

THE COSTS OF DRINKING & DRIVING IN VIRGINIA

In 2002, 17,419 people were killed in crashes involving alcohol, representing 41% of the 42,815 people killed in all traffic crashes in the United States, according to NHTSA data. In Virginia, 371 people were killed in crashes involving alcohol (41% of the 914 people killed in all traffic crashes).

In 2001, 28,044 people were convicted of DUI in Virginia. (84% Male, 16% Female) - 1/3 of all drivers arrested of DUI are repeat offenders.

Developed by: Thomas Jefferson Area Community Criminal Justice Board

PROCESS	OFFENDER'S TIME & COSTS		COMMUNITY TIME & COSTS	
	TIME	COSTS	TIME	COSTS
Traffic Stop, Field Test, Arrest, Breath Test, Booking	3 – 5 hours	If juvenile, parents notified	3 – 5 hours	Other police officers provide coverage which can lengthen response time to other emergencies
Magistrate Reviews Incident Report (Setting Bond, Booking)	1 – 2 hours	After booking: Immediate 7 day suspension of Driver's License	1-2 hours	Police Officer and Jail Staff observing offender
Posting Bail	Will be held till sober Minimum 4 hours	\$500 Unsecured to \$2500 Secured	1 Hour	Magistrates reviewing surety
Car Towed	1 – 2 hours	\$100 Towing Fee (unless there is another sober driver in vehicle)		
Return to General District Court after 7 days to retrieve Drivers License	1 – 2 hours		1 Hour	General District Court Clerk will handle paperwork
Hiring an Attorney	1 – 3 hours for court appearance/meeting with counsel/ retaining counsel	\$112 Court Appointed to \$1500 - \$4,000 (Private Counsel)		
Appearing in Court	1– 3 hours per Court appearance (Minimum two appearances) This doesn't include appeals.	2 Days Work/School Missed	1 – 2 Hours Police Officer in court testifying, 1 - 2 hours for: Commonwealth Attorney, Judge, Clerk	Police Officer away from patrol to protect the community or paid overtime when not on regular shift

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Paying Court Costs	License can/will be suspended depending on offense class	Court Cost = \$164 Fine = \$250 to \$1000 <u>Felony Conviction:</u> Loss of Voting Rights & Right to Bear Arms		
Jail Time	0 - 12 months in Jail (depends on Blood Alcohol Content and number of previous convictions; can be mandatory)	0 - \$500 Fine .20 Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) has a mandatory 5 days jail and \$250 fine .25 BAC has a mandatory 10-day jail and \$250 fine 2 nd offense within 5 years has a mandatory 5 days jail and \$500 fine Plus: If a Juvenile is in car = \$500 Minimum fine & 5 days minimum mandatory time in jail		Approximately \$52.00 per day (Not including any medical costs)
Trip to Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for Restricted Drivers license for 12 months for 1 st offense	1 – 2 Hours	\$120 Fee for required Restricted License. Drivers License marked with a BIG RED letter R for Restricted (“the scarlet letter”) DL can be suspended permanently for subsequent offenses	Offender’s employer might have to restrict or deny driving privileges during company time Restricted License only allows driving to and from work, and only as by court order	
Attend Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)	Minimum 20 hour ten week alcohol education course Supervision / Monitoring for a Minimum of one year	\$300 and other course fees, \$25 per sighted drug screens. Plus treatment costs as required, including ignition-interlock		

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Notify Insurance Company	Must apply for SR22 on Drivers License (High risk designation for 3-5 years)	\$1,000 – \$2,000 increase in car insurance per year (Might be dropped by current insurance carrier) Insurance can refuse to pay for any claim as a result of DUI		According to NHTSA, in 2000 an estimated \$103 billion was spent in US auto insurance costs for alcohol related accidents. This affects everyone's insurance payments.
Obtain Non-restrictive Driver's License	1 –2 hours at DMV	\$10 fee		
	TOTAL TIME	TOTAL COSTS		
	Minimum: 40 hours to 12 months in jail plus probation time	Minimum: \$5,000 to \$20,000		

NOTE: This is a general tally and should not be construed as an accurate portrayal of a specific case as each case is unique and treated as such by the court, DMV, attorney, ASAP, insurance, etc.

IMPORTANT: This DOES NOT calculate the time involved for accident investigation and accident reconstruction work, nor does it consider the subsequent civil actions that result from alcohol related traffic accidents (depositions, discovery, hearings, etc). In addition, this report does not calculate the costs of those killed or critically injured in an alcohol related traffic accident. In other words, what's the true cost to the victim?

THE MESSAGE: The costs for drinking and driving are a huge expense both in time, money and in lives. Take one minute to make the right decision. Call a cab (\$25 – \$35 cost) or have a designated driver before it costs you for a lifetime. Don't Drink & Drive.

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INFORMATION SOURCES:

Charlottesville Commonwealth's Attorney Office
Charlottesville District Court Judge
Fluvanna County Commonwealth's Attorney Office
16th Judicial District Magistrate Office
Albemarle/Charlottesville Regional Jail
Charlottesville Police Department
Charlottesville/Albemarle Public Defender's Office
Louisa County General District Court Clerk's Office
Virginia Criminal Code
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (VA DMV)
Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP)
Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS)
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
Offender Aid and Restoration/Jefferson Area Community Corrections
Virginia Compensation Board
Virginia Department Alcoholic Beverage Control (VA ABC)
State Farm Insurance
Thomas Jefferson Community Criminal Justice Board (TJCCJB)

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