

UPCOMING TRAININGS & CONFERENCES

A full list of NDAA's virtual learning sessions is available at
[▶ ndaa.org/training-courses/](https://ndaa.org/training-courses/).

**NDAA's Mastering Masking Digital Course/
On Demand Training (CLE Available)**
[▶ ndaa.org/training/mastering-masking-2/](https://ndaa.org/training/mastering-masking-2/)

**NDAA's Human Trafficking and the Impact on
Commercial Driver's Licenses/On Demand Training**
[▶ ndaa.org/training/human-trafficking-and-the-impact-on-commercial-drivers-licenses/](https://ndaa.org/training/human-trafficking-and-the-impact-on-commercial-drivers-licenses/)

**NDAA's Prosecuting DUI Cases Online Course/
On Demand Training (CLE Available)**
[▶ ndaa.org/training/prosecuting-dui-cases/](https://ndaa.org/training/prosecuting-dui-cases/)

**NDAA's Investigation and Prosecution of Drug-Impaired
Driving Cases Online Course/On Demand Training
(CLE Available)**
[▶ ndaa.org/training/on-demand-learning-investigation-and-prosecution-of-drug-impaired-driving-cases/](https://ndaa.org/training/on-demand-learning-investigation-and-prosecution-of-drug-impaired-driving-cases/)

NDAA's Job Fair
 February 1-2, 2025, Washington, DC

Mastering Masking: Plea Negotiations and CDLs*
 February 25, 2025, Albuquerque, NM ** Hotel room block is at capacity; registration can only accommodate local attendees*

RESOURCES

Impaired Driving Resources
[▶ ndaa.org/programs/ntlc/](https://ndaa.org/programs/ntlc/)

CDL-Related Resources
[▶ ndaa.org/programs/ntlc/commercial-drivers-license/](https://ndaa.org/programs/ntlc/commercial-drivers-license/)

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Volume 33, Issue 1 | January 2025



NTLC's Year in Review

By NTLC Staff

As the calendar turns to a new year, the staff at the National District Attorneys Association's (NDAA) National Traffic Law Center (NTLC) pauses to review the resources developed and training provided in the past year and look ahead at the work plans for 2025.

Grant Awards

The National District Attorneys Association's National Traffic Law Center (NTLC) is a resource designed to benefit prosecutors, judges, law enforcement officers and others in the justice system. The mission of NTLC is to improve the quality of justice in traffic safety adjudications by increasing the awareness of highway safety issues through the compilation, creation and dissemination of legal and technical information, and by providing training and reference services. To accomplish this mission, the NTLC serves as a nationwide, interdisciplinary resource center for research, training, and technical assistance.

The NTLC's core competencies include knowledge building, training, and technical assistance. Knowledge is captured in the NTLC publications, including manuals, newsletters, and monographs that are disseminated nationally and primarily

electronically through the NDAA/NTLC website. The NTLC will continue to provide technical assistance, training, and publications into 2025 and beyond. Its materials and publications are available at no cost to download on the NDAA website at www.ndaa.org.

To perform these services, the NTLC relies on funding from other entities, including the United States Department of Transportation through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), as well as from other traffic safety partners including the Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility (also known as Responsibility.org), and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators.

• NHTSA & FMCSA

In 2024, the NTLC continued its work under existing cooperative agreements with both the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). The NTLC will continue to provide its services under these two cooperative agreements in 2025, including, technical assistance, trainings, product development and other resources for prosecutor, law enforcement and other traffic safety professionals.

• The Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility (FAAR) and the National Alliance for Stopping Impaired Driving (NASID)

The NTLC continued its work with the Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility, also known as Responsibility.org, by building upon work in the prior year. In December 2023, NTLC published a new monograph *Hospitals, HIPAA, and Impaired Driving Cases—A Guide for Prosecutors and Law Enforcement*; in 2024, NTLC expanded this into an on-demand webinar (more information below). Additionally, NTLC produced a new resource to assist prosecutors in selecting juries in impaired driving cases (more information below). The NTLC will again collaborate with FAAR in 2025 to update the Hardcore Drunk Driving Guide and training videos.

