On the "roads more traveled" these days, it's more important than ever to drive with a clear head and a sharp focus. Make it a life-governing rule not to drive when you’ve had too much to drink. On average, a driver makes over 200 decisions per mile, so it's critical that a driver make the decision to drive alert before getting behind the wheel. Not only will you be a safer driver but you will be in a much better position to defend yourself from the driver who doesn't make that choice. Drive focused. Stay safe.

Safety Facts for the Road

- Alcohol impaired driving accounted for 40% of fatal crashes in 2001, resulting in 16652 deaths (NHTSA).
- About three in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.
- Research shows that alcohol is a contributing factor in 39% of all work-related traffic crashes.
- Nearly 1.5 million people are arrested each year for driving while intoxicated (DWI). Two-thirds of all drivers arrested for DWI are first time offenders.
- A DWI/DUI conviction on a person’s driving record may prevent them from getting a job, a promotion or even result in a job loss.
- Nine out of 10 insurance companies automatically cancel a driver convicted in a DWI/DUI violation. Consequently, the driver must find a high-risk insurance company with substantial rate increases.

Can you spot an impaired driver on the road?

When you drive, protect yourself and your passengers by being focused and on the lookout for impaired drivers. Drivers under the influence of alcohol often display certain characteristic driving behaviors. Keep these in mind to avoid a dangerous situation.

- Weaving, swerving, drifting, or straddling the center line.
- Driving on the wrong side of the road.
- Driving at a very slow speed.
- Stopping without cause or braking erratically.
- Turning abruptly or responding slowly to traffic signals.
- Driving with the window down in cold weather.
- Driving with headlights off at night.

Drive Focused. Stay Safe.
Avoid Impaired Driving.

- Alcohol involvement is the highest at night (9pm to 6am), on weekends and on holidays.
- Driving skills, especially judgment, are impaired in most people long before they exhibit signs of drunkenness.
- Celebrations are part of our lives and sometimes they include alcohol. They should not, however, involve impaired driving.
  - Decide who is the designated driver before the party starts.
  - Be the kind of co-worker that will take the keys if someone has had too much to drink.
  - If you're impaired, make the safe choice-ride with a designated driver, call a taxi, stay where you are, or call a sober friend or family member. Making the safe choice could save your life.

If you are in front of the impaired driver, turn right at the nearest intersection and let the driver pass you. If the driver is in front of you, stay at a safe distance behind. And if the driver is coming at you, slow down, move to the right and stop. Alert the police that there is an impaired driver on the road.