my right to remain silent and request an attorney.” DO NOT** answer

questions about drinking or where you were.

- **Q: Can I drive after my DWI arrest?**
 - **A:** You can drive **until your license is suspended**. If you **request an ALR hearing**, you may get a temporary license while fighting the suspension.

Take Action Now: Your Future is on the Line

A DWI arrest does NOT mean a conviction. You are entitled and have the right to fight back!

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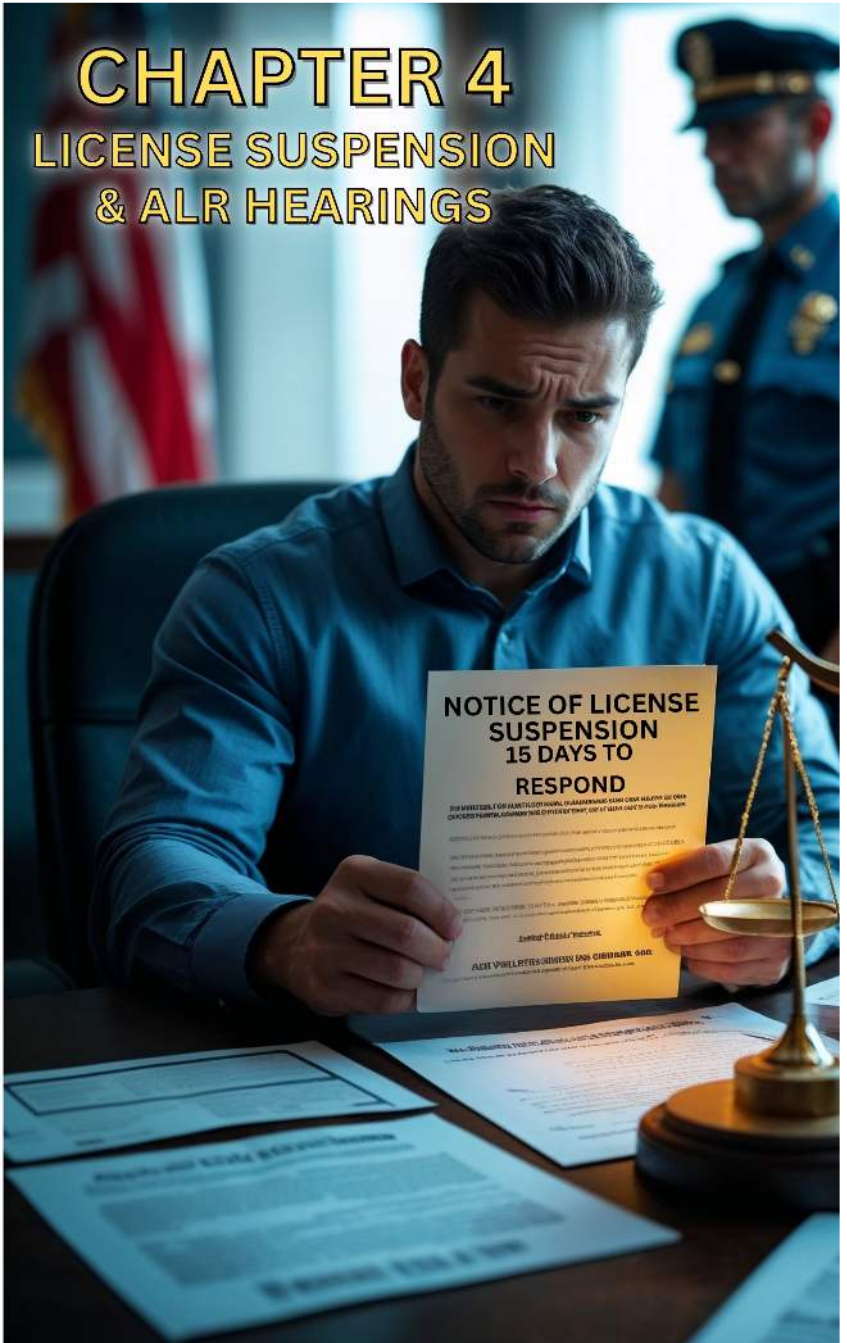
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Protect your freedom. Protect your license. Protect your future.

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 3
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 4**

CHAPTER 4

LICENSE SUSPENSION & ALR HEARINGS



Chapter 4

License Suspension & ALR Hearings

HOW TO FIGHT FOR YOUR DRIVING PRIVILEGES AFTER A DWI

Losing Your License: The Hidden Cost of a DWI

I magine waking up the morning after your DWI arrest and realizing that in just a few days, your driver's license could be suspended. No more driving to work, running errands, or picking up your kids from school. For many, the license suspension that comes with a DWI arrest is just as devastating as the fines and legal consequences.

But here's the good news: You have a chance to fight back.

Texas allows you to challenge your license suspension through an Administrative License Revocation (ALR) hearing. However, there's a strict deadline; if you fail to act within 15 days of your arrest, your license will be automatically suspended.

This chapter explains exactly how to request an ALR hearing, what to expect, and how to increase your chances of keeping your license.

Step 1: Understanding the ALR Process

The ALR hearing is completely separate from your criminal DWI case. It is a civil process managed by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) to determine whether your license should be suspended.

Key Facts About ALR Hearings:

- This is **NOT** a criminal trial. It's an administrative process that determines your ability to drive.
- It is your **ONLY** opportunity to contest your license suspension.
- Your DWI case outcome does not affect the ALR

decision.

- Winning your ALR hearing does **NOT** dismiss your DWI, but it lets you keep your license.

You have only 15 days from your arrest date to request a hearing. If you miss this deadline, your license WILL be suspended.

Step 2: How to Request an ALR Hearing

To request an ALR hearing, follow these steps immediately after your arrest:

1. Go to the Texas DPS website and locate the Administrative License Revocation (ALR) Hearing Request Form.
2. Submit your request online, by mail, or by fax within 15 days of your DWI arrest.
3. Hire a DWI lawyer to handle your ALR hearing and fight for your driving privileges.
4. It is imperative that you make sure you get confirmation of your ALR hearing date; it will usually be

scheduled for a date that is within 30 to 90 days from the time you submit your request for your ALR hearing.

Need Help? A DWI lawyer can handle the ALR hearing request on your behalf and increase your chances of success.

Step 3: What Happens at an ALR Hearing?

