COLORADO · DUI CHECKLIST

Colorado DUI Checklist

What to do today, this week, and before your court date. Print it. Check things off. One step at a time.

YOUR FIRST DEADLINE

7 days to act on your Express Consent hearing (DMV administrative revocation)

7 calendar days from the date of arrest if you took a breath test or refused. If you took a blood test, 7 days from the date on the DMV's mailed Notice of Revocation. Missing it waives the hearing; a late hearing can be requested only with a written reason such as incarceration.

Who: Colorado Division of Motor Vehicles; hearings held by the Department of Revenue Hearings Division

KEY FACTS

SUSPENSION, 1ST FAILED TEST

9 months revocation (0.08 or more)

SUSPENSION, 1ST REFUSAL

1 year revocation

1ST OFFENSE CHARGE

Misdemeanor (DUI or DUI per se); DWAI is a lesser misdemeanor

1ST OFFENSE FINE

DUI: $600 to $1,000. DWAI: $200 to $500

1ST OFFENSE JAIL

DUI: 5 days to 1 year (at least 10 days at a BAC of 0.20 or more). DWAI: 2 to 180 days

INSURANCE FILING

SR-22 for 3 years

PRIOR OFFENSES

No time limit. All prior offenses count.

IGNITION INTERLOCK

Required for Persistent Drunk Drivers: a BAC of 0.15 or more, a refusal, or two or more convictions. First offenders under 0.15 can use interlock to reinstate early.

1 First 24 Hours

- [ ] **Express Consent hearing (DMV administrative revocation): act within 7 days. 7 calendar days from the date of arrest if you took a breath test or refused. If you took a blood test, 7 days from the date on the DMV's mailed Notice of Revocation. Missing it waives the hearing; a late hearing can be requested only with a written reason such as incarceration.**

- [ ] Find your Express Consent Affidavit and Notice of Revocation — If you took a breath test or refused, the officer gave you this paper. If you took a blood test, the DMV will mail the notice later.
- [ ] Request the DMV hearing within 7 days — Request it in person at a DMV office, by mail, or by email to dor_hearingrequest@state.co.us. Seven days runs from the arrest, or from the DMV letter date for blood tests.
- [ ] Check whether you are a Persistent Drunk Driver — A BAC of 0.15 or more, or a refusal, means PDD status even on a first DUI. Expect interlock, Level II treatment, and an SR-22.
- [ ] Write down what happened — Note the stop, roadside tests, and whether you were offered breath or blood. These details matter at the hearing.
- [ ] Talk to a lawyer before the hearing — The hearing officer reviews the officer's packet and any evidence you present. It is also your first look at the evidence in the criminal case.

2 Court

- [ ] Summons and complaint — The officer gives you a Uniform Summons and Complaint. It starts the criminal case and lists your first court date. The district attorney prosecutes.
- [ ] First appearance and conditions — The judge can set conditions while the case is open, including an alcohol and drug evaluation and treatment.
- [ ] Arraignment and disposition — You enter a plea of guilty or not guilty. Plea offers, such as a reduction to DWAI, are usually discussed at these settings.
- [ ] Pretrial readiness and trial — If there is no plea agreement, the court holds a readiness conference before trial. You can ask for a jury.
- [ ] Sentencing and alcohol probation — On conviction, the court can impose jail, fines, community service, treatment, and probation. Probation's alcohol evaluation sets your level of classes.

3 Getting Your License Back

- [ ] Level I or Level II Alcohol and Drug Education and Therapy (BHA-licensed DUI services): The court orders an alcohol evaluation through probation, which sets the class level. The level is set by the court-ordered evaluation. Persistent drunk drivers (BAC 0.15 or more, two or more alcohol-related violations, driving while restrained, or refusal) must complete Level II education and therapy, and file an Affidavit of Enrollment (DR 2643) with the DMV to reinstate.
- [ ] Ignition interlock: Required for Persistent Drunk Drivers: a BAC of 0.15 or more, a refusal, or two or more convictions. First offenders under 0.15 can use interlock to reinstate early.
- [ ] File SR-22 insurance and keep it 3 years.
- [ ] Ask about a Ignition interlock restricted license (early reinstatement): Apply to the Colorado DMV (Driver Services) through its early reinstatement process. Install an approved interlock, file SR-22 insurance, and meet the other reinstatement requirements. Driver Services: 303-205-5613.

Your full Colorado DUI guide

Deadlines, penalties, the court process, license hearings, and FAQs, with links to the official sources.

https://dui911.org/colorado

Official source for your license deadline: https://dmv.colorado.gov/the-dui-administrative-process

This checklist is educational and is not legal advice. Laws, deadlines and fees change; confirm them with the agency or a licensed Colorado attorney before you rely on them. DUI911.org is not a law firm and is not affiliated with any law firm, interlock company or insurer.