10 EASY TIPS FOR WINNING DWI TRIALS

Mark Ryan Thiessen

The Thiessen Law Firm 733 E. 12 ¹/₂ Street Houston, Texas 77008 <u>mark@thetexastrialattorney.com</u> Cell: (832) 654-3058

1. JOIN THEIR TRIBE

1. Make You a Promise

2. Tell You About Me



2. PRESUMPTION OF INNOCENCE

• Innocent <u>Unless</u> Proven Guilty

• 1-----→ 10

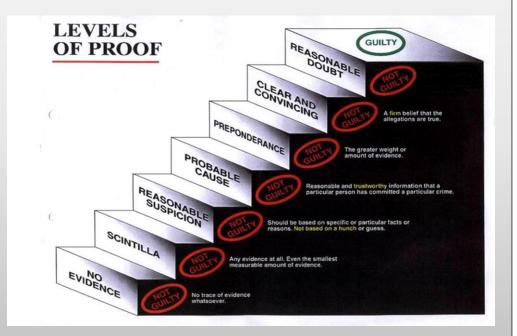
- ONLY <u>ONE</u> PRESUMPTION
- Compass takes you Home



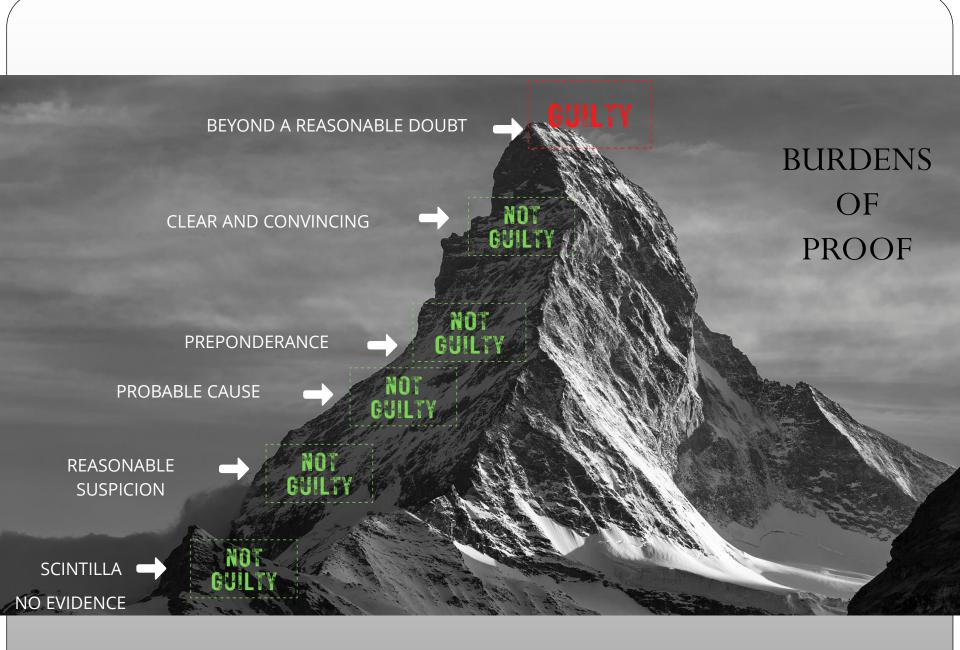
3. BEYOND <u>A</u> REASONABLE DOUBT

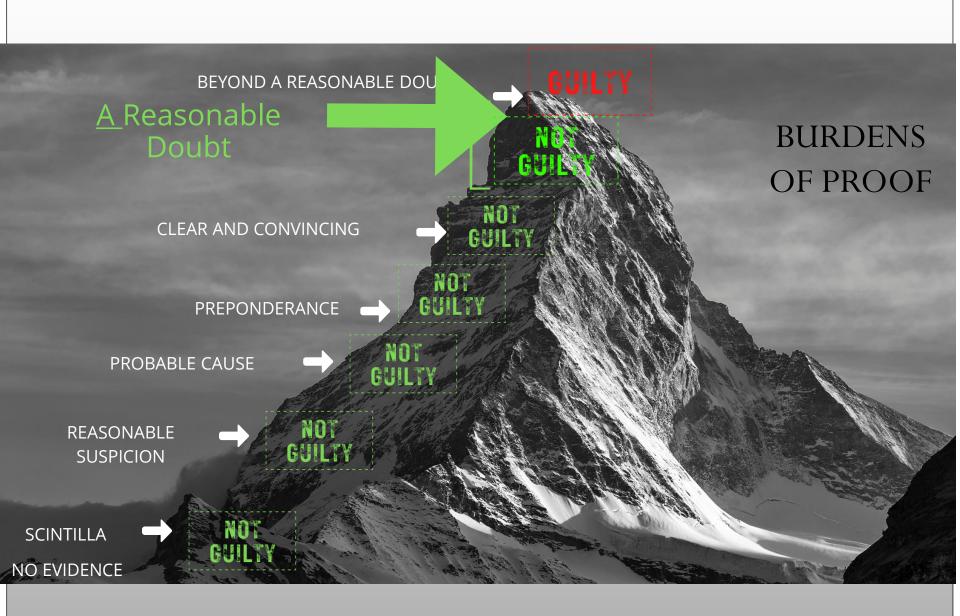
NCDD Stair Chart

- Beyond
- <u>A</u>
- Reasonable
- Doubt



Presumption of Innocence





4. JURY SERVICE







BE PROUD OF

YOUR VERDICT

5. EDUCATE ABOUT SFSTs

- Officer Training
 - 40 hour course,
 - Graded at end,
 - Credit for Correct Answers

• HGN

- Trained by Fellow Police Officers
- Highly Technical,
- 88 Types,
- Doesn't Measure Mental or Physical
- No Definition of How Far or How Many Jerk
- HGN Demo

TRE 803(18) Learned Treatise

• EXCEPTIONSTO HEARSAY:

• (18) Statements in Learned Treatises, Periodicals, or Pamphlets. A statement contained in a treatise, periodical, or pamphlet if:

(A) the statement is called to the attention of an expert witness on cross-examination or relied on by the expert on direct examination; and