At your ALR hearing, a judge (administrative law judge) will review the evidence and decide whether to suspend your license.

What Evidence Will Be Used Against You?

- The arresting officer's testimony about your behavior, speech, and driving patterns.
- Any breathalyzer or blood test results.
- Police body cam or dash cam footage.
- Field Sobriety Test performance.

- Your refusal to take a BAC test (if applicable).

Possible Outcomes of an ALR Hearing:

Outcome	What It Means
Win the hearing	Your license is NOT SUSPENDED , and you can continue driving.
Lose the hearing	Your license IS SUSPENDED , but YOU MAY qualify for an Occupational Driver's License (ODL) .

A DWI attorney can cross-examine the officer and challenge evidence to help you win your ALR case.

Step 4: How Long Will Your License Be Suspended?

The length of your license suspension depends on several factors.

DWI License Suspension Periods in Texas:

Situation	License Suspension Duration
Failed a breath or blood test	90 days (first offense), 1 year (second offense)
Refused a BAC test	180 Days (first offense), 2 years (second offense)
DWI with a child passenger	Automatic 180-day suspension

Refusing a BAC test results in a longer suspension than failing one.

Step 5: Occupational Driver's License (ODL): Can You Still Drive?

If your license is suspended, you may be eligible for an Occupational Driver's License (ODL). This is a restricted license that allows you to drive for:

- Work or school
- Essential household duties (e.g., grocery shopping, medical appointments)

How to Get an Occupational Driver's License

1. File a petition in the appropriate county court.
2. Provide proof of SR-22 insurance (required for high-risk drivers).
3. Attend a court hearing to request approval.
4. Pay applicable fees and wait for approval.

A DWI lawyer can help you file for an ODL and accelerate the process.

Step 6: Why You Need a DWI Lawyer for Your ALR Hearing

Many people assume that an ALR hearing is just a simple administrative process, but it's actually your first chance to fight your DWI case.

How a Lawyer Can Help:

- Cross-examine the arresting officer to find inconsistencies in their testimony.
- Challenge BAC test results if there were testing errors.
- Present legal arguments that could get your case dismissed before trial.
- Help you obtain an Occupational Driver's License if your license is suspended.

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

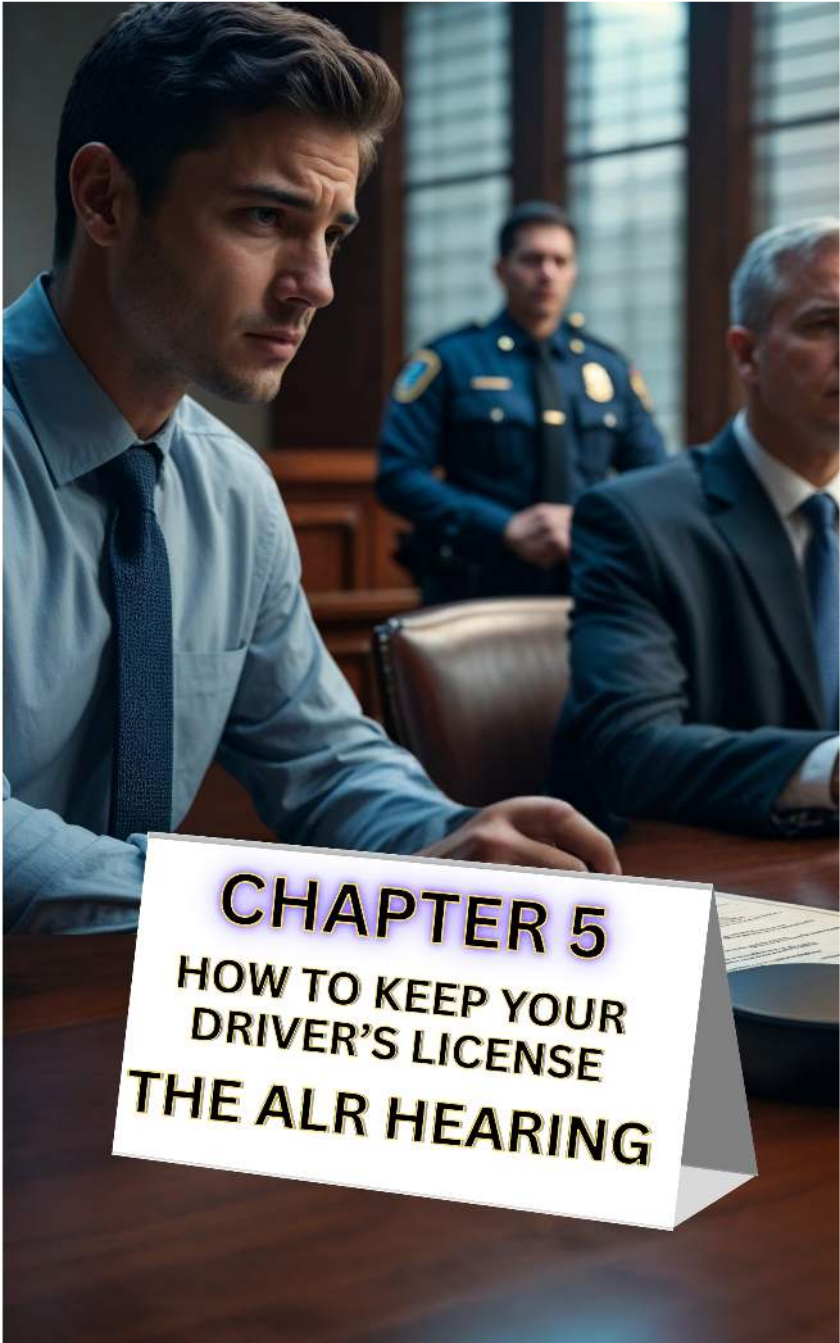
- **Q: What happens if I miss the 15-day deadline to request an ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** If you fail to request a hearing within 15 days of your arrest, your license will be automatically suspended for 90 days to 2 years, depending on your case.
- **Q: Can I drive while waiting for my ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** Yes. As long as you request an ALR hearing within 15 days, you can legally drive until your hearing takes place.
- **Q: Does winning my ALR hearing mean my DWI case is dismissed?**
 - **A:** No. Winning the ALR hearing only prevents your license suspension; it does not affect your criminal DWI case.

