Driving drunk and drugged poses a significant threat to drivers, passengers, pedestrians and all who share our roads.

DRUNK DRIVING

Drunk driving is a serious problem in the United States. It is a threat to everyone, regardless of age, gender, or class. Drunk driving is the act of driving a vehicle after consuming enough alcohol to impair one’s motor skills and mental capacity. Not only are drunk drivers a threat to others on the road, but they are also a threat to themselves and to any passengers. The legal limit for Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) in the District of Columbia is .08 percent for non-CDL holders and .04 percent for CDL holders. It is a crime to have a BAC at or above these levels while operating a motor vehicle.

THINK YOU CAN’T GET A DUI? THINK AGAIN

Most drunk driving arrests are first time offenders, many of whom are well intentioned, usually responsible people who “felt fine” to drive, when in fact they were a risk to themselves and others. Why face the many penalties when there are so many alternatives to getting behind the wheel? Call a taxi (during major holidays, the Sober Ride program—1-800-200-TAXI—provides free taxi rides home); designate a driver; call a friend; request a UBER or LYFT; stay at your hotel or home … but please don’t drink and drive. And don’t let your friends, either. Always celebrate responsibly! Vision Zero is an all hands-on deck approach to transportation safety. By the year 2024, Washington DC will eliminate fatalities and serious injuries to travelers of our transportation system through more effective use of data, education, enforcement, and engineering. Deaths and serious injuries are not inevitable they are preventable!

Washington DC is TOUGH on drunk and drugged drivers

VISION ZERO
SAFE STREETS FOR WASHINGTON, DC

DECEMBER IS NATIONAL DRUNK AND DRUGGED PREVENTION MONTH

DC DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES
IGNITION INTERLOCK DEVICE PROGRAM

An ignition interlock device (IID) is a breath alcohol analyzer connected to the ignition system of a vehicle. The driver must blow into the device, and if his or her breath alcohol level exceeds the accepted level set on the device, the vehicle will not start. In addition, at different times while driving, the driver will be prompted to blow into the device to ensure he or she is not under the influence.

Drunk and Drug-impaired driving is a national threat to public safety and public health. For more information on Drunk and Drug-impaired driving visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration website at: www.nhtsa.gov

ZERO TOLERANCE FOR YOUTH

Persons under the age of 21 cannot purchase, consume, or possess any alcoholic beverages of any kind. If they are found to be operating a motor vehicle with any measurable amount of alcohol, they will be placed under arrest and charged with DUI.

Prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, and illegal drugs may cause impairment alone or in combination with each other and/or with alcohol.

DRUGGED DRIVING

Drugged driving is as dangerous as drunk driving. The effects of specific drugs differ depending on how they act in the brain. For example, marijuana can slow reaction time, impair judgment of time and distance, and decrease coordination. Drivers who have used cocaine or methamphetamine can be aggressive and reckless when driving. Certain kinds of Prescription drugs can cause dizziness and drowsiness. All these impairments can lead to vehicle crashes. Even in states that have legalized marijuana for recreational use, driving while under the influence of marijuana is still illegal. Unfortunately, too many people are misinformed.