(B) the publication is established as a reliable authority by the expert's admission or testimony, by another expert's testimony, or by judicial notice.

• If admitted, the statement <u>may be read into evidence</u> but not received as an exhibit.

I'M NOT HERE **TO BUST YOUR** CHOPS

- Training: Ophtalmologist, Optometrist, Lens Crafters, Anyone in A White Lab Coat
- 88 Different Types of Nystagmus
 - Bruns, latent, pendular, vestibulo ocular, spasmus, or rebound
- Wet Lab only showed HGN
 - Optokinetic, rotational, post rotational, caloric, positional
- Variety of Reasons

- How far do the eyes have to jerk? (____mm)
- How many times do they have to jerk? (___x)
- No Definition of Jerks
- Does NOT Measure Mental or Physical Faculties
 - Not a divided attention test
 - Brain nor eye muscles can control
 - DA black and white video shows 4 clues on sober eyes

- How can I tell you they didn't jerk?
- TRUST ME
- 4/6 indicates impairment
- 6/6 = 100% of the clues
- 12-15" from face/ 12-15" from your eye/ dark/ mm of jerking
- Never said clues on video (Layton v. State)
- Wrote the clues after arrest, tow, station, sample
- Didn't Arrest Him/Her

• 8 CLUES:

- 1. Can't Maintain Balance;
- 2. Starts too Soon;
- 3. Steps Off Line;
- 4. Misses Heel to Toe;
- 5. Raises Arms;
- 6. Stops While Walking;
- 7. Incorrect Number of Steps;
- 8. Improper Turn.