• NASBLA

In the past, the NTLC has successfully collaborated with the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) because of NASBLA's grant funding from the United States Coast Guard. Past resources developed in this partnership include training curricula for *Prosecuting the BUI* and *BUI Courtroom Testimony Training*. 2025 will again present the opportunity to develop two new resources relating to the investigation and prosecution of boating under the influence (see additional details below).

NTLC 2024 Staffing Changes

• Joanne Thomka

After 15 years with the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) as the Director of the National Traffic Law Center (NTLC), Joanne Thomka retired at the end of March. While this marked the end of an era for everyone at the NDAA, it also heralded the beginning of a well-deserved period of relaxation, exploration, and new adventures for Joanne and her husband, Wayde.



Joanne and Wayde Thomka

• Erin Inman, Director of NTLC

Following the retirement of former NTLC Director Joanne Thomka, Erin Inman was named the new Director effective April 1. Erin had been part of the NTLC team since September 2019. Her passion for traffic safety and excitement to help save lives on our roadways was evident in the execution of her duties as Staff Attorney. In that role, she oversaw the management of NTLC's extensive *DUI Library for Prosecutors*, which includes the maintenance and organization of several statutory and case law compilations, research regarding cross-examination topics, and a variety of other



Erin Inman

frequently arising issues prosecutors face in processing DUI cases. Prior to joining the NTLC, Erin practiced law in Montana; she was elected to serve as the Prairie County Attorney, guest lectured throughout the country on prosecuting traffic cases, launched Montana's Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor program, taught at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy, and participated in authoring and designing many criminal justice publications and curricula. She also served her country as a pharmacy technician in the Army Reserves. Her subject matter expertise continues to be instrumental in shaping effective legal strategies and fostering collaborative efforts aimed at reducing traffic-related fatalities and crimes. Erin graduated cum laude from Pepperdine University School of Law and graduated with a B.S. in Soil and Crop Sciences from Colorado State University. She has served her country and her community in many different ways and is passionate about NTLC's mission.

- **Jim Camp, Senior Attorney (FMCSA)**

In July 2024, Jim Camp transitioned to a part-time position with NDAA. Jim joined NTLC in October 2020 as a Staff Attorney on the FMCSA grant and became the Senior Attorney in July 2021. A nationally recognized authority on traffic safety, trial advocacy, law enforcement and prosecution issues, he has remained an in-demand subject matter expert. Jim served as an Elected District Attorney in Wisconsin for over 16 years and as an Assistant District Attorney General and Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor in Tennessee for more than nine years. With nearly four decades of experience as a trial lawyer, Jim has educated and provided authoritative advice to and for law enforcement, staff and command, prosecutors, legislators, committees, boards, traffic safety partners and private industry nationally. Jim's experience, gift for training, and aptitude for making friends with colleagues and students alike are just a few of the reasons NDAA values him. Moreover, his congenial company and big heart are endearing. He will continue to provide training on matters relating to CDLs and masking.



Jim Camp

- **Bella Truong, Senior Attorney (FMCSA)**

Bella joined NDAA in March 2022 as a Staff Attorney and NTLC in January 2023. In July 2024, Bella was selected to step into the role of Senior Attorney for the FMCSA grant. Bella had years of multifaceted legal experience prior to joining NDAA, the majority of which she served as a prosecutor in both the Cumberland County District Attorney's Office (Fayetteville, NC) and the Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney's Office (Tacoma, WA). While she specialized in prosecuting violent and special victim crimes, she has focused on traffic safety for many years. She also provided training and guidance for multidisciplinary teams, including instructing about local human trafficking laws. Additionally, she served as a Military Intelligence Officer with the United States Army where she led teams of analysts to prepare, train, and execute tactical and combat operations, including Operation Enduring Freedom. Bella is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and the University of Kansas School of Law. Bella continues to serve Americans and anyone who travels on American roadways by spreading the word about the dangers of masking. Her commitment to saving lives on our roads and dedication to excellence in her work are just a couple of reasons she is such a good fit for the role.



