Why First Offenders Should Use Ignition Interlock Devices

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Mothers Against Drunk Driving
VP for Public Policy
Why Focus on Impaired Driving?

- Over 40 percent reduction in DUI fatalities since 1980.
- In 2009, 10,839 people died in alcohol related crashes.
- This represents 32 percent of all traffic fatalities.
- 1.5 million DUI arrests, 1 million convictions per year.
- 1 in 3 people will be in a crash involving a drunk driver.
- $129 billion per year in costs to U.S.
Why an Interlock?

• Biggest Reason: They drive anyway
• 50-75% will continue to drive even on a suspended license
• A “first time” convicted drunk driver has driven drunk 87 times before arrest
• Offender pays for the device
• Acts as an electronic probation officer
Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving

• Support our Heroes who Keep Us Safe

• Blow Before You Go

• Turn Cars Into the Cure
Ignition Interlocks

Progress Since 2006
Status of State Ignition Interlock Laws 2006

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<th>Mandatory .08 Conviction</th>
<th>Mandatory with a BAC of at least .15.</th>
<th>Mandatory with Repeat Conviction</th>
<th>Mandatory .08 Upon Reinstatement</th>
<th>Discretionary</th>
<th>No Interlock Law at All</th>
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Increase in Interlock Use

Figure 1
Currently Installed Interlocks in US

- Jun-06: 101,000
- Jun-07: 133,500
- Jun-08: 146,000
- Jun-09: 179,599
- Jun-10: 212,300

Roth 10/16/10
IID: Every State, Every Offender

• 32% reduction in fatalities in New Mexico
• 46% reduction in fatalities in Arizona.
• CDC now recommends interlocks for all convicted offenders
• 15 peer reviewed studies support interlocks.
• 67 percent reduction in recidivism.
• 88% of the public supports all offender interlocks
First Offender Recidivism

Recidivism of Interlocked First Offenders

T3 Time after interlock installation

Fraction Re-arrested For DWI

Duration

- >400 days
- 300-400 days
- <300 days

T3 Time after interlock installation

MADD®
Federal Interlock Assistance

• House T&I Committee: Senate EPW/Commerce Committee

• Last Congress, then Chairman Oberstar and Ranking Member Mica both worked to include a federal highway fund sanction for states that do not require interlocks for at least 6 months.

• This could look differently this Congress

• Senator Lautenberg has reintroduced DDROP (Drunk Driver Repeat Offender Prevention Act) which would sanction states which don’t require all offender interlocks.
NHTSA’s Efforts

• NHTSA Administrator David Strickland serves as Honorary Chairman of the CEDD
• NHTSA supports interlocks for first time offenders.
• Through the FY12 410 recommendations, the administration recommends that “States that adopt a mandatory ignition interlock law for all offenders are eligible for additional incentive funds.”
• November 2011- Ignition Interlock Conference Washington, DC
• NHTSA/MADD/TIRF Ignition Interlock Institutes
Why Do We Need Federal Support?

• Science proves it works; New Mexico and Arizona prove it works; Common sense tells us it works

• Maryland-Del. Joe Vallario and Speaker Mike Bush are both DUI defense attorneys

• Virginia- Passed the House of Delegates 4 years in a row only to die in a committee loaded with DUI defense attorneys
Reasons for Federal Help

- Restaurant industry (American Beverage Institute), DUI Defense Bar, Segments of the Alcohol Industry opposes
- MADD relies on grassroots support to pass better laws, but these groups have deep pockets
- DUI Defense Attorney’s are well positioned in state legislatures
- They try to water down IID laws to .15 when these have not shown to bring down DUI fatality rates
The 120 lbs Woman

DADSS Human Subject Test
January 27, 2011

- Evidential Breath Testing Device
- Touch Based Prototype (TruTouch)
- Breath Based Prototype (Autoliv)

Female subject (120 pounds, 5 ft. 5 in.)
Two drinks consumed, each drink is a 1.5 oz. 80-proof vodka mixed with orange juice
A light snack of a few crackers with cheese in between each drink
Peak alcohol concentration = 0.058 % BAC/BrAC
Advanced Technology

• Idea that one day cars can detect if a driver is at or above .08
• Technology would be passive, not hassle the sober driver, and relatively inexpensive
• Held together by a 5 year, $10 million cooperative research agreement
• Cars can park themselves these days!!
• Mercedes has lane departure and sleep/fatigue warnings
Three Technologies Under Review

• Advancement in Sensor Technology has made this possible.
• AutoLiv- Swiss Company uses a laser to shine into the breath of the driver
• Alcohol Countermeasure Systems (ACS) uses a sniffer to capture breath and then test it
• TruTouch- New Mexico based company that uses a sensor that is touched
ROADS SAFE ACT

• To further advanced technology, Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM) and Sen. Bob Corker (R-TN) have introduced the ROADS SAFE Act.

• In the House, Rep. Vern Ehlers (R-MI) and Rep. John Sarbanes (D-MD) have introduced the bill.

• Provides $12 million per year for 5 years.

• Will jump-start the process.
Conclusion

• ROADS SAFE, according to IIHS, could save 9,000 lives per year
• Current Ignition Interlocks could save 4,000 lives per year
• ROADS SAFE + Ignition Interlocks = elimination of drunk driving.
Questions?

Thank you

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