

Enforce DWI Laws

IMPAIRED
DRIVING

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) laws involves visible, coordinated police efforts such as patrols, checkpoints, and testing, to deter and detect alcohol and drug impaired driving.

Implementation Strategy

How and Where to Apply

- Enforcing DWI laws should be prioritized in areas with a high incidence of alcohol-related crashes, particularly during nights, weekends, and holiday periods when impaired driving is more prevalent.
- Effective implementation includes conducting sobriety checkpoints, saturation patrols, and using tools like portable breath tests and drug recognition experts to detect impaired drivers.
- NHTSA reports that HVE efforts, especially when paired with public education campaigns, are proven strategies for reducing impaired driving fatalities.

Use in a Safe System Approach

Supports the Safe System Approach by encouraging safer user behavior and deterring high-risk activity. Enforcement acts as a critical tool to reduce human error and protect other road users.

Key Stakeholders

State DOTs, MPOs, Law enforcement agencies, SHSOs, judicial system, public health and behavioral health agencies.

Proactive Implementation

Proactive DWI enforcement uses crash and arrest data to identify high-risk times and locations such as weekends, holidays, and nighttime, for targeted checkpoints and saturation patrols. Innovations include mobile breath testing, drug recognition experts, and coordination with behavioral health services. Public campaigns like *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* enhance deterrence and shift social norms.

Countermeasure Overview

Objective: Enforce DWI laws.

Strategy: Conduct regular well-publicized DWI checkpoints.

Selected Related Countermeasures

- CM1 Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention (SBI)
- CM2 Administrative License Revocation (ALR)
- CM3 Establish Stronger Penalties for BAC Test Refusal

Cost: \$ (Low)
Service Life: N/A

Targeted Solution



CONTRIBUTING
FACTORS

- Misjudgment
- Visibility
- Slower response



TARGET
CRASH
TYPE

- Speeding
- Aggressive



ROAD
FACILITY
TYPE

- N/A



AREA
TYPE

- All

Safety Linkage



NCHRP
500 Series

Alcohol-Related
Collisions

SAFE SYSTEM
APPROACH

Safe Road
Users



AASHTO'S
TOWARD ZERO
DEATHS

Improved Safety
Management

SAFE SYSTEM
ROADWAY DESIGN

TIER 1

TIER 2

TIER 3

TIER 4

N/A

42%

Reduction in fatal crashes involving alcohol
(NHTSA)

Resources

- [Countermeasures That Work, Alcohol Impaired Driving, Enforcement, NHTSA](#)
- [CDC | Impaired Driving](#)

Enforce DWI Laws. Source: [NHTSA](#)