• 18 Unique Instructions:

- 1. Place your feet on a line,
- 2. In a heel-to-toe manner,
- 3. Left foot behind right foot,
- 4. With arms at sides and give a demonstration. Tell subject
- 5. Not to begin until instructed to so do and asks if subject understands. Tell subject to take
- 6. Nine,
- 7. Heel-to-toe steps,
- 8. On the line and demonstrates. Explain and demonstrate the turning procedure:
- 9. Lead foot planted,
- 10. Take a series of small steps,
- 11. To the left direction. Tell the subject to
- 12. Return on the line,
- 13. Taking nine,
- 14. Heel-to-toe steps.
- 15. Count out loud.
- 16. Look at feet while walking.
- 17. Not raise arms from their sides. And
- 18. Do not stop once they have started. Do they understand?

- 18 Instructions
- 1 Demo
- 0 Practice
- 0 Clues Told
- 0 Credit Given
- Age, Weight, Leg, Back and Neck May AffectHow do you take it into consideration?
- 2 = Impairment
- Normal or Abnormal?

- Define the Clues:
- 1. Can't Maintain Balance;
- 2. Starts too Soon;
- 3. Steps Off Line; (How far?)
- 4. Misses Heel to Toe; (how far? Show me...)
- 5. Raises Arms; (How far?)
- 6. Stops While Walking; (How long?)
- 7. Incorrect Number of Steps; (why 9?)
- 8. Improper Turn. (3 ways)

I'M NOT HERE **TO BUST YOUR** CHOPS

• Not that Anyone Would Try These...

- 0 or a 1 to go homeOr do they?
- Didn't get all 8

Didn't arrest after this test

• 4 CLUES:

- 1. Sways,
- 2. Hops,
- 3. Drops, and
- 4. Raises Arms.
- 30 SECONDS

• 12 Unique Instructions:

- 1. Stand straight,
- 2. Place feet together,
- 3. Hold arms at sides.
- 4. Tell subject not to begin until instructed to do so and if they understand.
- 5. Raise one leg, either leg,
- 6. Approximately 6 inches from the ground,
- 7. Keeping the raised foot parallel to the ground and give a demonstration. Tell subject
- 8. Keep both legs straight and
- 9. Look at the elevated foot.
- 10. Count out loud, in the following manner:
- 11. One thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three,
- 12. Until told to stop.

- 12 Instructions
- 1 Demo
- 0 Practice
- 0 Clues Told
- 0 Credit Given
- Age, Weight, Leg, Back and Neck May Affect
 How do you take it into consideration?
- 2 = Impairment
- Normal or Abnormal?

• DEFINE THE CLUES:

- 1. Sways, (How far? ___")
- 2. Hops,
- 3. Drops, and
- 4. Raises Arms. (How far? Just one arm?)

I'M NOT HERE **TO BUST YOUR** CHOPS



• Not that Anyone Would Try These...

- 0 or a 1 to go homeOr do they?
- Didn't get all 4



Come Back Around

• Or...Save Until Closing

• 3/8, 2/4 but 6/6???

• Trust you...

6. BREATH TEST – 15 Min. Violation

- 15 Minutes Line of Sight
- DPS 21 Minute Video
- Colorado in the presence of the Machine

6. BREATH TEST – 9000

How is this possible??

It's not your fault.

TRIAL STATISTICS

- "There is a joke among lawyers about the difference between jury trials in England and the United States: in England, the trial starts once the jury selection ends; in America, the trial is already over." - https://www.nytimes.com/1994/11/29/science/study-finds-jurors-often-hearevidence-with-closed-minds.html
- "About 80-90 percent of jurors make up their minds about how they are going to vote at the conclusion of opening statements."

