

The National Association
of Drug Court Professionals



The Century Council



National District
Attorneys Association



The
National Judicial
College



National Association
of Prosecutor
Coordinators



American Probation
and
Parole Association



National Partnership on
Alcohol Misuse and
Crime



**Joint
SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization Recommendations**

The recommendations listed below represent ideas developed by judges and prosecutors from across the nation regarding the highest priorities on how to effectively reduce drunk driving among hardcore drunk drivers (repeat offenders and drivers at high blood alcohol concentration levels of .15% and above). Since recordkeeping began in 1982, alcohol-impaired driving fatalities have dropped 38 percent due to the hard work of many dedicated organizations and important laws passed at the local, state and Federal levels. Our groups support efforts to enforce state .08 BAC laws and applaud the nation's general deterrence efforts such as high visibility enforcement mobilizations.

However, it is important to note that the tragedies associated with hardcore drunk driving have not changed over the years. These drivers continue to account for a disproportionate share of our nation's drunk driving deaths. DWI cases are among the most complex cases to adjudicate. Without strengthening our system for convicting the offenders, focusing on long term behavior change among hardcore drunk drivers, the nation's investment in enforcement and apprehension cannot be maximized. In order to significantly reduce alcohol-impaired driving fatalities, we must also focus on this hard-to-reach population that doesn't respond to traditional deterrence efforts and sanctions. These hardcore drunk drivers need a more comprehensive set of sanctions aimed at not only punishing, but also rehabilitating the offender. We believe the following recommendations, aimed largely at increasing resources for DWI adjudication, are essential in successfully fighting drunk driving.

Recommendations for Highway Safety Title

In order to support national highway safety goals by increasing accountability and cost effectiveness while reducing recidivism, we recommend inclusion of the following provisions as activities the States should undertake in order to receive Federal highway safety funding:

- **EXPAND DWI COURTS AND APPROPRIATE PROBATION RESPONSES** – State highway safety offices should provide funding assistance for DWI Courts that adhere to the National Center for DWI Court’s 10 guiding principles or other intermediate probation responses that do not require judicial action for repeat DWI offenders and drivers with BAC levels of .15 or above.
- **ESTABLISH/EXPAND ONGOING TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS** -- State highway safety offices should fund ongoing trainings to ensure justice professionals and law enforcement officials are fully informed of DWI adjudication and sentencing strategies, new state laws, new technologies and effective monitoring techniques to reduce drunk driving.
- **PROGRAMS FOR EFFECTIVE ALCOHOL REHABILITATION** – Strongly encourage states to fund effective inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment based on mandatory assessment and appropriate treatment for repeat offenders and drivers with BAC levels of .15% or above.
- **IDENTIFY WHICH OFFENDERS ARE MOST LIKELY TO RE-OFFEND**—Encourage and provide incentives for states to use pre-sentence risk/needs assessments on all repeat DWI offenders and drivers with BAC levels of .15 or above. This will help to identify which offenders pose the greatest risk for re-offending and to determine appropriate post conviction supervision and treatment options.
- **IMPROVE DWI DATA COLLECTION** -- Encourage states to develop and implement a statewide DWI tracking and reporting system that will track DWI offenders from arrest through completion of sentence conditions.
- **MAINTAIN FOCUS ON HIGH BAC AND UNDERAGE DRINKING LAWS AND PROGRAMS** – States should be required to have a policy and/or program focus aimed at reducing high BAC driving as well as underage drinking.

About NADCP

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP), a not-for-profit organization located in the Nation's Capitol, was founded in 1994 by a group of judicial visionaries to reverse the growing impact of drug-related crime. They created a court model using a combination of accountability and treatment to compel and support drug-using offenders to change their lives. From that vision came the Drug Court movement and the NADCP. In 1997, NADCP and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) then partnered to create the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI), the professional services branch of NADCP.

Today, NADCP is the premier national membership, training and advocacy organization for Drug Courts, representing over 22,000 multi-disciplinary Drug Court professionals. NADCP hosts the largest annual training conference on drugs and crime in the nation and provides 130 Drug Court training and technical assistance events, benefiting tens of thousands of drug court professionals each year. NADCP/NDCI continues to write, publish, and disseminate scholastic and practical publications that are critical to the ongoing growth and fidelity of the Drug Court model and works tirelessly on Capitol Hill and in state legislatures to transform the American justice system through policy, legislation and appropriations.

