

Drunk Driving Warning Signs

Drunk drivers present a serious danger to anyone who travels on the road. An accident with a drunk driver can happen in an instant, leaving you little time to try to avoid or lessen the impact of the crash. Staying vigilant on the road at all times can help to reduce your risk of being hit by a drunk driver. While it is not possible to know for sure whether a driver is drunk unless he or she is tested, there are warning signs that can help motorists spot and report impaired drivers on the road.

Drunk Driving Accident Statistics

Thousands of people are injured every year in traffic accidents, many of which involve an intoxicated driver. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

- Over 10,000 people die in alcohol-related crashes in the United States every year.
- Drunk driving accidents account for approximately one-third of all U.S. traffic deaths.
- A person dies in an alcohol-related accident in the U.S. every 50 minutes.

While the total number of alcohol-related accidents has decreased over the past two decades, many people still unnecessarily lose their lives in drunk driving accidents.

Signs of Drunk Driving

Spotting and avoiding a potential drunk driver can help you prevent a serious accident. Below is a list of common drunk driving behaviors to watch for:

- Driving at night with headlights off
- Signaling incorrectly or failing to signal
- Swerving across lanes, into curbs, or across the median
- Braking erratically
- Running stop signs or red lights

If you notice a vehicle showing these signs of drunk driving, be sure to report the vehicle to police as soon as possible. Never try to pass or get too close to a suspicious vehicle. Instead, write down the license plate number, make and model of the vehicle, and any other obvious identifying factors and report these to police along with your location. Watching for and reporting potentially drunk drivers on the road could save a life.