Bella Truong

- **Stacy Graczyk, Staff Attorney (NHTSA)**

Stacy joined NTLC as a staff attorney on July 1. Prior to that, Stacy served for many years as one of Vermont's Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors. She brings to NTLC a wealth of experience in prosecuting complex impaired driving cases involving fatalities and serious bodily injury. She also has experience in the training of and outreach to traffic safety partners, including law enforcement, prosecutors, high school students, and other community groups. Prior to becoming one of Vermont's TSRPs, Stacy served as a prosecutor in two state's attorneys' offices in Vermont and as a staff attorney for Prisoners' Legal Services of New York. She has a penchant for teamwork, a passion for saving lives on America's roadways, and an excellent sense of humor.



Stacy Graczyk

- **Jill Bennett, Staff Attorney (FMCSA)**

NTLC welcomed Jill Bennett as its newest team member in September 2024. Jill joined as a Staff Attorney to work on commercial driver's license matters with Bella Truong and Jim Camp. Jill had over ten years of legal experience prior to joining NDAA, the majority of which she served as a prosecutor in the Commonwealth of Virginia in the City of Portsmouth, Fairfax County, the City of Virginia Beach, and Loudoun County. She earned her BA from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her JD from Regent University. Throughout her career, Jill has prosecuted a wide range of crimes, but she has a particular passion and expertise in traffic-related cases. Jill's commitment to saving lives on our roads and dedication to excellence in her work are just a couple of reasons she is such a good fit for her new role at NDAA.

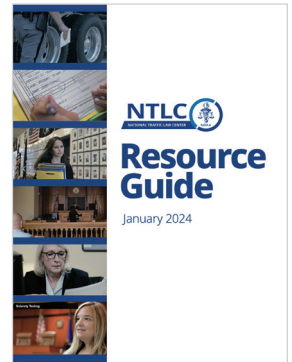


Jill Bennett

New Resources Produced in 2024

- **NTLC Resource Guide 2024**

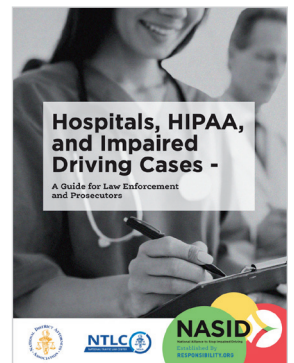
The [NTLC Resource Guide](#) summarizes all of the available NTLC resources in a single, convenient location and includes short descriptions of each of the resources and was updated in early 2024. The guide is essentially a dictionary of NTLC resources. Logically divided into three sections, users can access topical information like the monthly [Between the Lines](#) newsletter or a list of Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors, Monographs, and Training. Within the Training Section, a user can easily find NTLC's online training courses, educational videos, or other training materials. This Guide will also be updated and republished in 2025 to include the additional resources discussed below.



Additionally, the document contains a QR code that allows the document to be easily shared with traffic safety partners. Each of the NTLC resources contained in this summary is hyperlinked to the identified resource for additional accessibility. Click [here](#) to access.

- **Hospitals & HIPAA Webinar**

There are several reasons why a law enforcement officer or prosecutor may need to secure medical records or a blood sample in an impaired driving case. It could be due to the suspicion of drug(s) causing a driver's impairment, a collision resulting in medical attention for the suspected impaired driver, or a suspect refusing a breath test, leading to a search warrant for blood. Matters are only complicated if the suspect is taken to a hospital outside the jurisdiction of the investigating law enforcement agency. Additionally, when dealing with hospitals, law enforcement officers and prosecutors are frequently confused by the legal implications of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (also known as HIPAA). For this reason, in December 2023 and in partnership with Responsibility.org (R.org) and the National Alliance to Stop Impaired Driving (NASID), NTLC published [Hospitals and HIPAA—A Guide for Law Enforcement and Prosecutors](#). This guide provides the basic, general legal principles behind HIPAA, as well as the specific provisions relating to criminal law, and the exceptions it provides for law enforcement and prosecutors conducting investigations into criminal matters such as impaired driving cases. This guide also provides helpful suggestions for law enforcement and prosecutors to develop cooperative relationships with hospital personnel to positively impact investigations while minimizing the need for hospital personnel to testify in court, including ideas on how to address out-of-state search warrants for hospitals and how to sidestep a hospital blood draw with a law enforcement phlebotomy program.