- Opening Statement: Setting the Tone for Trial (2019). Advocate Magazine. https://www.advocatemagazine.com/article/2019-january/opening-statement-setting-the-tone-for-trial

ation 0.071 ation 0.077 T 0.014 ation 0.077 ation 0.077 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.014	0 8 4 7 7 0 9 0 0 7 7 No.02 Agreement
T 0.017 T 0.017 ation 0.077 T 0.000 T 0.007 tion 0.077 T 0.007 tion 0.077 T 0.007	8 4 7 7 0 0 0 0 7 7 No. 02 Agreement
T 0.017 T 0.017 ation 0.077 T 0.000 T 0.007 tion 0.077 T 0.007 tion 0.077 T 0.007	4 7 7 0 9 0 0 7 7
T 0.007 ation 0.077 T 0.000 ation 0.075 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.235	7 7 0 0 0 0 7 7 No. 02 Agreement
ation 0.077 ation 0.079 T 0.000 ation 0.077 ation 0.077 T 0.239	7 0 0 0 0 7 7 No. 02 Agreement
ation 0.079 T 0.000 T 0.000 ation 0.077 tion 0.077 T 0.239	0 0 7 No. 02 Agreement
T 0.000 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.235	No. 02 Agreement
T 0.000 T 0.000 ation 0.077 T 0.235	No.02 Agreement
T 0.000 ation 0.077 ation 0.077 T 0.239	No.02 Agreement
ation 0.077 ation 0.077 T 0.235	No .02 Agreement
tion 0.077	No. 02 Agreement
т () (0.235	-
т () (0.235	
T	CZA
T 0.213	
P	No.08 Agreement
ation 7 0.079	
T 0.193	>/
T 0.169	
	0
tion 0.078	
T 0.187	/
T 0.172	
tion 0.077	
	0
tion 0.079	
T 0.131	
0.101	
T 0.123	0
T 0.123	
T 0.123 tion 0.078	
T 0.123 tion 0.078 tion 0.077 T 0.176	
T 0.123 tion 0.078 tion 0.077 T 0.176	1
T 0.123 tion 0.078 tion 0.077 T 0.176 T 0.178	
T 0.123 tion 0.078 tion 0.077 T 0.176 T 0.178 tion 0.078	
T 0.123 tion 0.077 tion 0.077 T 0.176 T 0.178 tion 0.078	0
T 0.123 tion 0.077 T 0.176 T 0.176 T 0.178 tion 0.078 tion 0.078	0
T 0.123 tion 0.077 T 0.176 T 0.176 T 0.178 tion 0.078 tion 0.078 T 0.116 T 0.116	0
T 0.123 tion 0.077 T 0.176 T 0.176 T 0.178 tion 0.078 tion 0.078	0
SUL' SUL' rifica	rification 0.077 SULT 0.176 SULT 0.178 strification 0.078 rification 0.078

.

TEXAS FORENSIC BREATH ALCOHOL ANALYTICAL REPORT

Report Number: 1907000546 Analytical Instrument: Intoxilyzer 9000 Serial Number: 90–001907

Date: 11/05/2016 Location: CEN B HOUSTON Technical Supervisor Area: 003

Subject Name: PINEDA-MEJIA, ABEL JUNIOR

Date of Birth: 09/02/1994

INCOMPLETE TEST: NO 0.020 AGREEMENT

Test stopped by instrument. The subject's breath results differed by more than 0.020 g/210L of each other.

Sequence of Analysis			100	Ì
Operational System Check	OK	03:51	CDT	
Air Blank	0.000	03:51		
Cal Verification	0.077	03:52		
Solution Temp.	34.01°C			
Air Blank	0.000	03:53	CDT	
SUBJECT RESULT 1	0.239*	03:53		
Air Blank	0.000	03:54		
Air Blank	0.000	03:56		
SUBJECT RESULT 2	0.213*	03:57		
Air Blank	0.000	03:57		
Operational System Check	OK	03:58		

*NO 0.020 AGREEMENT

Operator Signature:

