Repeat Drink Drivers: Ending the Cycle. Is it an Impossible Dream?

David Wallace
Traffic Safety Guy

Traffic Safety Guy

Drink Drivers

Who are they?

Traffic Safety Guy

Sometimes It Is Obvious. . .

Traffic Safety Guy

Sometimes It Is Obvious. . .

Traffic Safety Guy

Sometimes It Is Obvious. . .

Traffic Safety Guy

Sometimes It Is Obvious. . .

Traffic Safety Guy

Sometimes It Is Obvious. . .

Traffic Safety Guy

Sometimes It Is Obvious. . .

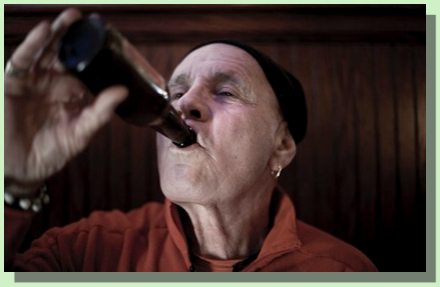
- **Present: 07/23/09 BAC .19**
- **Priors:**
  - **03/15/03**
  - **02/02/00**
  - **11/13/92**
  - **06/19/87**
  - **10/06/86**
  - **04/23/86**

Traffic Safety Guy

Most of the Time it is Not Obvious

Traffic Safety Guy

Traffic Safety Guy

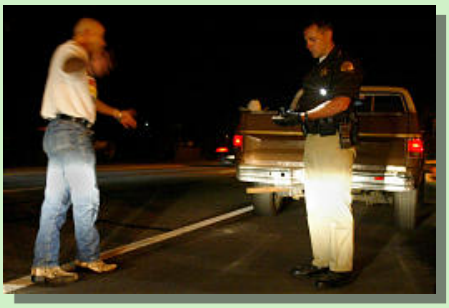


Traffic Safety Guy

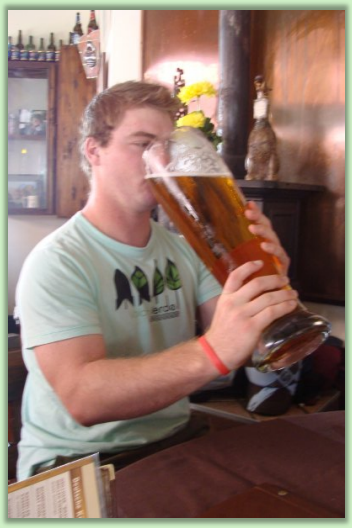
Traffic Safety Guy

Drink Driving Offenders

Honest, Officer all I had was a couple of beers!



Traffic Safety Guy



Traffic Safety Guy

The Bad News

110,000

Traffic Safety Guy

The Bad News

1.28 Million

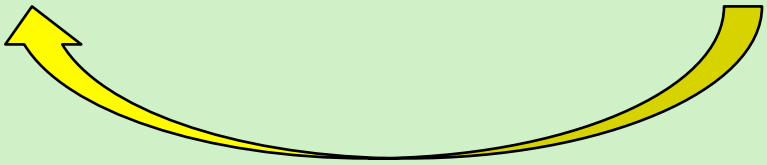
In the U.S.

