



Reporting Medically At-Risk Drivers: Your Role as a Law Enforcement Officer

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles



Identifying Medically At-Risk Drivers

Florida law allows for the re-examination of any driver whose ability to operate a motor vehicle is impaired as a result of a mental or physical impairment. When a driver is involved in a traffic incident involving a motor vehicle **AND** the driver's medical condition or symptoms are thought to be a contributing factor, law enforcement officers should report the driver to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) through the Driver and Vehicle Information Database (DAVID).

Law enforcement's role in the reporting of unsafe drivers is critical in helping to protect the motor-ing public in Florida. As an officer, you have direct contact with motorists and are in the best position to identify, observe and report those who may be unsafe to drive.

Some examples of medical issues that can impair safe driving:

- Slow reflexes, coordination problems or other obvious physical impairments;
- Visual impairment;
- Seizures, spasms, or shaking from diseases like Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, or epilepsy;
- Strokes, traumatic head injuries, or loss of consciousness due to conditions such as heart disease or low blood sugar;
- Memory problems or confusion due to conditions such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease;
- Side effects from prescription medications; or
- Mental impairments, psychiatric disorders, or psychosis.

Reporting Medically At-Risk Drivers

A feature in DAVID allows law enforcement officers to easily report at-risk drivers electronically. Reporting via the DAVID system is the most efficient reporting method and allows DHSMV to take immediate action.

To access this report:

- **Click** on the *Report Driver for Re-Exam* button from the record detail page;
- **Check off** all medical conditions that apply; **and**
- **Provide** a brief description of any behavior observed as it relates to the reason the driver is being reported.

This report is kept strictly confidential under Florida Law.

Florida's Medical Review Process

After DHSMV's Medical Review Section receives the report via DAVID, the information is reviewed and the driver may be required to take a driving test or provide a medical report from his or her physician. This report is then forwarded to DHSMV's Medical Advisory Board for a recommendation regarding the individual's ability to drive. The driver is then advised of any further requirements.

If this review determines that a driver's medical condition renders them unsafe to drive, the Department will revoke their license.

If the driver's license is denied, the driver may request an administrative hearing to appeal the decision regarding the revocation of their driving privilege.

As a law enforcement officer, if you need to provide information or resources to a concerned citizen or family member regarding an at-risk driver, please direct them to DHSMV's website at: www.flhsmv.gov or they may contact the Medical Review Section at (850) 617-3814.



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