Fifteen minute waiting period completed - YES Operator Name: NIETO, ALEJANDRO

Certificate Number: 26661

TEXAS FO	DRENSIC BREATH	ALCOHOL ANALY	TICAL REPORT
----------	----------------	---------------	--------------

Report Number: 1907000548 Analytical Instrument: Intoxilyzer 9000 Serial Number: 90–001907

Date: 11/05/2016 Location: CEN B HOUSTON Technical Supervisor Area: 003

Subject Name: PINEDA-MEJIA, ABEL JUNIOR

Date of Birth: 09/02/1994

Subject Result 1: 0.187 g/210 L Subject Result 2: 0.172 g/210 L

Sequence of Analysis Operational System Check Air Blank	OK	04:09	CDT	
		04:09	CDT	
Air Blank			CDI	
	0.000	04:10	CDT	
Cal Verification	0.078	04:10	CDT	
Solution Temp.	34.01°C			
Air Blank	0.000	04:11	CDT	
SUBJECT RESULT 1	0.187	04:12	CDT	54
Air Blank	0.000	04:13	CDT	
Air Blank	0.000	04:15	CDT	3
SUBJECT RESULT 2	0.172	04:16	CDT	2
Air Blank	0.000	04:17	CDT	
Cal Verification	0.077	04:17	CDT	1
Solution Temp.	34.01°C			
Air Blank	0.000	04:18	CDT	
Operational System Check	OK	04:18	CDT	

Test Complete 11/05/2016

Operator Signature:

Fifteen minute waiting period completed - YES Operator Name: NIETO, ALEJANDRO

addificants Numbers acase

TEXAS FORENSIC BREATH ALCOHOL ANALYTICAL REPORT

Report Number: 1907000547 Analytical Instrument: Intoxilyzer 9000 Serial Number: 90–001907 Date: 11/05/2016 Location: CEN B HOUSTON Technical Supervisor Area: 003

Subject Name: PINEDA-MEJIA, ABEL JUNIOR

Date of Birth: 09/02/1994

INCOMPLETE TEST:

NO 0.020 AGREEMENT

lest stopped	by instrument.	The subject's	breath I	results (differed	by	mor
than 0.020 g/	210L of each o	ther.				92	

Sequence of Analysis		22.11	6.3	
Operational System Check	OK	03:59	CDT	
Air Blank	0.000	04:00	CDT	
Cal Verification	0.079	04:00	CDT	
Solution Temp.	34.01°C			
Air Blank	0.000	04:01	CDT	
SUBJECT RESULT 1	0.193*	04:02	CDT	
Air Blank	0.000	04:03	CDT	
Air Blank	0.000	04:05	CDT	
SUBJECT RESULT 2	0.169*	04:06	CDT	
Air Blank	0.000	04:07	CDT	
Operational System Check	OK	04:07	CDT	
51 A				

*NO 0.020 AGREEMENT

Operator Signature:

Fifteen minute waiting period completed - YES Operator Name: NIETO, ALEJANDRO

Certificate Number: 26661

TEXAS FORENSIC BREATH ALCOHOL ANALYTICAL REPORT

Report Number: 1907000597 Analytical Instrument: Intoxilyzer 9000 Serial Number: 90–001907

Date: 11/20/2016 Location: CEN B HOUSTON Technical Supervisor Area: 003

Subject Name: PEREZ, ARIEXIS MICHAEL

Date of Birth: 02/27/1991

INCOMPLETE TEST: UNACCEPTABLE SAMPLE

Test stopped by instrument. The subject delivered an unacceptable breath sample.