Traffic Safety Guy

DWI Cases

Alcohol Dependent

Arrest → Prosecution → Adjudication → Sentence



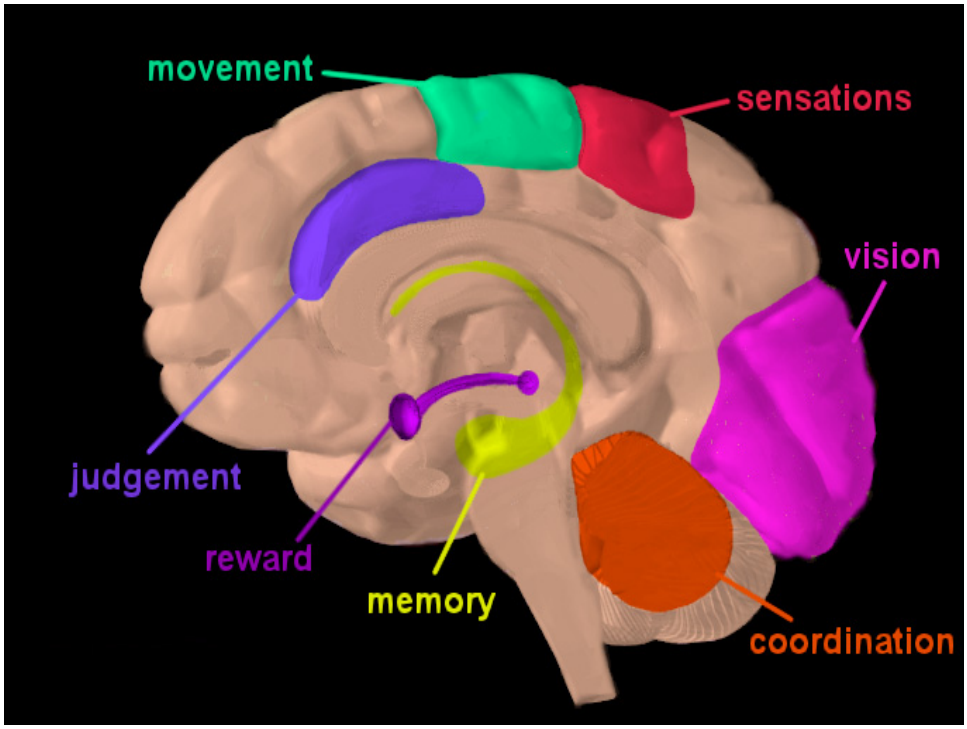
Traffic Safety Guy

Why Can't People Just Change?