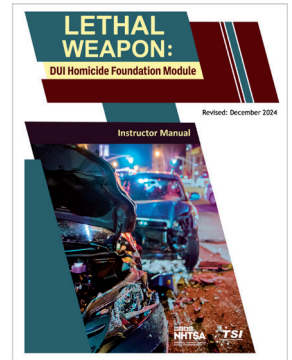
In July 2024, the NTLC, Responsibility.org, and NASID hosted a panel-style webinar moderated by R.org's Darrin Grondel. The four subject matter experts providing insight to the relationships between prosecutors, law enforcement, and hospital personnel, and how those relationships can benefit the investigation and

prosecution of impaired driving cases, included NTLC Director Erin Inman, Montgomery County (MD) Police Department Officer Jayme Derbyshire, DC TSRP Melissa Shear, and Divisional Director of the Laboratory and Transfusion Services of The George Washington University Hospital Olga Kochar. The live webinar was recorded and remains available for free and on demand on the NDAA website [here](#).

- ***Lethal Weapon: DUI Homicide Updated Curriculum Publication***

More than three years ago, the NTLC and an incredible team of subject matter experts set out to update the *Lethal Weapon: Vehicular Homicide* curriculum (last updated in 2004). This project was made possible thanks to the funding and support of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Vehicular fatality cases are complex, requiring prosecutors to have a working knowledge of crash reconstruction and toxicology, as well as skills to work with expert witnesses and victims. The *Lethal Weapon* course is focused on assisting prosecutors to develop their knowledge and skills in trying these cases. A substantial portion of this course involves technical investigation of the crime scene, crash reconstruction, legal issues, and issues particular to victims of these crimes. This course is designed for experienced traffic safety prosecutors and those assigned to investigate and prosecute vehicular homicide cases and is available upon request from the NTLC.



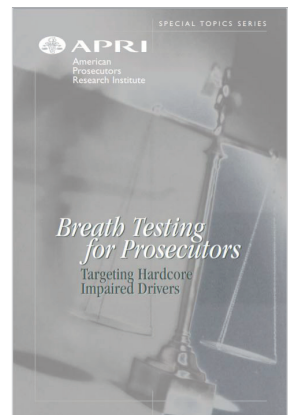
The goal of the course is to successfully hold impaired drivers accountable for their crimes. In turn, this deters motorists from operating vehicles while impaired by any substance, and thus reduces traffic related crashes, deaths and injuries. The course shares this purpose with several other programs of instruction developed by NHTSA, most notably programs focused on enforcement and adjudication of impaired driving offenses. This is done by utilizing a written training curriculum (instructor manual and participant manual), a fact scenario case file, PowerPoint slides, and subject matter experts as faculty members.

The updated *Lethal Weapon* curriculum is designed in modular format and suggested to be administered as a 2 ½-day course. Additional trial advocacy modules are available to build on the *Lethal Weapon* foundation and add to the length of the training agenda. The advanced two-day Trial Advocacy module uses the *Lethal Weapon* Farner case file as the basis for mock trial sessions, addressing expert direct and cross examination, openings, and summations. The signature feature of the original *Lethal Weapon* curriculum—prosecutors conducting examinations of actual crash reconstructionists—is retained in the 2024 update.