- **Q: If I lose my ALR hearing, can I still fight my DWI?**
 - **A:** Yes! The ALR process is completely separate from your criminal trial, and a DWI lawyer can still fight your charges in court.

- **Q: How long does it take to get an Occupational Driver's License?**
 - **A:** It can take a few weeks to obtain an ODL, but an attorney can help expedite the process.

- **Q: Should I hire a lawyer for an ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** Absolutely. The DPS will try to suspend your license, and an experienced DWI attorney is your best chance at keeping it.

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 4
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 5**



CHAPTER 5
HOW TO KEEP YOUR
DRIVER'S LICENSE
THE ALR HEARING

Chapter 5

How to Keep Your Driver's License

THE ALR HEARING

Your License is on the Line: Here's How to Save It

A DWI arrest in Texas doesn't just mean fines and possible jail time; it also puts your driver's license at serious risk. Many people don't realize that your license suspension happens separately from your criminal case. This means that even if your DWI charge is later dismissed, you could still lose your ability to drive if you don't take action.

The Administrative License Revocation (ALR) hearing is your only chance to stop the automatic suspension of your driver's license. However, you must request this hearing

within 15 days of your arrest, or your license will be automatically suspended for up to 2 years.

In this chapter, we'll walk you through everything you need to know about ALR hearings, how to fight for your license, and why hiring an experienced Texas DWI attorney can make all the difference.

Step 1: What is an ALR Hearing?

The ALR hearing is a civil administrative process, separate from your criminal trial. It is managed by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and is designed to determine whether your license should be suspended due to a DWI arrest.

Key Facts About ALR Hearings

- This is **NOT** a criminal trial; it only determines if your license will be suspended.
- Winning the ALR hearing means you keep your license (at least until your DWI case is resolved).
- You must request a hearing within 15 days of your arrest, or your license is automatically suspended.

- An ALR hearing is your first opportunity to challenge the arrest and test results.

If you don't request an ALR hearing, your license will be automatically suspended, even if your DWI case is later dismissed.

Step 2: How to Request an ALR Hearing

You have exactly 15 days from the date of your DWI arrest to request an ALR hearing.

Here's how to do it:

1. Visit the Texas DPS website and fill out the ALR hearing request form.
2. Submit the ALR hearing request online, by mail, or by fax before the deadline.
3. Hire a DWI attorney to represent you at the hearing.
4. Receive your hearing date, typically scheduled 30 to 90 days after your request.

Need Help? A DWI attorney can request the ALR hearing on your behalf and build a strong defense to help you keep your license.

Step 3: What to Expect at an ALR Hearing

The ALR hearing works like a mini-trial where both sides present evidence. However, instead of a jury, a judge (Administrative Law Judge, aka ALJ) will decide the case.

What Evidence Will Be Used Against You?

- The arresting officer's testimony about your driving, behavior, and sobriety tests.
- Dashcam or bodycam footage from the traffic stop.
- Breathalyzer or blood test results.
- Any refusal to take a BAC test.
- Field Sobriety Test performance.

Your Attorney's Role at the ALR Hearing

A skilled DWI lawyer can:

- Cross-examine the arresting officer to challenge inconsistencies.
- Challenge the accuracy of the breath or blood test results.
- Question the legality of the traffic stop and arrest.
- Expose the wrong procedures and errors that were performed by the officer while conducting the field sobriety test.

Step 4: What Happens If You Win or Lose Your ALR Hearing?

Just as a reminder from Chapter 4:

Outcome	What It Means
Win the hearing	Your license is NOT SUSPENDED , and you can continue driving.
Lose the hearing	Your license IS SUSPENDED , but YOU MAY qualify for an Occupational Driver's License (ODL) .

A **DWI lawyer** can fight to win your ALR hearing and keep you on the road.

Step 5: How Long Will Your License Be Suspended?

The length of your license suspension depends on whether you failed or refused a BAC test and your DWI history.

DWI License Suspension Periods in Texas:

Situation	License Suspension Duration
Failed a breath or blood test	90 days (first offense), 1 year (second offense)
Refused a BAC test	180 Days (first offense), 2 years (second offense)
DWI with a child passenger	Automatic 180-day suspension

Refusing a breathalyzer or blood test results in a longer suspension than failing one.

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Q: Can I drive while waiting for my ALR hear-

ing?

