Event nights at the American Airlines Center change the traffic on the north edge of downtown. Thousands of fans leave at once after a game or concert, garages empty onto Victory Avenue and Olive Street, and drivers fight for a spot in line for Stemmons Freeway, Woodall Rodgers or the Dallas North Tollway. Police direct traffic at the busiest corners, which also puts a lot of officers in a position to notice a car that seems off. Dallas DWI Lawyers represents people arrested for DWI after nights out in Victory Park, and our office is only a few minutes away downtown. Victory Park also draws families. Parents bring children to games and shows, and that can change a DWI case in a serious way. In Texas, driving while intoxicated with a passenger younger than 15 is a state jail felony, with a range of 180 days to 2 years in a state jail facility. That is true even on a first arrest, and it can draw attention from child welfare authorities as well. A case like this deserves careful work from the start, because the stakes reach well beyond a license suspension. We look at the reasons for the stop, the field sobriety tests, any breath or blood result and the video of the whole encounter.

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For adults without children in the car, a first DWI is normally a Class B misdemeanor with a range of 72 hours to 180 days in jail and a fine of up to $2,000. A test result of 0.15 or more raises that to a Class A misdemeanor. Since 2019, some first DWI cases can be resolved through deferred adjudication, which is not available when the result is Dallas criminal defense DWI 0.15 or higher or the driver has a commercial license. Every arrest also starts a separate ALR license case with the Texas Department of Public Safety, and the request for a hearing must be made within 15 days. Missing that deadline usually means an automatic suspension. Gary L. Medlin, our founder, spent more than eight years as an Assistant District Attorney in Tarrant County and later served as president of the Tarrant County Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He has been Board Certified in Criminal Law since 1989. Victory station, served by the DART Green and Orange lines and the TRE, connects to the St. Paul station near our office, and the Frank Crowley Courts Building on North Riverfront Boulevard is just south of Victory Park. A DWI defense attorney who prepares each case for trial can give you a clear picture of where things stand. Call or text (945) 403-4331 24/7 for a free case evaluation, and meet with us at our St Paul Street office downtown.

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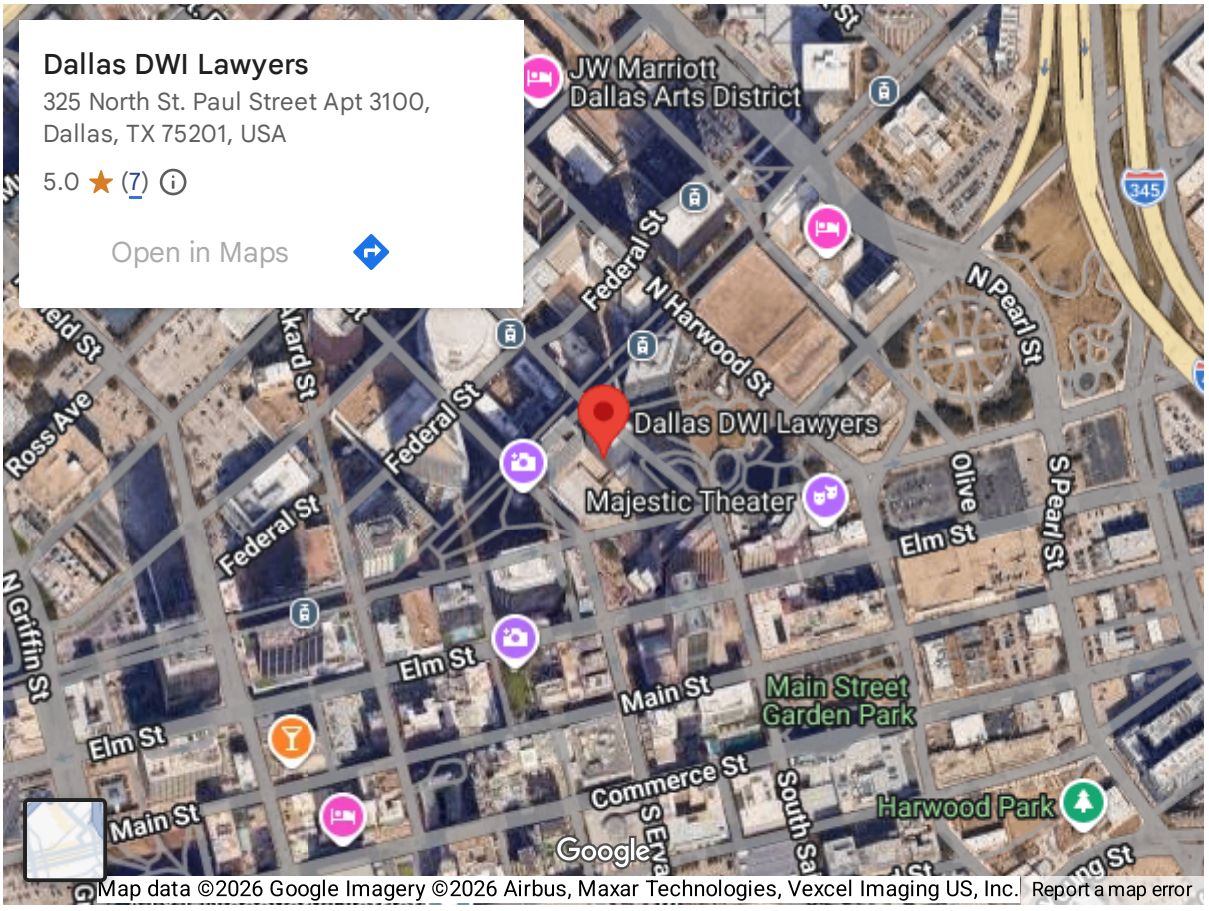

FAQ About

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.