The Update Team included experienced and dedicated prosecutors, including Suffolk County DA (NY) Special Assistant for Legislative Initiatives and ADA Maureen McCormick, Essex County DA (MA) Supervisor of Motor Vehicle Offense Prosecution Bill Melkonian, Idaho TSRP Jared Olsen, former Michigan TSRP Ken Stecker, as well as veteran crash reconstructionists Prof. John Kwasnoski (ret.) and Montana Highway Patrol Sergeant Shawn P. Hazelton.

- ***Breath Testing for Prosecutors Monograph Update***

Breath testing for the alcohol content of a suspected impaired driver produces valid and reliable results that are widely accepted as evidence in court. The currently available version of *Breath Testing for Prosecutors, Targeting Hardcore Impaired Drivers* was first published in December 2004 and while the information it contains is still valid, times have changed, necessitating this update. The 2024 monograph update includes, for example, information on newer breath testing technology as well as latest challenges posed by defendants in court. The update work was completed and approved by NHTSA in 2024 and is currently in production for publication in early 2025. NTLC worked with a dedicated team of subject matter experts making this project possible and included Montana TSRP Ed Hirsh, Illinois TSRP Jennifer Cifaldi, Montana Forensic Science Division's Breath Analysis Program Director Ben Vetter, NHTSA Region 7 Resource Toxicologist Chris Heartsill, and Metropolitan Nashville Police Department Lt. James Williams.



- ***Jury Selection in Impaired Driving Cases, A Guide for Prosecutors and Law Enforcement* New Monograph Development**

In a criminal case, the selection of an impartial and knowledgeable jury is critical to ensuring a fair trial. A prosecutor must carefully question potential jurors to identify any biases, misconceptions, or limitations in their understanding of the case's complexities, which can make the jury selection process particularly challenging in an impaired driving case.

Recognizing this challenge, NTLC in partnership with Responsibility.org (R.org) and the National Alliance to Stop Impaired Driving (NASID), along with several experienced TSRPs, developed a new monograph for prosecutors: *Jury Selection in Impaired Driving Cases, A Guide for Prosecutors and Law Enforcement*. This guide provides prosecutors with suggestions and strategies for effectively educating potential jurors on the salient facts, witnesses, and legal aspects of impaired driving cases. It also serves as a resource for law enforcement, emphasizing the significance of accurately documenting the details surrounding a traffic stop or crash, and underscoring their role in facilitating the jury's understanding of the facts. This guide also equips prosecutors with invaluable insights into questioning potential jurors to assess their levels of empathy for the defendant or potential biases towards law enforcement. This resource aims to enhance collaborative trial preparation and fortify the efficacy of the voir dire process in impaired driving cases.

NTLC staff worked with the following subject matter experts and TSRPs to develop this resource: Barzilai Axelrod (Delaware), Erica Dobbs (Indiana), Sarah Garner (North Carolina), Jackie McMahon (Connecticut), Ashley Schluck (Wyoming), and Stephanie Watson (Missouri). The work on this project was completed in 2024 and will be published in early 2025.

Trainings and Presentations in 2024

The subject matter experts of NTLC participated in numerous trainings and provided instruction to thousands of attendees in 2024. The NTLC attorneys are also available upon invitation to conduct trainings that are tailored to the needs of the requesting office, covering a variety of traffic safety related topics. Some of the conferences at which NTLC staff taught include:

- American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, Workshop and Law Institute Conference
- Maryland Highway Safety Summit
- Kansas Impaired Driving Conference
- Midwest Impaired Driving Conference
- Lifesavers Conference
- Maine Impaired Driving Conference
- NDAA's Summer Summit
- Vermont Agency of Transportation's Traffic Safety Conference
- Northeast Commercial Vehicle Safety Summit
- New Mexico Law Enforcement Conference
- South Carolina Summary Court Association Conference
- International Association of Chiefs of Police, Impaired Driving and Traffic Safety Conference
- National Association of Boating Law Administrators Conference
- Missouri Office of Prosecution Services Training
- NTLC's National Commercial Driver's License Conference
- NTLC's Mastering Masking Training

New Resources Planned for 2025

- ***Working with Victims in Impaired Driving Crash Cases* New Curriculum Development**