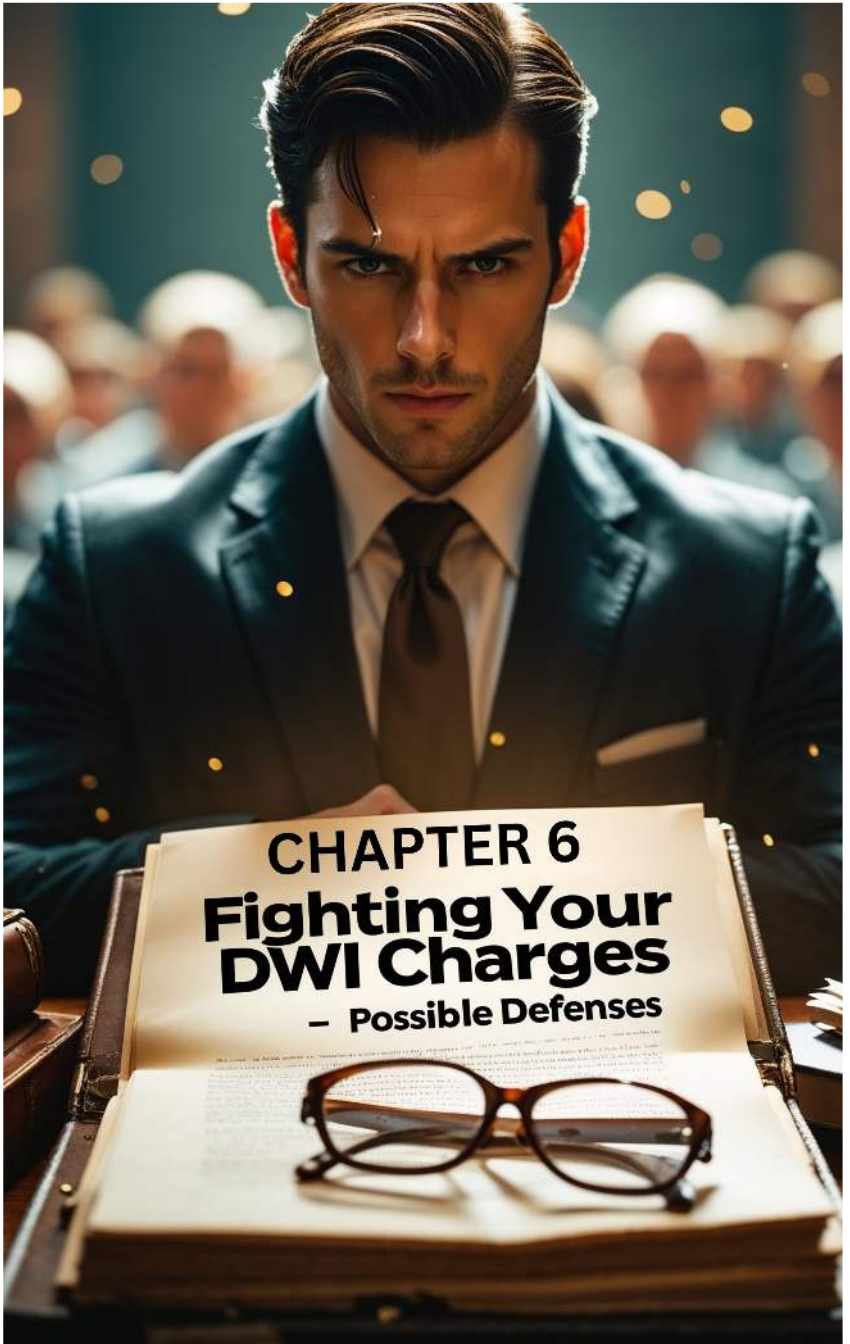
- **A:** Yes. As long as you request an ALR hearing within 15 days of your arrest, you can legally drive until the hearing takes place.
- **Q: What happens if I lose my ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** If you lose, your license will be suspended, but you may qualify for an Occupational Driver's License (ODL), allowing you to drive for work, school, and essential activities.
- **Q: Does winning my ALR hearing mean my DWI case is dismissed?**
- **A:** No. Winning your ALR hearing only prevents your license from being suspended; it does not affect your criminal DWI case.
- **Q: How long do I have to request an ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** 15 days from the date of your arrest. If you miss this deadline, your license will be automatically suspended.
- **Q: What happens if I don't request an ALR**

hearing?

- **A:** Your license will be automatically suspended, regardless of whether you fight your DWI case in criminal court.
- **Q: If my license is suspended, can I still drive?**
 - **A:** Yes, but only if you obtain an Occupational Driver's License (ODL), which allows limited driving for work and essential needs.
- **Q: Should I hire a lawyer for my ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** Absolutely. The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) will try to suspend your license, and a DWI lawyer gives you the best chance of keeping it and fighting your DWI charge.
- **Q: Can a lawyer help me win my ALR hearing?**
 - **A:** Yes! A DWI attorney can challenge the officer's testimony, cross-examine witnesses, and fight to prevent your license suspension.
- **Q: How long does an Occupational Driver's License take to get?**

- **A:** The process can take a few weeks, but a DWI lawyer can help expedite it so you can drive legally as soon as possible.
- **Q: Does an ALR hearing affect my insurance rates?**
 - **A:** If your license is suspended, your car insurance premiums will likely increase, and you may need to obtain SR-22 insurance to maintain driving privileges.

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 5
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 6**



CHAPTER 6
Fighting Your
DWI Charges
– Possible Defenses



Chapter 6

Fighting Your DWI Charges

POSSIBLE DEFENSES

Don't Just Accept a DWI Charge: Fight It

Being arrested for DWI (Driving While Intoxicated) in Texas can feel overwhelming, but a DWI charge is not a conviction. Many drivers believe that if they fail a breathalyzer or field sobriety test, they have no defense. This is not true. There are several legal defenses that can get your charges reduced or dismissed, but only if you act fast.

An experienced **Texas DWI lawyer** can identify weaknesses in the prosecution's case and use strategic defenses to fight back. This chapter explores the top legal defenses for a Texas

DWI, how they work, and why hiring the right attorney is crucial to protecting your future.

Top 5 Legal Defenses for a Texas DWI

Many people hold the belief that a DWI charge is definitive, meaning that once they receive a DWI, the case is resolved. However, DWI cases are often based on flawed evidence, unreliable tests, and police mistakes. The right defense strategy can expose these errors and lead to case dismissal or charge reduction.

Here are the five most effective legal defenses for a Texas DWI case:

1. Lack of Probable Cause

Before a police officer can pull you over, they must have probable cause, a valid legal reason to stop your vehicle. If the officer lacked probable cause, your entire case could be dismissed.

Common Examples of Invalid Traffic Stops:

- An officer pulls you over without a traffic violation or suspicious behavior.
- An officer stops you based on a hunch rather than observable signs of impairment.
- Police conduct a DWI checkpoint improperly, violating your rights.

Legal Strategy: If the stop was unlawful, a DWI attorney can file a motion to suppress evidence, potentially leading to a dismissal of charges.

2. Faulty Breathalyzer Tests & Machine Errors

Breathalyzers are widely used in Texas DWI cases, but they are not always reliable. If the device is not calibrated properly, the results can be inaccurate and legally challenged.

Factors That Can Cause False Breathalyzer Readings:

- Improper calibration or poor maintenance.
- Medical conditions (such as acid reflux or diabetes) affect results.
- Certain foods, mouthwash, or medications interfere with the readings.

Legal Strategy: A DWI defense lawyer can investigate whether the breathalyzer malfunctioned or was misused, potentially getting the test results thrown out.

3. Unreliable Field Sobriety Tests

Field Sobriety Tests (FSTs) are highly subjective and prone to error. Even sober people can fail them due to medical conditions, nervousness, or poor balance.

Problems With Field Sobriety Tests:

- Officers often fail to give proper instructions, leading to unfair results.

- Road conditions (uneven pavement, poor lighting) impact performance.
- Medical conditions, injuries, or age-related factors affect balance and coordination.

Legal Strategy: A DWI attorney can argue that the tests were unfair, leading to reduced or dismissed charges.

4. Violation of Your Rights During Arrest

If police violated your constitutional rights at any point during your DWI arrest, your case could be dismissed. Common violations include:

Examples of Police Misconduct in DWI Cases:

- Failing to read your Miranda rights before questioning you.
- Illegally searching your vehicle without a warrant or probable cause.
- Forcing you to take a breathalyzer or blood test

without proper consent.

