

# **What To Do If You Get Pulled Over For DUI/DWI**

## **1. Pull Over When Lights Are Flashing Behind You**

When you see flashing lights behind you, pull over as soon as you can. Remain calm. Expect to be under video and/or audio surveillance. The officer will be looking for open bottles and paraphernalia, assessing your speech and body movements for indications of intoxication, as well as watching for "furtive movements," or suspicious actions. Be prepared to provide the officer with your license, registration, and proof of insurance. Be polite, but stay reserved and firm.

## **2. Do Not Submit To The Field Sobriety Test**

If asked to take the test, you can politely tell the officer that you refuse. It is wise to refuse to take the SFST, a right you retain under Florida law. There are a lot of things that can affect the outcome of an SFST, such as certain medications and medical conditions, poor coordination, and illness. The state cannot suspend your license because of your refusal to take the field sobriety test. The officer can still arrest you if she has other cause to believe you are intoxicated, e.g., smell of alcohol, swaying, blood shot eyes.

## **3. Refuse The Breathalyzer, But Know The Consequences**

If the officer has reason to suspect you were driving under the influence, they can ask you at any time to take a breathalyzer or submit to chemical testing. We recommend refusing the breathalyzer test, unless you have had absolutely NO alcoholic beverages prior to the request for a breath sample. Breathalyzers are not always accurate; police officers may have incorrectly calibrated them or may improperly administer them. Preventing law enforcement from collecting this evidence can make it harder for the prosecutor to win the case against you. But there are consequences to refusing the breathalyzer.

First Refusal: You will lose your license for 12 months.

You are not entitled to counsel before deciding whether to submit to chemical testing. So the police are under no obligation to allow you to call a lawyer before deciding whether to take the breathalyzer.

## **4. Request Legal Counsel**

You are entitled to legal counsel during police questioning. You may refuse to answer the police's questions until your attorney is present. Largey Law can guide you during police questioning, and can help you build your defense if the police arrest you for DUI/DWI.

## **5. Call Us Today For Your Free Consultation**

Call us at any time for representation or answers to questions about DUI/DWI charges. After reviewing the facts of your case, we will advise you of the best way to proceed.

Contact us at (352) 253-0456 or visit our website [www.LargeyLaw.com](http://www.LargeyLaw.com) for more information.



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