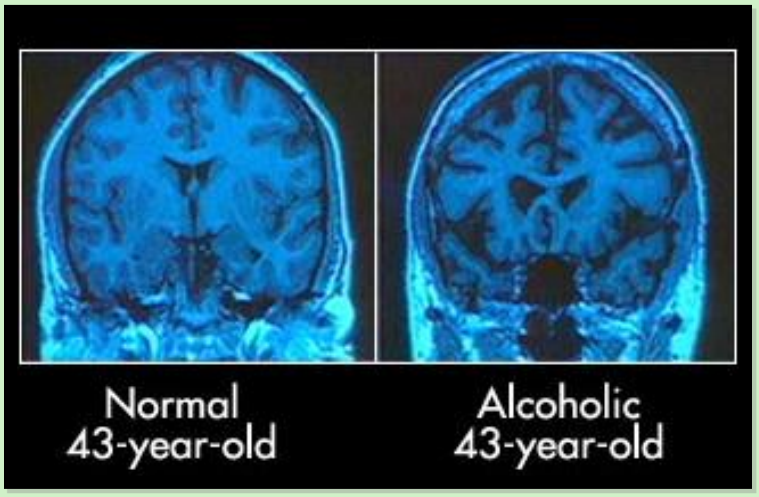
Traffic Safety Guy

Change is Hard

Traffic Safety Guy



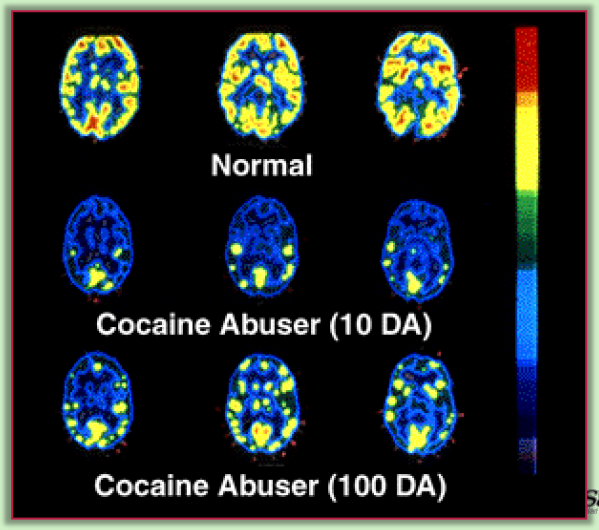
The Changes in a Brain



Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

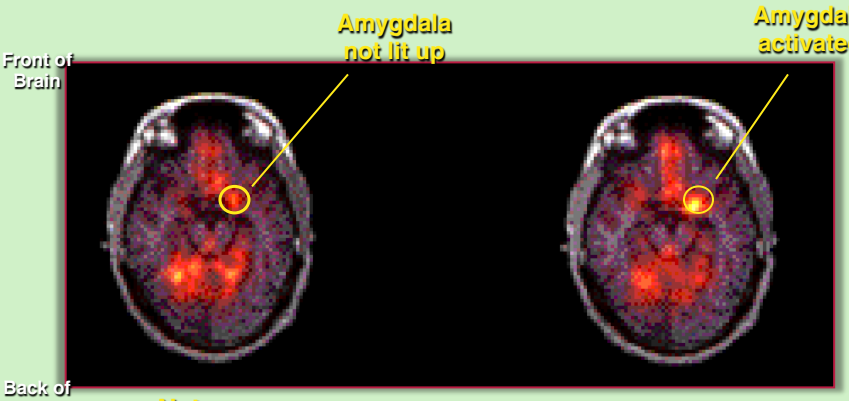
Traffic Safety Guy

Your Brain After Drugs



Safety Guy

The Memory of Drugs



Traffic Safety Guy

Addiction is a Brain Disease

Any use causes acute and temporary changes and prolong use changes the brain in fundamental, destructive and long lasting ways.

Traffic Safety Guy

How Do We Protect Our Communities?

Punishment

or

Rehabilitation

Traffic Safety Guy

Treatment works . . . BUT. . .

. . .only if the person is there.

No Quick Cure

Traffic Safety Guy

Research Findings

The length of time a patient spent in treatment was a reliable predictor of his or her post treatment performance.

Traffic Safety Guy

Research Findings

"Coerced" patients tend to stay longer in treatment.

Traffic Safety Guy

What is a DWI Court?

- Repeat/High BAC Offender
- Quick Accountability
- Intensive
- **Post-Conviction**

Traffic Safety Guy

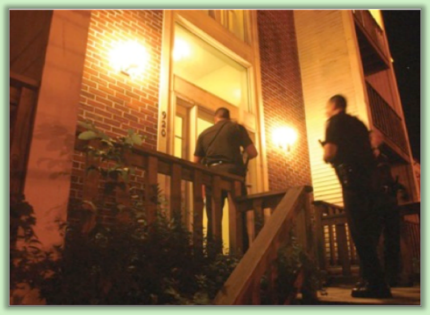
DWI Courts Are:

- **Public Safety**
- **Accountability**

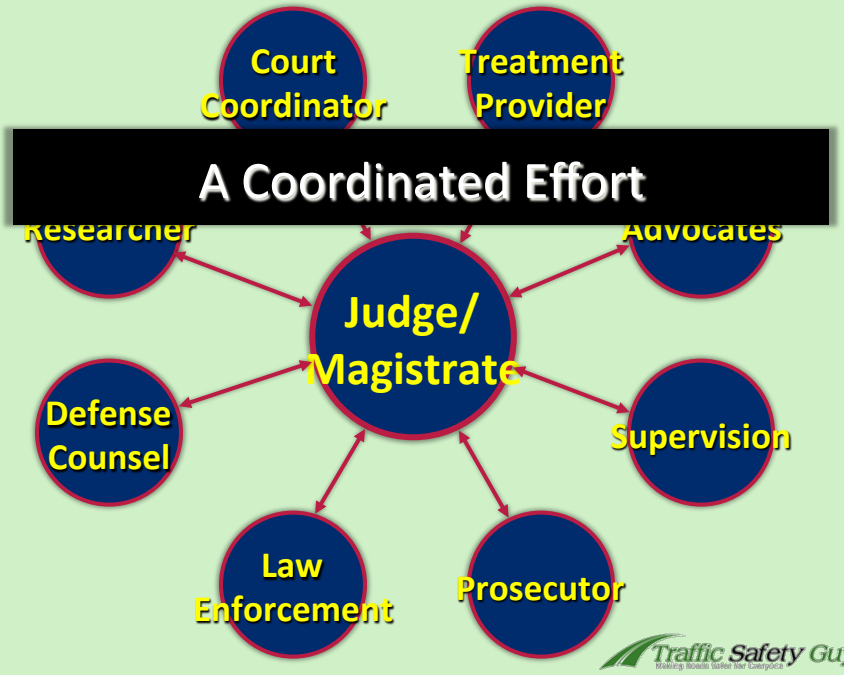
Traffic Safety Guy

Community Supervision

- On-going Assessment
- On-going Home Visits
- Search
- Surveillance
- Bar Sweeps
- Office Visits