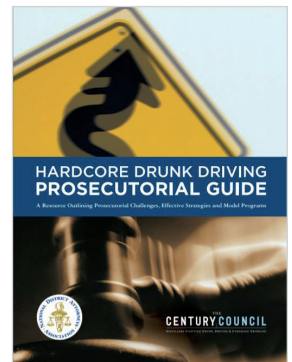
Impaired driving crash cases are horrific to prosecute, technically and emotionally. It is critically important to involve the victim(s) throughout the prosecution process, to help prove the elements of the offenses, and to help them find closure. Most “victims” will not be trained attorneys engaged in the practice of criminal law or experienced litigators with a familiarity of the courtroom. Because of this, a prosecutor handling an impaired driving case resulting in a death or serious injury should be educated on how to address the unique issues presented in a case with a civilian victim. The NTLC worked with Suffolk County DA (NY) Special Assistant for Legislative Initiatives and ADA Maureen McCormick to develop a new and unique training to help educate and inform prosecutors of the law related to victims’ rights and to provide guidance for victim communication. This course will help a prosecutor to understand the many types of victims involved in an impaired driving case, recognize the legal and ethical rules a prosecutor must follow when dealing with a victim, understand the emotional dynamics that can affect the working relationship between a prosecutor and a victim, and how to effectively communicate with a victim. This training is currently under development.

- ***Prosecuting the BUI* New Curriculum Training and Monograph Development**

The United States Coast Guard awarded grant funding to the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) to collaborate with the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) to develop an online course to enhance courtroom preparation and presentation for prosecutors of boating under the influence (BUI) cases. This new virtual curriculum will be a two-hour training video available on demand on the NASBLA platform. As part of this project NTLC will also work with NASBLA to produce and publish a digital monograph, *Prosecuting Boating Under the Influence Cases*, to provide a thorough written reference guide for prosecutors to use at their workplaces while preparing for trial. Work on both the video and monograph is in process now.

- ***Hardcore Drunk Driving Prosecutorial Guide and Training* Updated Monograph and Training Videos**

The *Hardcore Drunk Driving Prosecutorial Guide*, developed by the NTLC and The Century Council (now known as Responsibility.org), was first published in 2008. This guide focused exclusively on the alcohol-impaired driver with a high blood alcohol content. Updating this guide—and rebranding it as the *Prosecuting the High-Risk Impaired Driver*—will expand the focus to include poly-substance impaired drivers, assessment tools to address substance and mental-health issues in these drivers, treatment options before trial and after conviction, and the unique challenges prosecutors face with these cases. The revision will also include updated references to relevant studies, which identify those whose driving behavior indicates a high risk of crashes. It will also include a new section, which will discuss the importance of not only identifying these drivers but also tailoring sentencing recommendations such that recidivism reduces. This will necessarily include input from mental health and substance use disorder professionals in describing the continuum of rehabilitation beginning at screening and progressing through recovery. Finally, the monograph will serve as a resource for law enforcement, emphasizing the significance of accurately documenting the details surrounding a traffic stop or crash, and underscoring the impact their investigation may have on appropriately sentencing offenders. This project is still in early development.



- ***Alcohol Toxicology for Prosecutors Updated Monograph***

The NTLC's *Alcohol Toxicology for Prosecutors* monograph was first published in 2004. Alcohol remains the most used intoxicating substance in our society and, even with some decrease in alcohol-impaired driving, it continues to remain a significant danger to public safety. Initially intended to serve as a guide to the basic principles of toxicology and the role of experts in the science of toxicology. Updating this monograph will provide a refresher on topics such as effects of alcohol, absorption, distribution, and elimination, and measuring alcohol and calculating its concentration. Additionally, the update will provide insight to the common challenges presented by the defense in court and how a prosecutor can best present this evidence in court. This update is under development.

