MICHIGAN · OWI CHECKLIST

Michigan OWI 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

14 days to act on your Implied consent refusal hearing (Office of Hearings and Administrative Oversight)

Applies to refusals only. The request must be postmarked or submitted electronically within 14 days of receiving the officer's report of refusal (form DI-93), which carries the notice of suspension. Michigan has no pre-conviction administrative suspension for failing the test; license sanctions for a failed test come after an OWI conviction.

Who: Michigan Department of State (Secretary of State); hearings by the Office of Hearings and Administrative Oversight

KEY FACTS

SUSPENSION, 1ST FAILED TEST

No administrative suspension. After a first OWI conviction: 30 days suspended, then 150 days restricted (1 year for High BAC).

SUSPENSION, 1ST REFUSAL

1 year, plus 6 points (2 years for a second refusal within 7 years)

1ST OFFENSE CHARGE

Misdemeanor (High BAC OWI if 0.17 or more)

1ST OFFENSE FINE

$100 to $500 ($200 to $700 for High BAC)

1ST OFFENSE JAIL

Up to 93 days (up to 180 days for High BAC)

INSURANCE FILING

No special filing required

PRIOR OFFENSES

No time limit. All prior offenses count.

IGNITION INTERLOCK

Required for a restricted license after 45 days of a High BAC suspension. Repeat offenders whose licenses are revoked usually need an interlock when the Secretary of State restores driving privileges after a hearing.

1 First 24 Hours

- [ ] **Implied consent refusal hearing (Office of Hearings and Administrative Oversight): act within 14 days. Applies to refusals only. The request must be postmarked or submitted electronically within 14 days of receiving the officer's report of refusal (form DI-93), which carries the notice of suspension. Michigan has no pre-conviction administrative suspension for failing the test; license sanctions for a failed test come after an OWI conviction.**
- [ ] Check whether you were given form DI-93 — If you refused the chemical test after arrest, the officer gives you an Officer's Report of Refusal (DI-93). It contains the notice of suspension and starts the 14-day clock.
- [ ] Request the implied consent hearing within 14 days — Mail or submit the request so it is postmarked or filed within 14 days. Missing it means the Secretary of State imposes a 1-year suspension and 6 points.
- [ ] Find your court date — OWI cases go to the district court where you were arrested. Your bond paperwork lists the arraignment date and any conditions, such as no alcohol or testing.
- [ ] Write down your test result — Note your BAC if you know it. At 0.17 or more you face a High BAC charge with a 1-year suspension and possible interlock instead of the standard 30 days.
- [ ] Talk to a lawyer before arraignment — A lawyer can explain whether a plea to OWVI is realistic and how a conviction affects your record and a future set-aside.

2 Court

- [ ] Arrest and charge — The prosecutor files an OWI complaint in the district court where you were arrested. You are released on bond, often with conditions such as no alcohol and testing.
- [ ] Arraignment — State court guidelines call for OWI arraignments within 14 days of arrest. The judge reads the charge, explains your rights, and sets or confirms bond.
- [ ] Pretrial conference — Usually set within about 35 days of arraignment. The prosecutor and your lawyer exchange evidence and discuss a plea, such as to OWVI.
- [ ] Screening and assessment — If you plead guilty or are found guilty, the court must order an alcohol and drug screening and assessment before it sentences you.
- [ ] Trial or sentencing — Guidelines aim to finish OWI cases within 77 days of arrest. Some courts offer a sobriety court for eligible offenders, with close supervision and treatment.

3 Getting Your License Back

- [ ] Court-ordered alcohol and drug screening, assessment, and rehabilitative programs: Before sentencing on any OWI, the court must order a screening and assessment. It may then order education or treatment. With High BAC or any prior conviction, the court must order a treatment or self-help program of at least 1 year. You pay the cost if no other funding is available.
- [ ] Ignition interlock: Required for a restricted license after 45 days of a High BAC suspension. Repeat offenders whose licenses are revoked usually need an interlock when the Secretary of State restores driving privileges after a hearing.

- [ ] Ask about a Restricted license: Once the no-driving period ends, check your eligibility through your online Secretary of State account and get the restricted license at a Secretary of State office. For High BAC, bring proof that the interlock is installed.

Your full Michigan OWI guide

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

https://dui911.org/michigan

Official source for your license deadline: https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1627_8665_9074-29353--,00.html

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