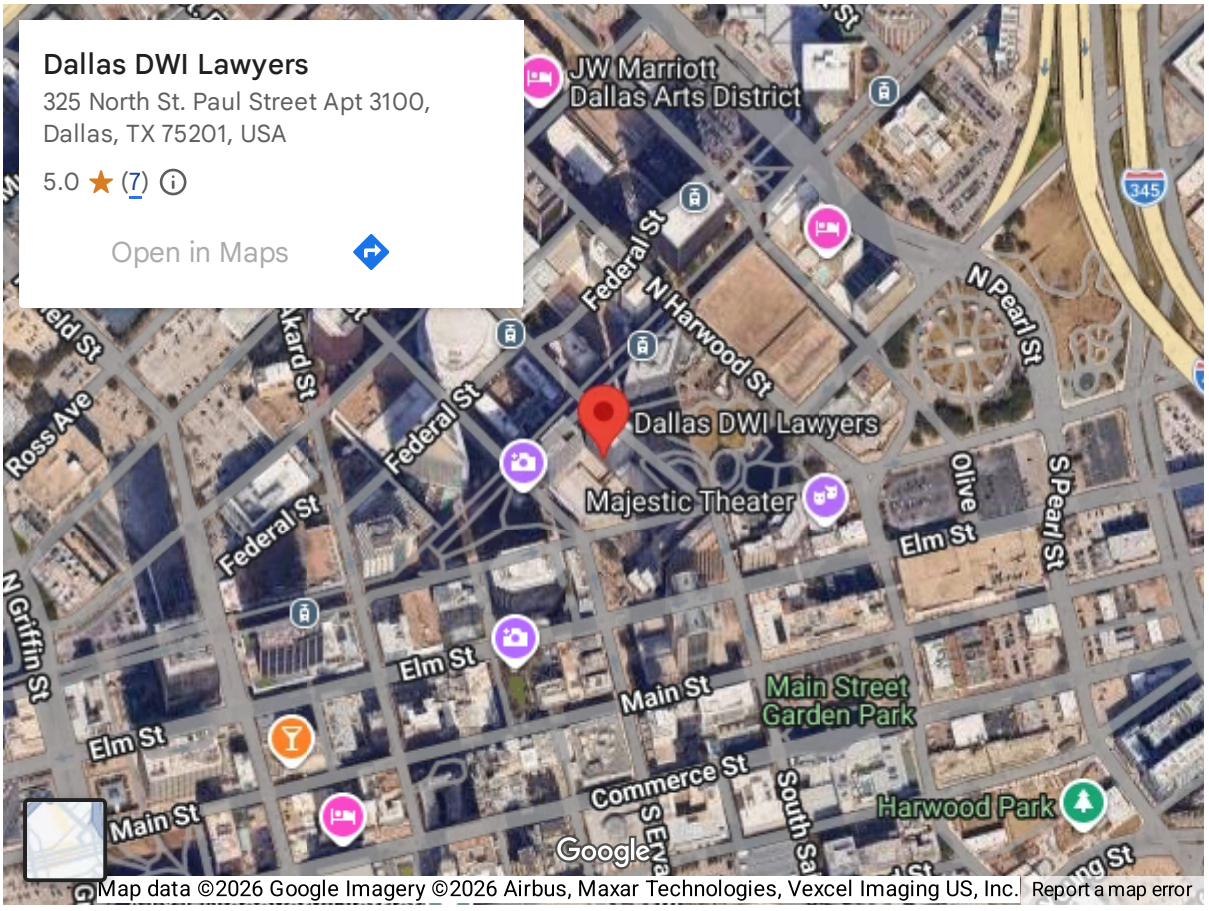
Prescription bottles carry warning labels for a reason, but most drivers never expect a label to turn into a criminal charge. Texas DWI law covers far more than alcohol. A driver in Dallas can be charged after taking a **Dallas criminal defense DWI** lawfully prescribed medication, after using marijuana, or after combining a substance with a drink or two at dinner in Oak Lawn. Dallas DWI Lawyers defends drug DWI cases from across the city, including stops near the Medical District, Bluffview and the roads around Love Field. Under Texas Penal Code 49.04, a person is intoxicated if they have lost the normal use of mental or physical faculties because of alcohol, a drug or a combination. The 0.08 figure applies to alcohol concentration only. There is no matching number for most drugs, which means these cases tend to rest on what the officer saw and heard, field sobriety test results, statements made at the scene and a blood test. A blood result showing a substance may not, by itself, show when it was taken or how it was affecting the driver at the time. With marijuana in particular, traces can remain in the body well after any effect has worn off. Having a valid prescription does not automatically prevent a charge, but it is often an important part of the picture. The defense looks at the dose, how long the person had been taking the medication, what the prescribing doctor advised and whether the signs the officer described could have another explanation, such as fatigue, a medical condition or simple nerves. Blood evidence gets close attention too, including the warrant or consent behind the draw, the timing, the chain of custody and the lab methods. A DWI defense attorney who prepares the case as if it is going to trial will want all of those records early.