- ***Crash Reconstruction for Prosecutors Updated Monograph***

First published in 2003, NTLC's *Crash Reconstruction for Prosecutors* monograph has served as a primer for prosecutors on the basic science, investigative techniques, and questions to ask in cases involving traffic collisions. Authored by the nationally recognized expert on crash reconstruction, Professor John Kwasnoski, he dispelled much of the mystery, myth and mathematical phobias surrounding this material in this monograph. Never was material like this assembled for prosecutors; this monograph has been used by prosecutors to strengthen investigations, learn the truth, and honor their calling to serve justice.

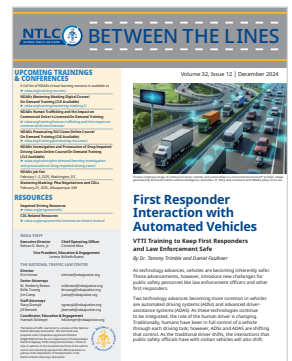
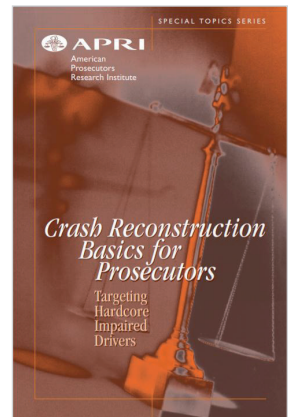
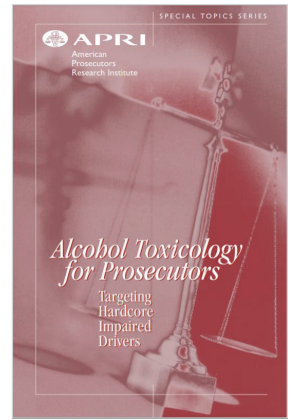
In the twenty-plus years since its publication, however, significant technology developments necessitate this update to include information relating to, for example, vehicle forensics and infotainment systems as well as the legal challenges they present to prosecutors and law enforcement. This update is also under development.

Ongoing Resources

- ***Between the Lines Newsletter***

NTLC will also continue to publish the *Between the Lines (BTL)* newsletter monthly in 2025. Shared with thousands of prosecutors and traffic safety professionals, the *BTL* newsletter contains information on impaired driving and other current traffic safety issues, including but not limited to, CDL related issues, recent court decisions, witness testimony, current scientific research, and upcoming traffic safety conferences and events. It will continue to be distributed in electronic format via e-mail, will also be available on the NDAA's and NTLC's webpages, and is frequently republished in other periodicals upon request. TSRPs, prosecutors, and law enforcement officers are not only encouraged to forward newsletter ideas and suggestions to NTLC staff but are also invited to serve as guest authors of articles of interest. To be added to the *Between the Lines* distribution list or to view the archival library, click [here](#). Some of the articles in 2024 included the following:

- The National Association to Stop Impaired Driving, Established by Responsibility.org
- One Size Does Not Fit All, The Importance of Screening and Assessing to Determine Appropriate Interventions for Impaired Drivers
- All Rise Expands Treatment Court Model to Lead Comprehensive Justice System Reform
- Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Programs
- Commercial Motor Vehicle Search and Seizure
- HIGHly Effective Methods for Prosecuting the Cannabis-Impaired Driver



- Law Enforcement Phlebotomy Programs, Indiana's Program—A Case Study
- Not Just Traffic: Tools & Tips When Prosecuting Felonies That Disqualify a Commercial Driver's License
- State of New Jersey vs. Olenowski: A Long and Winding Road
- People v. Bowden: How Michigan's DRE Program is Moving Ahead
- First Responder Interaction with Automated Vehicles.

• **Human Trafficking Online Training**

This on demand training module is designed to educate about the Federal "No Human Trafficking on Our Roads Act" (NHTRA) which was signed into law on January 1, 2018, by President Donald J. Trump. As a result of NHTRA, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced a final rule that imposes a lifetime ban on drivers who are convicted of a severe form of human trafficking in a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) from operating a CMV. This rule was signed into law on July 23, 2019. Under this rule, states had until September 23, 2022, to comply with this mandate. FMCSA allowed a three-year period to permit states

sufficient time to seek legislation, update their regulations, and make the appropriate information technology changes to apply the lifetime ban. This training course covers topics including the Trafficking Victims Protection Act and Reauthorization Act, definitions of types of trafficking, the license ramifications of trafficking, and many other useful and interesting subjects. The online training and supporting resources can be found [here](#).