Legal Strategy: A Texas DWI lawyer can file a motion to suppress evidence based on police misconduct, weakening the prosecution's case.

5. Medical Conditions That Mimic Intoxication

Certain medical conditions and medications can mimic DWI symptoms, leading to wrongful arrests.

Conditions That Can Be Mistaken for Intoxication:

- Diabetes (low blood sugar) can cause slurred speech and confusion.
- Acid reflux can lead to false-positive breathalyzer results.
- Neurological conditions (such as multiple sclerosis) can affect coordination.
- Fatigue or anxiety can cause similar behaviors to intoxication.

Legal Strategy: A DWI defense attorney can present medical records and expert testimony to prove your condition caused false signs of intoxication.

Why an Experienced Lawyer Can Get Charges Reduced or Dismissed

DWI cases are complex, and prosecutors often rely on unreliable evidence. A top-rated Texas DWI lawyer knows how to challenge weak evidence, negotiate plea deals, and fight for case dismissal.

How a Lawyer Can Help:

- Challenge breathalyzer and field sobriety test results.
- Expose police mistakes and constitutional violations.
- Negotiate a plea deal to reduce charges or penalties.
- Take your case to trial if necessary.

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: Can I fight a DWI charge if I failed a breathalyzer test?**
 - **A:** Yes! Breathalyzers are often faulty, and an experienced DWI lawyer can challenge the results in court.

- **Q: What if the officer didn't read me my Miranda rights?**
 - **A:** If the officer questioned you without reading your rights, your statements may be inadmissible in court.

- **Q: Can medical conditions cause a false-positive breathalyzer test?**

- **A:** Yes, conditions like diabetes, acid reflux, and ketosis can lead to inaccurate breathalyzer results.

- **Q: Should I take a plea deal for a DWI charge?**
 - **A:** It depends. A DWI attorney can assess

whether a plea deal or trial is the better option.

- **Q: How often do DWI cases get dismissed in Texas?**
 - **A:** Many DWI cases get dismissed due to lack of evidence, improper police procedures, or faulty test results. Hiring an attorney greatly improves your chances.

Don't let a DWI ruin your life; fight back with The Butler Law Firm!

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 6
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 7**



CHAPTER 7

**PENALTIES &
CONSEQUENCES FOR
TEXAS DWI CONVICTIONS**

Chapter 7

Penalties & Consequences for Texas DWI Convictions

**THE REAL COST OF A DWI
FINES, JAIL TIME & HIDDEN
CONSEQUENCES**

**DWI Conviction Can Change Your
Life: Here's What You Need to
Know**

Being convicted of Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) in Texas carries severe consequences. From hefty fines

and jail time to license suspension and permanent criminal records, the penalties become increasingly harsh with each offense.

Understanding the consequences of a DWI conviction is critical. This chapter breaks down the penalties for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd offenses, as well as aggravated DWI, underage drinking and driving, and special rules for commercial drivers.

If you are facing a DWI charge, your future is at risk. A skilled Texas DWI attorney can fight to reduce or dismiss the charges against you.

1st Offense DWI: What to Expect

Even a first-time DWI in Texas comes with severe consequences. The state treats drunk driving seriously, and penalties include fines, jail time, and license suspension.

Penalties for a First-Time DWI in Texas:

Offense	Fine	Jail Time	License Suspension
1st DWI (Misdemeanor)	Up to \$2,000	3 to 180 days	Up to 1 year

Other Consequences:

- DWI education program required
- SR-22 insurance required for license reinstatement
- Possible ignition interlock device

Need help? A Texas DWI lawyer can fight to reduce these penalties or get your case dismissed.

2nd Offense DWI: Harsher Penalties & Longer Suspension

A second DWI conviction carries tougher penalties and higher fines.

Penalties for a Second DWI in Texas:

Offense	Fine	Jail Time	License Suspension
2nd DWI (Misdemeanor)	Up to \$4,000	30 days to 1 year	Up to 2 years

Additional Consequences:

- Mandatory ignition interlock device
- Longer probation period
- Higher insurance premiums

A DWI defense attorney can challenge the evidence and fight for a reduced sentence.

3rd Offense DWI: Now a Felony

A third DWI in Texas is considered a felony offense, meaning serious prison time and permanent criminal record implications.

Penalties for a Third DWI in Texas:

Offense	Fine	Jail Time	License Suspension
3rd DWI (Misdemeanor)	Up to \$10,000	2 to 10 years	Up to 2 years

Felony DWI Consequences:

- Loss of voting rights and firearm ownership
- Mandatory alcohol treatment programs
- Permanent criminal record affecting employment

A DWI felony lawyer can help fight for reduced charges or alternative sentencing.

Aggravated DWI: Extreme Penalties

Some DWI cases result in enhanced charges due to aggravating factors like extremely high Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) or causing an accident.

What Qualifies as an Aggravated DWI?

- BAC over 0.15% (twice the legal limit)
- Causing an accident with injuries or fatalities
- Driving with a child passenger under 15 (automatic felony)

Aggravated DWI Penalties:

- Higher fines and mandatory jail time
- Longer license suspension
- Felony charges for severe cases

An experienced DWI defense attorney can challenge the evidence in an aggravated DWI case.

Underage Drinking & Driving: Zero Tolerance Laws

Texas has a zero-tolerance policy for drivers under 21. Even a small amount of alcohol in a minor's system can lead to a DUI charge.

Penalties for Underage DUI in Texas:

Offense	Fine	Jail Time	License Suspension
1st DUI (Minor)	Up to \$500	None	60 to 180 days

A can help minimize the impact of an underage drinking charge.

Commercial Drivers & DWI: Stricter Rules

Commercial drivers (CDL holders) face even stricter penalties for a DWI, including automatic disqualification of their CDL.

CDL DWI Penalties

- BAC limit is only 0.04% (half the standard limit)
- 1st offense = 1-year CDL suspension
- 2nd offense = Lifetime CDL ban

A commercial DWI lawyer can help protect your CDL and livelihood.

Your Future is On the Line: Get a DWI Lawyer Now

A DWI conviction can impact your job, your finances, and your freedom. But a strong legal defense can make all the difference.

How Can A DWI Lawyer Help?:

- Challenge breathalyzer & blood test results.
- Expose police mistakes that could dismiss your case.
- Negotiate reduced charges or probation.
- Protect your license and future.

