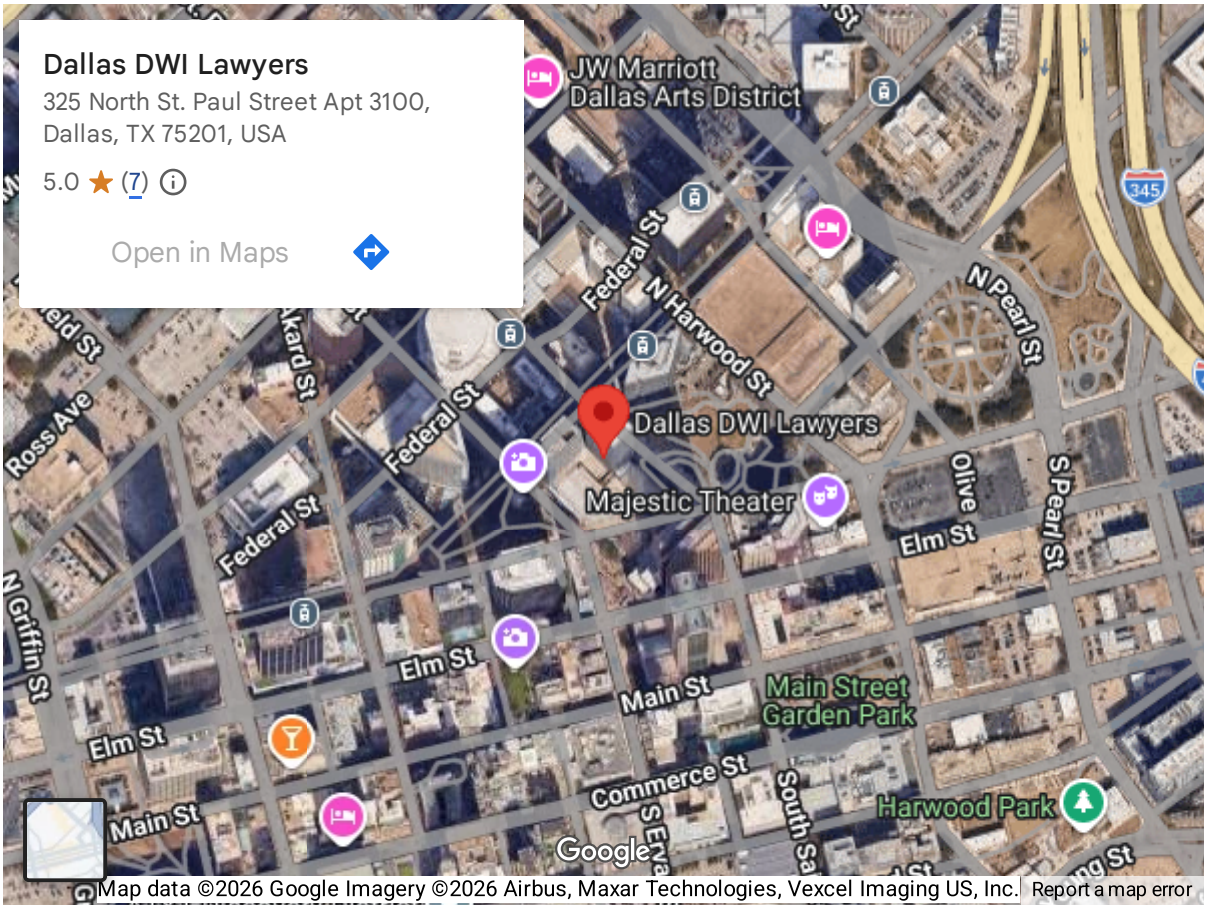
Few charges in Texas carry the weight of intoxication manslaughter. It follows a crash in which someone died, and the person accused is often dealing with grief and injuries of their own while the legal process moves quickly around them. Dallas DWI Lawyers represents people charged with intoxication manslaughter in Dallas County, including cases that begin with crashes on Inwood Road, Lemmon Avenue and the busy streets around Oak Lawn. Under Texas law, intoxication manslaughter is a second-degree felony. The punishment range is two to 20 years in prison and a fine of up to $10,000. To convict, the state must prove that the driver was intoxicated, meaning an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more or a loss of normal use of mental or physical faculties, and that the intoxication caused the death. After an arrest the person is usually booked at Lew Sterrett Justice Center, and the case proceeds in the District Courts at the Frank Crowley Courts Building, 133 N Riverfront Blvd. Bond is often set high, and conditions such as ignition interlock are common while the case is pending. The separate ALR license case also begins, with its own 15-day deadline to request a hearing.

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Causation is often the center of the defense. A death on Inwood Road or at a Lemmon Avenue intersection does not automatically mean intoxication was the reason it happened. The other driver's speed and position, the lighting and sightlines at the scene, the timing of signals and the condition of both vehicles can all be part of the picture. A DWI defense attorney will want the full crash reconstruction, any vehicle data that was downloaded, witness statements and every frame of available video. Blood evidence gets the same attention, from the warrant affidavit to the lab's chain of custody records. Gary L. Medlin, the firm's founder, has been licensed in Texas since 1983 and Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1989. He spent more than eight years as an Assistant District Attorney in Tarrant County, served as president of the Tarrant County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, and holds an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Kelvin M. More help Rodgers, a former felony prosecutor and judicial law clerk in Shreveport, works on these cases as well. The firm prepares every file as if it will be tried, and families can speak with the team in Spanish, Russian or Ukrainian. Please avoid discussing the crash with anyone but your lawyer. Call or text Dallas DWI Lawyers at (945) 403-4331, 24/7, for a free and private case evaluation. The office is at 325 North St Paul Street, Suite 3100, in downtown Dallas, a short drive down from Oak Lawn.

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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.