Dallas DWI Lawyers | 325 North St Paul Street, Suite 3100, Dallas, TX 75201 | (945) 403-4331

Many drug DWI stops happen near the hospitals on Harry Hines Blvd, where people are leaving long shifts at Parkland or UT Southwestern, or heading home after a procedure. Others come from traffic stops on Lemmon Ave, Mockingbird Lane or the Dallas North Tollway. Gary L. Medlin, the firm's founder, has been Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1989, and the team reviews every step from the reason for the stop through the officer's decision to arrest. A separate ALR license case may also be open, with a 15-day deadline to request a hearing. Bring your prescription details, pharmacy records and anything you remember about the stop to your first meeting. Call or text Dallas DWI Lawyers at (945) 403-4331, 24/7, for a free case evaluation. The office is on St Paul Street in downtown Dallas near the DART St. Paul station, and Spanish, Russian and Ukrainian are spoken by members of the team.

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FAQ About

DWI Defense Attorney in Dallas How much is a DWI lawyer in Texas? Fees depend on whether the case is a first offense misdemeanor or a felony, whether there is an ALR hearing to fight, and whether the case goes to trial. Dallas DWI Lawyers starts with a free case evaluation so you can hear what your specific case involves before you commit to anything. Call or text (945) 403-4331 to set one up. What happens after a DWI arrest in Dallas? Most people arrested in Dallas are booked at the Lew Sterrett Justice Center and released on bond, often with conditions such as an ignition interlock. Misdemeanor DWI cases then move through the County Criminal Courts at the Frank Crowley Courts Building, while a separate license suspension case starts with DPS. The team at Dallas DWI Lawyers deals with both tracks from the first call. How long do I have to request an ALR hearing in Texas? The request must be made within 15 days of receiving notice of the license suspension, which is usually the day of the arrest. Missing that window means the suspension can take effect without a hearing. Dallas DWI Lawyers files ALR requests and represents drivers at the hearing, so call (945) 403-4331 as early as you can. Is a first DWI a felony in Texas? A standard first DWI is a Class B misdemeanor with a minimum of 72 hours and up to 180 days in jail, and a fine of up to $2,000. It becomes a Class A misdemeanor if a test shows 0.15 or more, and it can be a state jail felony if a passenger under 15 was in the car. Our downtown Dallas office on St Paul Street handles every level of these charges. Can a DWI be dismissed in Texas? Dismissals do happen, usually when the stop lacked reasonable suspicion, the arrest lacked probable cause, or the breath or blood evidence has problems. No lawyer can promise a dismissal, but Dallas DWI Lawyers prepares each case as if it is going to trial and reviews the video, reports and lab records for weak points. Should I refuse a breath test in Texas? Texas is an implied consent state, so a refusal can bring a license suspension of at least 180 days and can be mentioned at trial. Officers can also get a blood warrant, especially during Dallas County no refusal weekends. Every situation is different, so talk to a DWI defense attorney about how a refusal affects your own case. Can I still drive after a DWI arrest in Dallas? Usually yes, at least for a short time, because the suspension does not start right away and a timely ALR request can hold it off until the hearing. If a suspension does take effect, an occupational license may let you drive to work, school and essential errands. Dallas DWI Lawyers helps with both, starting with a call to (945) 403-4331. How long does a DWI stay on your record in Texas? A DWI conviction stays on your Texas criminal record permanently unless the law gives you a way to seal or clear it. Some first-offense cases may qualify for nondisclosure, and expunction is generally limited to dismissals, acquittals and no-bills. The firm can review your eligibility during a free case

evaluation. What makes a DWI a felony in Texas? A DWI becomes a felony with two prior intoxication convictions, a passenger under 15, a serious injury (intoxication assault) or a death (intoxication manslaughter). These carry prison ranges from 180 days in a state jail up to 20 years. Managing Attorney Gary L. Medlin has been Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1989. Do I need a lawyer for a first DWI in Texas? You are not required to have one, but a first DWI can still mean jail time, fines, a license suspension and a permanent record. A lawyer can challenge the stop and the testing, and may be able to pursue options such as deferred adjudication where the law allows it. Dallas DWI Lawyers answers calls and texts 24/7 at (945) 403-4331. Can a DWI be reduced to a lesser charge in Texas? In some cases, problems with the evidence lead prosecutors to offer a reduced charge such as obstructing a highway or reckless driving. Whether that is possible depends on the facts, the test results and your history. Attorneys at Dallas DWI Lawyers include former prosecutors who understand how those decisions get made in Dallas County. What is the difference between a DWI and a DUI in Texas? In Texas, DWI is the charge for adults who are intoxicated while driving, while DUI is a Class C charge for drivers under 21 with any detectable amount of alcohol. A young driver can face either charge depending on the evidence. Dallas DWI Lawyers defends underage drivers from SMU, University Park and across Dallas.