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: Can I get probation instead of jail time for a DWI?**
 - **A:** Yes, depending on your case, a DWI lawyer can negotiate probation instead of jail time.
- **Q: Will a DWI stay on my record forever?**
 - **A:** Yes, unless your case qualifies for DWI expungement or a non-disclosure order.

- **Q: How long will my license be suspended for a DWI?**
 - **A:** License suspensions vary from 90 days to 2 years, depending on your offense.

Your future is on the line. Call Jim Butler at The Butler Law Firm today for expert defense!

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 7
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 8**

CHAPTER 8

SHOULD YOU TAKE A PLEA
DEAL OR GO TO TRIAL?



Chapter 8

Should You Take a Plea Deal or Go to Trial?

HOW TO MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOUR DWI CASE

Understanding Plea Deals vs. Fighting Your Case in Court

If you've been charged with a DWI in Texas, you may be wondering whether to accept a plea deal or fight your case in court. Prosecutors often offer plea bargains to avoid a trial, but is that the right choice for you?

Plea deals can be both good and bad, as not all of them offer the same benefits or consequences. Sometimes, taking a deal can minimize penalties, but in other cases, it could mean accepting a conviction that could have been avoided. An

experienced Texas DWI lawyer can evaluate your case and determine whether a trial or plea deal is in your best interest.

In this chapter, we'll break down:

- The pros and cons of plea bargains
- When it makes sense to fight your DWI case in court
- How Jim Butler builds a winning defense strategy
- What to expect if you take your DWI case to trial

When Should a Plea Deal Be Considered?

A plea deal is an agreement where you plead guilty or no contest in exchange for reduced charges or lighter penalties.

Pros of Taking a Plea Deal

- Lowers penalties (e.g., reduced fines, probation instead of jail)
- Avoids the uncertainty of trial
- May allow you to keep your driver's license
- Can prevent a felony DWI conviction

Cons of Taking a Plea Deal

- You will have a criminal record
- You waive your right to fight the charges in court
- Prosecutors may push deals that aren't in your best interest

Before accepting any deal, consult with a DWI defense attorney to determine if it's your best option.

When Should Going to Trial Be Considered?

In this section we are going to discuss everything you should consider before you make an impulse decision to just go to trial for your DWI.

Do The Risks Outweigh the Rewards, And Is It Worth It

- The prosecution has weak evidence (e.g., faulty breathalyzer tests, lack of probable cause)
- You believe the charges were unfair or unjust

- Your lawyer finds violations of your rights (e.g., illegal traffic stop, police misconduct)

Benefits of Fighting Your Case in Court

- Chance to get charges dismissed or reduced
- Exposes weaknesses in the prosecution's case
- Avoids long-term consequences of a conviction

An aggressive DWI trial lawyer can assess whether going to trial is in your best interest.

How Jim Butler Builds a Winning Defense Strategy

Jim Butler, founder of the Butler Law Firm, The Houston DWI Lawyer, has decades of experience fighting DWI cases in Texas. His approach to DWI defense includes:

Key Defense Strategies:

- Challenging the traffic stop: If police didn't have probable cause, the case may be dismissed.

- **Attacking breathalyzer & blood test accuracy:** Faulty or improperly calibrated machines can lead to false results.
- **Cross-examining the arresting officer:** Many DWI cases fall apart under scrutiny.
- **Highlighting medical conditions:** Some conditions can mimic intoxication (e.g., diabetes, acid reflux).

Jim Butler's aggressive defense has helped clients beat DWI charges in Harris, Montgomery, and surrounding counties.

What to Expect in a Texas DWI Trial

If you decide to fight your DWI charge, here's what to expect in the trial process:

1. Pre-Trial Motions

Your lawyer may file motions to suppress evidence (e.g., breathalyzer results, footage from police body cams) if there were violations of your rights.

2. Jury Selection

Both sides will select jury members who will decide the outcome of your case.

3. Opening Statements

The prosecution and defense will outline their arguments.

4. Presenting Evidence & Witness Testimony

- The prosecution will present evidence (e.g., police reports, test results)
- Your DWI defense attorney will cross-examine witnesses and present counterarguments.

5. Closing Arguments & Jury Deliberation

- Each side makes their final arguments.
- The jury deliberates and reaches a verdict.

A skilled lawyer who specializes in DWI trials can challenge evidence and fight for a NOT GUILTY verdict.

Should You Take a Deal or Go to Trial?

Deciding whether to take a plea bargain or go to trial depends on several factors that you need to make sure you weigh out and consider.

Things You Need To Consider With A DWI Lawyer

- The strength of the prosecution's case
- Your prior DWI history
- Potential penalties if convicted
- Legal defenses available in your case

Not sure what to do? Consult The Butler Law Firm FIRST before accepting any plea deal!

Call The Butler Law Firm NOW for a **FREE Consultation: +1-713-236-8744**

Visit: <https://www.thehoustondwilawyer.com>

[Click Here To Schedule Your Free Case Evaluation](#)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: Will a plea deal keep a DWI off my record?**
 - **A:** No, unless the deal involves deferred adjudication or a reduced charge. A **DWI lawyer** can negotiate for the best possible outcome.
- **Q: How do I know if I should fight my DWI charge?**
 - **A:** If the evidence is weak, your DWI defense attorney may recommend taking your case to trial.
- **Q: How long does a DWI trial take?**
 - **A:** Texas DWI trial can take a few days to several months, depending on the complexity of the case.
- **Q: Can I change my mind after accepting a plea deal?**
 - **A:** In most cases, plea deals are final, which is why consulting a DWI lawyer first is critical.

Not sure if you should take a deal? Consult The Butler Law Firm first!

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 8
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 9**

CHAPTER 9

LIFE AFTER A DWI HOW TO RECOVER & MOVE FORWARD



Chapter 9

Life After a DWI

HOW TO RECOVER & MOVE FORWARD

A DWI Conviction Isn't the End: Rebuild & Move Forward

Being charged or convicted of DWI in Texas can feel overwhelming, but it does not define you. The legal penalties may be significant, but what you do after your DWI matters just as much. Whether you're seeking expungement, trying to repair your reputation, or investigating how to lower your insurance rates, this chapter covers the key steps to reclaiming your future.

If you are seeking guidance on how to proceed following a DWI arrest or conviction, please continue reading.