Traffic Safety Guy



Traffic Safety Guy

DWI Courts

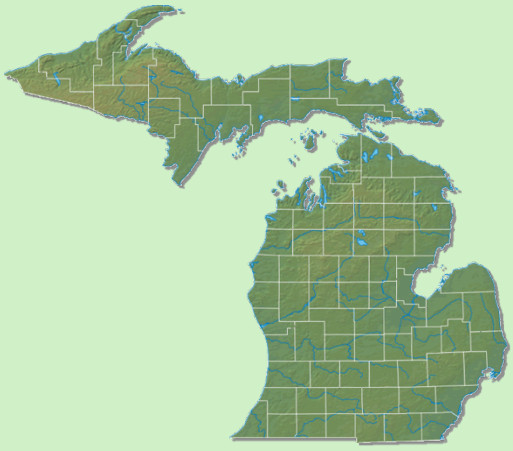
The 10

Guiding Principles

Traffic Safety Guy

Michigan Study

- Reduced recidivism
- Fewer re-arrests
- Cost savings



Traffic Safety Guy

Wisconsin Study

Waukesha Wisconsin

Recidivism rates for any new offense were found to be significantly lower for the DWI Court participants.

Traffic Safety Guy

NHTSA Study (2011)

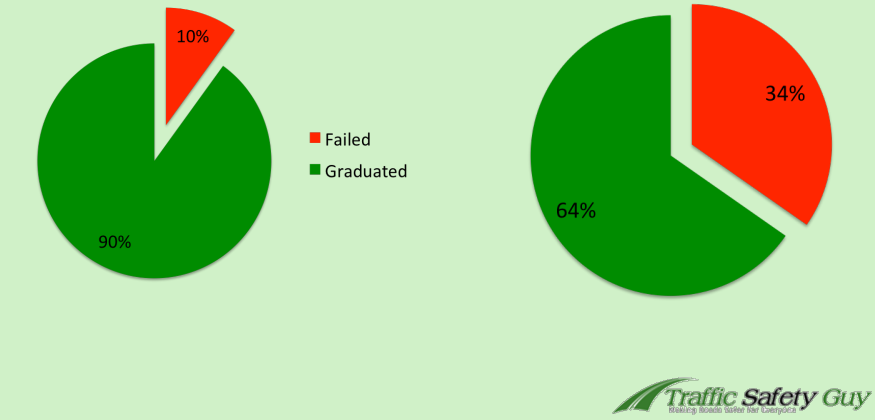
15% vs. 35%

79%

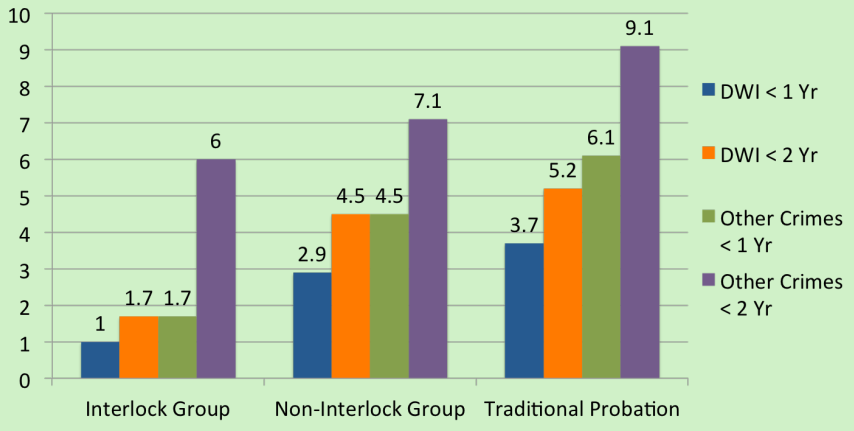
Between 47-112

Traffic Safety Guy

Michigan Interlock Program Program Success / Failure Rate



Interlock Participant Recidivism Rates (%) (Convicted of New Offense)



Some U.S. Organizations in Support

Traffic Safety Guy

Impossible?

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

Nelson Mandela

Traffic Safety Guy

Questions?
Traffic Safety Guy

David Wallace
Traffic Safety Guy
David@TrafficSafetyGuy.com
703-201-4721
www.TrafficSafetyGuy.com
TrafficSafetyGuy.com/RSRPE/