Sequence of Analysis			
Operational System Check	OK	03:28 CS	ST
Air Blank	0.000	03:28 CS	T
Cal Verification	0.075	03:29 CS	T
Solution Temp.	34.01°C		
Air Blank	0.000	03:30 CS	T
SUBJECT RESULT 1	0.161*	03:31 CS	T
Air Blank	0.000	03:32 CS	T
Operational System Check	OK	03:32 CS	T

*UNACCEPTABLE SAMPLE

Operator Signature:

Fifteen minute waiting period completed - YES Operator Name: DOWLEARN, TONY

Certificate Number: 25602

TEXAS FORENSIC BREATH ALCOHOL ANALYTICAL REPORT

Report Number: 1907000598 Analytical Instrument: Intoxilyzer 9000 Serial Number: 90–001907

Date: 11/20/2016 Location: CEN B HOUSTON Technical Supervisor Area: 003

Subject Name: PEREZ, ARIEXIS MICHAEL

Date of Birth: 02/27/1991

Subject Result 1:	0.146	g/210	L
Subject Result 2:	0.131	g/210	L

Sequence of Analysis				
Operational System Check	OK	03:35	CST	
Air Blank	0.000	03:36	CST	
Cal Verification	0.078	03:36	CST	
Solution Temp.	34.01°C		100	
Air Blank	0.000	03:37	CST	
SUBJECT RESULT 1	0.146	03:37	CST	
Air Blank	0.000	03:38		
Air Blank	0.000	03:40	CST	
SUBJECT RESULT 2	0.131	03:40	CST	
Air Blank	0.000	03:41		
Cal Verification	0.078	03:41		
Solution Temp.	34.00°C			
Air Blank	0.000	03:42	CST	
Operational System Check	OK	03:42		

Test Complete 11/20/2016

Operator Signature:

Fifteen minute waiting period completed - YES Operator Name: DOWLEARN, TONY

Certificate Number: 25602

TRIAL STATISTICS

 "These jurors decide on a version of events based on a preliminary story they find convincing, often at the time of the opening arguments, which then colors their interpretation of the evidence so much that they seize on whatever fits their verdict and discount the rest." - NYT



7. RETROGRADE

- Ask the analyst or State before
- Veliz v. State, 474 S.W.3d 354 (Tex. App.—Houston [14th] 2015).
 (Roe and Grecco)
 - 2 beers/ .081 Blood / Time of Stop / Blood Draw 3.5 hours later
 - NO first, last, or food
 - *Mata* / failed to prove reliability by C&C

• Absorbing <u>ATTIME OF DRIVING</u>?

Demonstration of Intoxication

bladder over only a brief period. For this reason, one can generally make no statement about the alcohol concentration in the organism at the moment of the test.

As the urine alcohol is a diffusion product, it is obvious that the alcohol concentration of the urine cannot be higher than the maximum

"From the theoretical viewpoint it must be emphasized that from the air analysis one can primarily calculate the alcohol content of the lung capillaries. As long as absorption from the intestine continues, this can be considerably higher than the alcohol content in the blood of the major circulation and also in the blood flowing to the brain. As one does not know, in the practical case, whether absorption from the intestine is ended or not — it is very often a case of large amounts of alcohol, perhaps consumed during several hours of drinking — one is always faced with the possibility that air analysis will give excessively high values, giving a false picture of the degree of alcoholic influence and of the amount consumed.

ble when this precaution was not taken in the determination. In the study of urine from intoxicated persons, it is also difficult in most cases, for obvious reasons, to obtain urine that has collected in the

98

(1) During correction of this work, the excellent monograph by M. H. Rehmund appeared: "Forensic medical experience and problems in automobile accidents." The work reports clearly on the importance of blood alcohol determinations in auto accident cases. The author's results, supported by more than a thousand analyses, completely agree in principle with those presented here. subject. This runs into problems with unmanageable persons; that is, in cases where a differential diagnosis between intoxication and psychosis may be important. This method is also unusable in accidents that have caused unconsciousness or death. It cannot be used in sies. With respect to methodology, it must also be a acetonemia due to diabetes or inanition can cause substa distribution coefficient between blood and air is about than the corresponding coefficient for ethyl alcohol. Th of acetone in the blood causes a six-fold larger error for for blood samples.