Need help clearing your record? Contact The Butler Law Firm to explore your legal options and get a free case evaluation.

How to Get a DWI Expunged or Sealed in Texas

Expungement and non-disclosure orders allow you to erase or seal your DWI record, depending on your case.

When Is Expungement Possible for DWI in Texas?

- Your DWI case was dismissed.
- You were acquitted (found not guilty) in court.
- Your DWI did not result in a conviction.

If you were convicted, expungement is not an option, but you may qualify for a non-disclosure agreement to seal your DWI record.

What is a DWI Non-Disclosure Order?

- A non-disclosure order seals your DWI record from

the public, meaning:

- Employers cannot see your DWI during background checks.
- It helps you restore your reputation.
- You must complete probation to qualify.

An experienced DWI lawyer can determine if you're eligible for expungement or a non-disclosure order.

Rebuilding Your Reputation & Career After a DWI

A DWI conviction can make it harder to find employment, housing, and even loans. However, taking the right steps can help rebuild your reputation.

Tips for Rebuilding After a DWI

- Check your background report: Ensure your DWI record is accurate.
- Consider sealing your record: A non-disclosure order can help.

- Be honest with potential employers: Some companies appreciate transparency.
- Take a DWI education course: Shows you've taken responsibility.
- Hire a lawyer for record-clearing options: The Butler Law Firm can help.

A clean record creates opportunities! Make sure you are exploring all of your options now.

Impact on Auto Insurance & How to Lower Rates

A DWI conviction will cause a major spike in your car insurance premiums. However, there are ways to minimize the damage.

How Much Will My Insurance Increase?

On average, a DWI can increase your insurance rates by 50-100%, depending on:

- Your driving record
- The severity of your DWI

- Your insurance provider

Ways to Lower Your Insurance After a DWI

- Shop around for better rates: Some insurers offer DWI-friendly plans.
- Take a defensive driving course; it helps reduce points on your license.
- Maintain a clean driving record: Avoid speeding tickets & accidents.
- Request an SR-22 insurance policy: This documentation proves you meet Texas requirements after a DWI.

A Texas DWI lawyer can guide you on insurance options post-DWI.

DWI Education Programs & Probation Requirements

If you were convicted of DWI, you might need to complete a court-ordered DWI program or serve probation to regain full driving privileges.

Common DWI Probation Requirements:

- Complete a Texas DWI Education Program
- Attend alcohol or substance abuse counseling
- Install an ignition interlock device (IID)
- Perform community service
- Regular check-ins with a probation officer

Need help navigating your probation terms? A DWI attorney can ensure you meet all legal requirements.

Start Your Comeback Story Today

A DWI doesn't have to define your future. Whether you're looking to expunge your record, rebuild your career, or lower

your insurance rates, taking the right steps can help you move forward.

Start fresh; contact The Butler Law Firm to explore your legal options!

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Visit: <https://www.thehoustondwilawyer.com>

[Click Here To Schedule Your Free Case Evaluation](#)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- **Q: Can I get my DWI removed from my record?**
 - **A:** Yes, but only if your case was dismissed or you were acquitted. Otherwise, a non-disclosure order may be an option.
- **Q: How long does a DWI affect my insurance?**
 - **A:** A DWI can impact your insurance rates for 3-5 years depending on your provider.
- **Q: Can I get a job with a DWI on my record?**
 - **A:** Yes, but some employers may conduct background checks. Sealing your record can help.

- **Q: How do I get my license back after a DWI?**
 - **A:** You may need to complete a DWI education course, pay reinstatement fees, and file for SR-22 insurance.

Take back control of your future! Call The Butler Law Firm today!

**YOU HAVE REACHED THE END OF CHAPTER 9
PROCEED TO CHAPTER 10**

Chapter 10

Protect Your Future

TAKE ACTION NOW

Why Hiring the Right DWI Lawyer Can Change Everything

If you've been charged with a DWI in Texas, the decisions you make today will shape your future. A DWI conviction can lead to fines, jail time, license suspension, increased insurance rates, and a permanent criminal record. However, with the right legal representation, you can fight your charges and protect your future.

The truth is not all DWI lawyers are the same. Many attorneys lack the expertise and aggressive defense strategies needed to win a DWI case. Jim Butler, founder of [The Butler Law Firm](#), is an experienced Texas DWI lawyer who has spent decades defending clients and getting charges dismissed.

Don't let fate determine your future. Hiring the right lawyer could be the difference between a conviction and a second chance.

Voted By Multiple Legal Organizations As A Leader in All of Texas For DWI & Your New Secret Weapon Your Case

When facing a DWI charge in Texas, the attorney you choose can significantly impact the outcome of your case. Ask yourself whether you want an attorney who knows a little bit of multiple areas of law, or you want someone who is an **EXPERT** at the one type of law you need them to be an expert in. This makes **ALL** the difference between a determining verdict of a conviction or a dismissal. At The Butler Law Firm, you're not just hiring any criminal defense lawyer; you're securing the state's leading DWI defense attorney.

Why Do Thousands of Clients Trust The Butler Law Firm?

- Board-Certified DWI Attorney: A rare distinction proving elite expertise

- 32+ Years Focused 100% on DWI Cases: No distractions, just results
- Board Certified in DWI law with deep knowledge of Texas DWI laws and legal loopholes
- Thousands of DWI Cases Won: Dismissals, reductions, and acquittals
- Proven track record of dismissals and reduced charges
- Aggressive courtroom representation: The Butler Law Firm's #1 goal is to get your case dismissed, and with a proven track record of successful dismissals, you can't go wrong!
- Top-Rated in Texas & Nationally Recognized: Featured by major legal organizations
- Personalized defense strategies **ALWAYS** tailored to your case

Don't Let a DWI Ruin Your Future! Time is critical. Every moment you wait could weaken your defense. Take action now! Schedule a FREE, no-obligation case review and start fighting back today!

Call Now: [+1-713-236-8744](tel:+1-713-236-8744) | **Book Your Free Consultation**

How Jim Butler Fights for You

- **Challenges breathalyzer & blood test accuracy:** If the test was faulty or improperly administered, the results may be inadmissible in court.
- **Exposes police errors:** If officers violated your rights, your case could be dismissed.
- **Negotiates for reduced charges:** When dismissal isn't possible, Jim Butler fights for plea deals that minimize consequences.
- **Represents you in ALR Hearings:** Prevents your license from being automatically suspended.

