CONNECTICUT · DUI CHECKLIST

Connecticut 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 Administrative per se hearing (DMV)

7 days from the date DMV mails the suspension notice, not from the arrest, under §14-227b(e). For a repeat case (a prior suspension in the last 10 years) or a fatal crash, the suspension can take effect on the date in the notice, and the 7-day window to request a hearing still runs from the mailing date. Call the Administrative Per Se Unit at 860-263-5204 or email DMV.AdminPerse@ct.gov before the deadline on the notice.

Who: Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles, Administrative Per Se Unit

KEY FACTS

SUSPENSION, 1ST FAILED TEST

45 days, then 6 months of ignition interlock (age 21+ at 0.08 or more)

SUSPENSION, 1ST REFUSAL

45 days, then 1 year of ignition interlock

1ST OFFENSE CHARGE

Misdemeanor

1ST OFFENSE FINE

$500 to $1,000

1ST OFFENSE JAIL

Up to 6 months with 2 days mandatory, or a fully suspended sentence with probation and 100 hours of community service

INSURANCE FILING

No special filing required

PRIOR OFFENSES

Priors within 10 years count

IGNITION INTERLOCK

Required after every administrative per se suspension and every DUI conviction, including first offenses and refusals.

1 First 24 Hours

- [ ] **Administrative per se hearing (DMV): act within 7 days. 7 days from the date DMV mails the suspension notice, not from the arrest, under §14-227b(e). For a repeat case (a prior suspension in the last 10 years) or a fatal crash, the suspension can take effect on the date in the notice, and the 7-day window to request a hearing still runs from the mailing date. Call the Administrative Per Se Unit at 860-263-5204 or email DMV.AdminPerse@ct.gov before the deadline on the notice.**

- [ ] Watch your mail for the DMV suspension notice — DMV mails it to your address of record. Your 7 days to request a hearing start from the mailing date on that notice.
- [ ] Request the per se hearing within 7 days — Call the Administrative Per Se Unit at 860-263-5204 (weekdays 8:30–4:30) or email DMV.AdminPerse@ct.gov. Keep proof of when you asked.
- [ ] Plan for interlock after the 45-day suspension — Every per se suspension is followed by an ignition interlock period. You must have one installed before you can drive again.
- [ ] Ask about the Pretrial Alcohol Education Program — First offenders with no DUI conviction and no program use in 10 years can often apply. Completing it leads to dismissal and erasure.
- [ ] Talk to a lawyer — The DMV hearing and the criminal case are separate. A lawyer can tell you whether you qualify for the program and how to handle both.

2 Court

- [ ] Arrest and arraignment — You are arraigned in the GA court where the arrest happened. The judge reviews probable cause, your rights, and bond. The case is often continued so you can get a lawyer.
- [ ] Apply for the Alcohol Education Program — A first offender can ask the court for the Pretrial Alcohol Education Program (Form CR-44). Apply early in the case.
- [ ] Evaluation and program — If granted, CSSD confirms eligibility and DMHAS evaluates you. You then complete the assigned classes or treatment.
- [ ] Pretrial conference — Without the program, a not guilty plea puts the case on the trial list and the court sets a pretrial conference.
- [ ] Dismissal, plea, or trial — Finish the program and the DUI charge is dismissed. Otherwise the case ends in a plea or trial, then sentencing.

3 Getting Your License Back

- [ ] Pretrial Alcohol Education Program (alcohol intervention program): Optional diversion for eligible first offenders who have not used it in 10 years. It includes a DMHAS evaluation and a one-year alcohol intervention program of 10 or 15 sessions, or a treatment program of at least 12 sessions. Finishing it gets the DUI charge dismissed. After a conviction for a second or later offense, probation requires a Court Support Services Division assessment and treatment if ordered. A $100 application fee and a $100 evaluation fee apply, unless waived.
- [ ] Ignition interlock: Required after every administrative per se suspension and every DUI conviction, including first offenses and refusals.
- [ ] Ask about a Ignition interlock restricted license: Serve the 45-day suspension, install an approved interlock, verify the installation to DMV, and complete DMV's restoration requirements, including the $175 reinstatement fee.

Your full Connecticut DUI guide

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

https://dui911.org/connecticut

Official source for your license deadline: https://portal.ct.gov/dmv/licenses-permits-ids/license-suspension/driving-under-influence

This checklist is educational and is not legal advice. Laws, deadlines and fees change; confirm them with the agency or a licensed Connecticut 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.