About The Century Council

The Century Council is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to fighting drunk driving and underage drinking and is funded by distillers including Bacardi U.S.A., Inc.; Beam Global Spirits & Wine, Inc.; Brown-Forman; Constellation Brands, Inc.; DIAGEO; Hood River Distillers, Inc.; and Sidney Frank Importing Co. Inc. Headquartered in Arlington, Virginia and chaired by Susan Molinari, The Century Council is a leader in the fight to eliminate drunk driving and underage drinking and promotes responsible decision making regarding beverage alcohol. The Century Council develops and implements innovative programs and public awareness campaigns and promotes action through strategic partnerships. Established in 1991, The Century Council's initiatives are highlighted on its website at www.centurycouncil.org.

About APPA

The American Probation and Parole Association is an international association composed primarily of individuals from the United States and Canada actively involved with probation, parole and community-based corrections, in both adult and juvenile sectors. All levels of government including local, state/provincial, legislative, executive, judicial, and federal agencies are counted among its constituents. By taking the initiative, APPA has grown to represent approximately 35,000 probation and parole practitioners including line staff, supervisors and administrators. Educators, volunteers and concerned citizens with an interest in criminal and juvenile justice are also among APPA's members. The association represents a strong, unified voice for the field of community corrections whose mission is to serve, challenge and empower its members and constituents by educating, communicating and training; advocating and influencing; acting as a resource and conduit for information, ideas and support; developing standards and models; and collaborating with other disciplines.

About NDAA

The National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) is the largest and primary professional association of prosecuting attorneys in the United States. The association presently has approximately 7,000 members, including most of the nation's local prosecutors, plus assistant prosecutors, investigators, victim witness advocates and paralegals. NDAA's members come from the offices of District Attorneys, State's Attorneys, Attorneys General and county and city prosecutors with responsibility for prosecuting criminal violations in every State and territory in the United States. In carrying out its mission, "To be the voice of America's prosecutors and to support their efforts to protect the rights and safety of the people," NDAA provides professional guidance and support to its members, serves as a resource and education center, and follows public policy issues involving criminal justice and law enforcement.

About NAPC

Prosecutor Coordinators are the professional individuals in each state who serve the state prosecutors by; assisting them in the administration of their offices, providing training and monitoring & developing legislation. Most NAPC members are former state prosecutors experienced in training prosecutors. The National Association of Prosecutor Coordinators (NAPC) is the only national professional association of prosecutor coordinators. It consists of 50 member states and meets at a minimum of twice a year to share and exchange ideas, information and trends that impact state prosecutors. As an association, we are served by a Program manager whose office is in Alexandria, Virginia.

About The National Judicial College

The National Judicial College was founded in 1963 and is the nation's leading provider of judicial education. The NJC is housed in a state-of-the-art building on the historic 255-acre campus of the University of Nevada, Reno. For more than 45 years, the NJC has been offering courses to improve judicial productivity, challenge current perceptions of justice and inspire judges to achieve judicial excellence. With courses held onsite, across the nation and around the world, the NJC offers an average of 65 courses annually with more than 2,500 judges enrolling from all 50 states, U.S. territories and more than 150 countries. Since it opened, the NJC has awarded more than 84,000 professional judicial education certificates. The NJC is also home to the National Tribal Judicial Center and an International Program. The College's curricula include a Seminar Series and Web-based courses that enable participants to explore a variety of subject areas online. The National Judicial College has an appointed 18-member Board of Trustees and became a Nevada not-for-profit (501)(c)(3) educational corporation on January 1, 1978. Please visit the NJC website at www.judges.org for NJC news, ways to donate, course information and more. Or, call (800) 25-JUDGE for more information

About the National Partnership on Alcohol Misuse and Crime

The [National Partnership on Alcohol Misuse and Crime](#) is a public-private partnership established to bring together stakeholders in the issue of alcohol misuse and crime in order to effectively change the way the U.S. justice system manages and rehabilitates offenders who misuse alcohol. Established in April 2008, NPAMC is comprised of 50 Participating Organizations and their representatives, including scientists and researchers, justice professionals, victims groups, treatment professionals, the corrections

industry, pharmaceutical and technology companies, policy experts and distilleries. Based in Washington, D.C., NPAMC operates with two voluntary staff members and is funded by both private donations and sponsorships from its Participating Organizations. For more information, please visit the NPAMC website at www.alcoholandcrime.org.