-99

D

curves, the following conclusions can be reached. First, not all blood and breath alcohol curves follow the Widmark pattern, nor is the elimination phase necessarily linear. Second, alcohol absorption is not always complete within 60 to 90 min, as often claimed. Third, the peak alcohol concentration cannot be validly predicted or established in an individual instance without frequent and timely measurement of alcohol concentrations. Fourth, it is not possible to establish whether an individual is in the absorption or elimination phase, or to establish the mean overall rate of alcohol elimination from the blood or breath, from the results of two consecutive blood or breath alcohol measurements, however timed. Fifth, significantly large short-term fluctuations occur in some subjects and result in marked positive and negative departures from the alcohol concentration trend line. Sixth, short-term, marked oscillation of the blood or breath alcohol concentration can occur at various points of the curve, resulting in repeated excursions of the alcohol concentration above and below a given concentration (such as 80 or 100 mg/dl) within a few minutes or for hours. Finally, no forensically valid forward or backward extrapolation of blood or breath alcohol concentrations is ordinarily possible in a given subject and occasion solely on the basis of time and individual analysis results.

A.C

feasible at the time of first contact, Extrapolation of a later alcohol test result to the time of the alleged offense is always of uncertain validity and therefore forensically unacceptable. The laws of different juris-

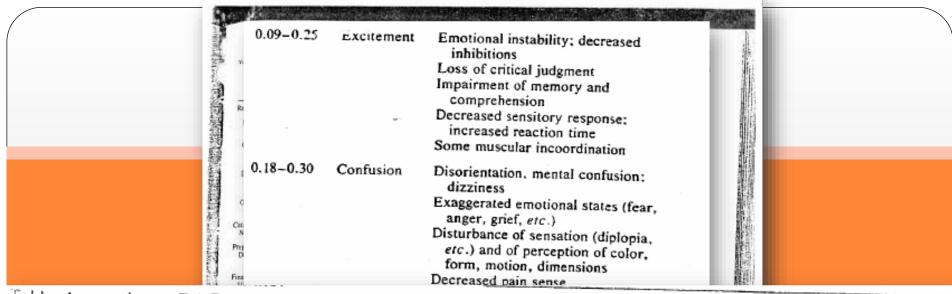
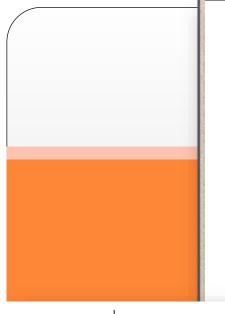


Table 4 correlates BACs with alcoholic influence es and the corresponding clinical signs and sympans. Great caution should be exercised in correlating ACs with presumed alcohol dosage, and speculative

retrograde extrapolation of an experimentally determined BAC to an earlier time should be avoided because of its many pitfalls.*

the second s			to DETIC OUTVE
shou empl 3) In ouidi aitric meth separ with in thi essen0.35-0.50 comp apone suffici in the uvertig or AD dimin and go	Coma	Marked muscular incoordination: inability to stand or walk Vomiting; incontinence of urine and feces Impaired consciousness; sleep or stupor Complete unconsciousness: coma; anesthesia Depressed or abolished reflexes Subnormal temperature Incontinence of urine and feces Embarrassment of circulation and respiration	
$\frac{\operatorname{Tab}}{\operatorname{es}}$	Death	Possible death Death from respiratory paralysis	
		direction of	



ETHANOL AND DRIVING PERFORMANCE

The relationship between alcohol and driving has been studied and analyzed for decades. From both epidemiological studies (surveys of accident data) and controlled studies of alcohol and driving skills, it has been clearly shown that ethyl alcohol impairs a person's driving performance.



THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

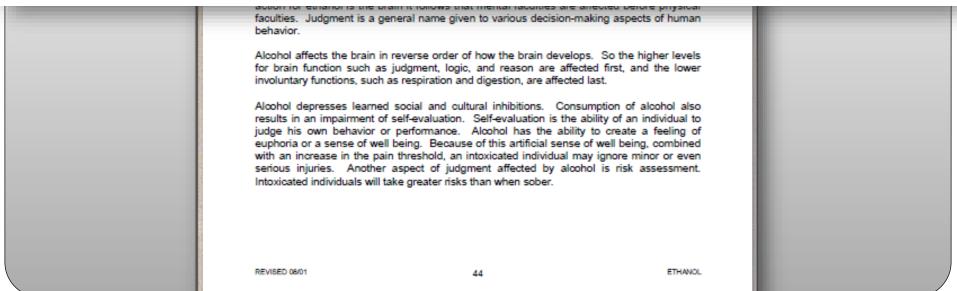


The central nervous system (CNS) is the site where alcohol exerts its effects. The CNS is composed of the brain and the spinal cord and is responsible for transmitting nerve impulses to the various muscles and organs of the body. Ethanol acts as a *depressant* on the CNS, not as a stimulant.

It is not the alcohol in the peripheral areas of the body which impairs a person's coordination, but the alcohol concentration in the CNS



<u>Judgment</u> The first effect of alcohol is the impairment of judgment. Since the site of action for ethanol is the brain it follows that mental faculties are affected before physical faculties. Judgment is a general name given to various decision-making aspects of human behavior.



WAS MR. SMITH INTOXICATED AT THE TIME OF DRIVING?

"I DON'T KNOW" -Aubel

 $\uparrow \quad \downarrow \quad \leftrightarrow \qquad \qquad \% ?$

RETROGRADE EXTRAPOLATION

FACTS	<u>STATE SAYS</u> ↑	STEPHEN SAYS ↓
1 st DRINK	5pm / 0.000 / Beer	5pm / 0.000 / Beer
ATE	8pm Chicken	8pm Chicken
LAST DRINK	= 18+ Beers 12am / /6 th Beer	12am/ 6 th Beer = 002
STOP TIME	230am / 0.227 \$207bee /s in system at time of draw	230am / 0.000
BLOOD DRAW	230am // 00118877	430am / 0.187

WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE ON THE VIDEO??

DOES HE LOOK LIKE A 0.227 OR A 0.000??

8. DISCONNECT DEFENSE

- High Blood Test (0.15 and higher)
 +
- Good Video Performance
- Indisputable Conflict
 - Alleged blood alcohol science
 - Common sense theme of believing what you see.
 - e.g. a DISCONNECT

DISCONNECT In A Nutshell

- Systematically weaved reasonable doubt through every aspect of intoxication
- Indisputable Conflict = Reasonable Doubt
 - Innocent Man, Insufficient Evidence, Indisputable Conflict
- Use Demonstrations
 - Green, Green, Red
 - Hypothetical Machine
 - Pictures with ridiculous stats
- DISCONNECT: good video, no loss of mental or physical faculties, never urinated, all about the ridiculously high number, either the machine defies science or there is a problem
- Constitutional Duty to Find Defendant NOT GUILTY

9. PICTURES OF DEATH

• Who would be bothered by seeing pictures of serious bodily injury?

• STIPULATE TO SERIOUS BODILY INJURY

• Now, what is the purpose of the pictures of injuries?

10. MIRANDA

• "They never read me my Miranda rights..."

• And then you Mirandized my client?

• Closing: They EVER even Mirandized him!

11. (PUNISHMENT)

- 1. Not Intent/ No Malice/ Not a Bad Guy
- 2. Live in a Glass House
- 3. We Go Home He is 100% Going to Jail
- 4. Prison/ Cage/ Animals Rehab
 "Prison is for people you are SCARED of; Probation is for people you are ANGRY with."
- 5. Worst Nightmare

Get knocked down. Get back up. Always be a fighter. Don't be afraid of the punch. Don't be afraid of getting back up. Be afraid of giving up.

Maria Kanellis

BE A FIGHTER!

You can beat me down a thousand times, but I will always get back up, and don't you forget that.