No matter the severity of your charges, hiring an experienced DWI attorney gives you the best chance of walking away with minimal consequences.

Take Action Before It's Too Late

A DWI arrest can feel like the end of the world, but it doesn't have to be. The sooner you act, the better your chances of fighting your case and protecting your future.

Why You Should Act NOW:

- **Texas has strict DWI deadlines:** You only have 15 days to request an ALR hearing to fight license suspension.
- **Evidence disappears over time:** The longer you wait, the harder it becomes to challenge police reports, breathalyzer records, and witness statements.
- **A conviction impacts your future:** Employers, landlords, and insurance companies will see your DWI on background checks.

The longer you wait, the harder it is to build a strong defense.

Call a Texas DWI lawyer NOW to discuss your case.

Call Jim Butler at The Butler Law Firm Today

Call The Butler Law Firm NOW for a **FREE Consultation: +1-713-236-8744**

Visit: **<https://www.thehoustondwilawyer.com>**

Corporate Office Address: 11500 Northwest Freeway, #400, Houston, TX 77092

Don't wait until it's too late; protect your rights and your future today!

Need Help Now? Get a Free Case Evaluation!

Click on one of the links below to schedule your free case evaluation, regardless of where you are in Texas! You don't have to be near one of our locations. The Butler Law Firm can still help!

We proudly serve these Texas counties:

Harris County, Fort Bend County, Montgomery County, Austin County, Brazoria County, Matagorda County, Galveston County, Chambers County, Liberty County, San Jacinto County, Waller County, Wharton County, Colorado County

The Butler Law Firm Locations:

Corporate Office:

ButlerLaw Firm—The Houston DWI Lawyer

11500 Northwest Fwy #400, Houston, TX 77092

+1-713-236-8744

RGFH+6F Central Northwest, Houston, TX

Click Below For A Free Case Evaluation:

Houston DWI Lawyer

Law Firm Location 2:

ButlerLaw Firm—The Houston DWI Lawyer

405 Main St Suite 1120C, Houston, TX 77002

+1-713-236-8744

QJ6Q+FF Downtown Houston, Houston, TX

Click Below For A Free Case Evaluation:

DWI Lawyer Houston

Law Firm Location 3:

ButlerLaw Firm—The Conroe DWI Lawyer

700 Galveston St Suite B, Conroe, TX 77301

+1-713-236-8744

8G8P+PX Conroe, Texas

**Click Below For A Free Case Evaluation:
Conroe DWI Lawyer**

Law Firm Location 4:

ButlerLaw Firm—The Conroe DWI Lawyer

200 River Pointe Dr # 310, Conroe, TX 77304

+1-713-236-8744

7GMQ+QC Conroe, Texas

**Click Below For A Free Case Evaluation:
DWI Lawyer Conroe**

Your Future Starts Now: Take Action Before It's Too Late!

Every decision you make after a **DWI arrest** impacts your **freedom, finances, and future**. But you don't have to face this battle alone. You've taken the first step by educating yourself; **now it's time to take the next step that truly matters.**

At The Butler Law Firm, we fight for you like we would for our own family. We've helped thousands of Texans **beat their DWI charges, keep their licenses, and reclaim their futures.** Now, it's your turn.

Your best chance at winning starts NOW.

Call The Butler Law Firm today at +1-713-236-8744 for a FREE, no-obligation case review.

Don't wait! Your future depends on it!

A Final Thank You & Congratulations

Thank you for taking the time to read the **Texas DWI Survival Guide** and for investing in your future. **By gaining this knowledge, you've already taken the first step toward protecting your rights, your freedom, and your reputation.**

Facing a DWI charge is overwhelming, but you are not alone. You now have the information and the power to make the right choices. **Stay informed, stay proactive, and take control of your defense.**

Wishing you the best,

Jim Butler & The Butler Law Firm

Call Now: +1-713-236-8744

Visit: <https://www.thehoustondwilawyer.com>

[Click Here To Schedule Your Free Case Evaluation](#)

About the author

MEET THE TEXAS DWI LAWYER
WHO WINS CASES OTHERS
CAN'T

Jim Butler: The Attorney Who Wins DWI Cases Others Won't Touch

For **over 32 years**, Jim Butler has been **the go-to DWI defense attorney in Texas**, successfully defending clients against charges that seemed impossible to beat. As a **board-certified DWI specialist**, Jim doesn't just practice DWI law; **he has dedicated his entire career to mastering it.**

Why Jim Butler is Texas' Top DWI Lawyer:

- **Board-Certified in DWI Defense:** A distinction only a select few attorneys in Texas hold
- **Over 32 Years of DWI-Only Defense:** No distractions, no divided focus, **just winning cases**
- **Thousands of Cases Won:** From dismissals to reduced charges, Jim has secured life-changing victories
- **Recognized by Texas & National Legal Organizations:** Named one of the **top-rated DWI attorneys in Texas**
- **Aggressive, Strategic Defense:** A deep understanding of **Texas DWI laws, police tactics, and forensic science**
- **100% Focused on Your Future:** Because a **DWI charge shouldn't define the rest of your life**

A Mission Rooted in Justice

Jim Butler believes that **one mistake shouldn't destroy your future**. That's why he fights relentlessly to ensure his clients receive the **best possible defense, the strongest legal representation, and a second chance**. His firm, **The Butler Law Firm**, has helped thousands of Texans avoid jail time, keep their licenses, and protect their reputations.

Need the Best DWI Defense in Texas?

Your case isn't over until Jim Butler fights for you. Get the expert defense you deserve **before it's too late**.

Call Now: +1-713-236-8744

Visit: www.thehoustondwilawyer.com

[Click Here To Schedule Your Free Case Evaluation](#)

The ONE Decision That Can Change Everything...

THE #1 MISTAKE THAT CAN
COST YOU YOUR FREEDOM

Your DWI case isn't just about today; it's about your future. Your job, your reputation, your freedom—**everything is on the line.** But you don't have to fight this battle alone.

For **over 32 years**, The Butler Law Firm has helped **thousands** of people just like you **walk away with their future intact.** What made the difference? **They made ONE decision.**

They **took action.** They scanned the code. **And they got the legal defense they needed before it was too late.**

You Have a Choice Right Now:

- **Ignore this & risk your future**
- **Or scan this QR code & get expert legal guidance... FOR FREE**

Your next move is everything. Scan now.

