

DRINKING DRIVING OFFENCES



Why Getting The Best Legal Help Can Make Such A Big Difference



Drink driving is a serious offence, and if convicted, you will lose your driving licence for a minimum of one year. You could also face up to six months in prison and an unlimited fine. If someone dies as a result of drink driving, the maximum penalty is life imprisonment.

At Parnell & Peel, we have over twenty years of experience in defending drink driving charges, and an exceptionally high success rate:

89% Drink Drive Breath clients kept their driving licences

92% Drink Drive Blood clients kept their driving licences

96% Drink Drive Blood/Hospital clients kept their driving licences

We know how stressful it is to face a drink driving case, and we understand that you will rightly be concerned about the potential outcome, including the risk of losing your licence, paying an unlimited fine, facing a prison sentence, and having a criminal record.

Whether you need to drive because of your job, your role as a carer, or to enable you to have contact with your children, we will work tirelessly to protect your licence.

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Drink driving- Not guilty.

Worth every penny!

I was certain I would lose my license at the time.

After contacting Parnell and Peel, Abdul quickly filled me with confidence and explained in great detail how he would defend my case.

He clearly has a lot of experience and knowledge.

In the end I didn't even need to go to trial as my case was dropped a few days before, all thanks to Abdul and his team.

I can't thank him enough and I would highly recommend Parnell and Peel solicitors to anyone.

- **Louis Harrison**

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Our drink driving solicitors' expertise

If you ask us to represent you, we will go through the circumstances of your case in detail, checking to see whether any errors have been made in the collection or processing of your sample, in the way that you were stopped or detained, or in the prosecution of the case against you.

We will identify any issues that could allow us to request that charges be dropped. Should your case go ahead, we will put together the strongest possible defence on your behalf and ensure that you have expert representation in court.

Those charged with drink driving often assume there is no way to contest this, and may simply accept the charge and penalties. However, our statistics show that there is every chance that you will keep your licence if you ask us to help.

Drink driving charges are often misunderstood by clients and lawyers without expertise in this highly regulated area of law. You have rights which must not be infringed, and it is for the prosecution to both follow the correct procedure throughout and to prove guilt.

Law officers often fail to follow the right process, which is a breach of your rights. We can step in to defend you, ensuring that your interests are observed. Please note that it is crucial to work with expert drink driving solicitors who deal with these types of cases on a daily basis. General solicitors rarely have the understanding to handle a drink driving case in the right way.

We will attend the initial hearing with you, at which you will not be required to speak or answer questions, save for providing your name and how you wish to plead.

Following this, we will work on your case to try to have it dropped wherever possible. Should it go to trial, we will ensure you are thoroughly prepared, including by holding a mock trial with you in advance, so that you understand what questions you will be asked and know how to answer them.

We have an outstanding reputation in the specialist area of drink driving, and we are confident that we will obtain the best possible outcome on your behalf.

We know how vital it can be for you to be able to drive to meet family and work responsibilities, and we will do all we can to protect your licence.

For more information on our services, see [Drink Driving Offences](#).

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They done the impossible, got caught drink driving, I thought I would lose my license, however Abdul Ali insisted that I had a case, I just decided to take the risk, it went a lot better than I could have ever imagined.

He managed to drop my case before it got to the second trial, the whole experience was very smooth and he was very positive and uplifting throughout the whole process.

Just trust them and leave them to do their job.

THEY WILL SORT IT.

Will recommend them to everyone!

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- **Mani Sameni**”



What is the legal alcohol limit for driving?

In England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, the alcohol limit for driving is:

BREATH

35 micrograms
per 100 millilitres

BLOOD

80 milligrams per
100 millilitres

URINE

107 milligrams per
100 millilitres

For more information, see [Drink Driving Charges](#).



What are the penalties for drink driving?

If you are convicted of driving or attempting to drive while above the legal limit or unfit through drink, you will be banned from driving for a minimum of one year, and a minimum of three years if you are convicted twice within ten years. You will also likely be fined, and you could receive a prison sentence of up to six months.

For more information, see [Drink Driving Penalty](#).



What defences are there to drink driving?

There are several defences to drink driving, which could mean that you are found not guilty. These include:

- Errors were made in your case, including:
 - Police officers did not follow the correct procedure when dealing with you, for example, they did not wait for twenty minutes after your last drink before carrying out a breath test, they did not give you the correct verbal warning, or they did not handle your sample in the right way
 - The equipment used to measure your sample was inaccurate or the prosecution failed to provide evidence of maintenance and calibration of the machine
 - Prosecutors did not handle your case correctly
- You had a drink after you were driving, for example, following an accident
- You were not driving on a public road
- You were not the driver of the vehicle

For more information, see [Pleading Not Guilty To Drink Driving.](#)



What circumstances can reduce the sentence for drink driving?

If you are convicted of drink driving, there may be special reasons why you should not lose your licence. These include:

- Your drink was spiked or the drink you were given was stronger than the one you asked for
- There was a genuine emergency, such as a medical incident, that meant that you had to drive to obtain immediate help for someone
- You drove only a very short distance, for example, to move your car to a safe parking space
- You were threatened or pressured into driving
- Losing your licence would impact someone for whom you are a carer, such as a sick child or relative

In addition, there may be mitigating factors in a drink driving conviction that could result in a lower sentence. These include:

- Genuine remorse
- Previous good character
- An early guilty plea
- Co-operation with the authorities

For more information, see [Pleading Not Guilty To Drink Driving.](#)

What to do if you are charged with drink driving

If you are facing drink driving charges, please do not delay. The sooner we are able to start work on your case, the better chance we will have of obtaining all the evidence we need to defend you.

Please call us now on [033 00532252](tel:03300532252) or email enquiries@parnellandpeel.co.uk and let us help you.

All enquiries are completely confidential.

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My family and friends were sceptical about using Solicitors after I was stopped for drink driving. Parnell & Peel Solicitors were willing take a case on that others told was hopeless. I am astounded by Abdul and his teams brilliance in helping me to avoid conviction. If you have been stopped for drink driving do not hesitate to use Parnell & Peel Solicitors.”

- Thomas Mcdonagh

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