• **Prosecuting DUI Cases Online Training**

NTLC's on-line training course—*Prosecuting DUI Cases*—is an on demand, free training course for new and practicing prosecutors. The course was developed in cooperation with the Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility and the National Center for State Courts by national experts to equip prosecutors with the knowledge, information, and confidence necessary to effectively prosecute impaired driving cases. The course walks the learner through a first-person simulation of preparing for the prosecution of a fictional DUI case.

The training covers topics including the importance of DUI prosecution, preliminary case review and evaluation, trial and witness preparation, alcohol toxicology, as well as common defenses and trial tactics. Also included is a Resources Section which links to the NTLC Publications webpage containing all monographs (e.g., *DWI Prosecutor's Handbook*, *Challenges and Defenses II and III*, *HGN: The Science and The Law*, and *Constitutional Issues in Impaired Driving Cases*). Completion of all slides, along with successfully passing a knowledge assessment quiz, earns the learner a certificate of completion and, in many instances, 1.5–2.5 hours of CLE credit with his or her state bar. Click [here](#) to register for this course.



- **Mastering Masking Online Training**

Federal and most state law prohibits the “Masking” of violations of traffic control laws. Misconceptions continue to persist surrounding this statute’s mandate requiring the accurate and complete reporting of violations and convictions of CDL holders and the resulting limitation on discretion in handling these cases. This training course is designed to equip prosecutors with the knowledge, information, and confidence necessary to effectively prosecute CDL cases. The course walks the learner through a first-person simulation of prosecuting the fictional traffic case of a CDL holder. The training uses a case file, interactive exercises, document mock-ups, and avatar voiceovers to bring the course content to life. This online training course is for new and practicing prosecutors, as well as other traffic safety professionals who desire to learn more about the legal and ethical consequences of plea negotiations involving commercial driver’s license (CDL) cases. For additional information about this course, please contact Senior Attorney [Jim Camp](#) or Senior Attorney [Bella Truong](#).



- **Drugged Driving Educational Videos**

Driving under the influence of drugs other than alcohol, or drugs in combination with alcohol, is now nearly as prevalent as driving under the influence of alcohol. The numbers of alcohol-related fatalities continue on a slight downward trend while the number involving other drugs has been increasing rapidly. NTLC created a series of short videos to introduce a less experienced prosecutor to some of the concepts and language used in the prosecution of drugged driving cases and to help develop a basic understanding of the challenges he or she may face in court. Each video is 5–10 minutes in length and can be viewed as time permits. To view any of the videos, click [here](#).



- **Roadside to Record Curriculum**

This course will improve the working knowledge of prosecutors and other stakeholders regarding the importance of the following: accurate issuance of traffic citations; capturing all pertinent license and vehicle data from the driver after an offense; prosecutor’s substantive and ethical review of the case; presentment of the case to the court without Masking, complete and accurate judgments of conviction, and the proper and timely recording of convictions. This will be done by utilizing Instructor and participant Guides, PowerPoint slides, and the four [From Roadside to Record](#) videos to illustrate the responsibilities law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, clerks and state driver license agencies have in enforcing, prosecuting, and adjudicating CDL traffic stops in accordance with federal and state regulations. This training will help ensure the attendees are fully prepared to work with their state agencies to properly and fully adjudicate and record convictions to eliminate Masking and meet the FMCSA mission of “One Driver, One License, One Record.” To access the videos, click [here](#).



Conclusion

As demonstrated above, the staff at the National Traffic Law Center is busy working on resources for prosecutors and law enforcement to help save lives on America’s roads. For additional information about the resources listed above, or any other traffic safety issue, please reach out to any of the NTLC staff.