



MEDIA RELEASE

For release August 10, 2009

Impaired driving legislation sometimes unknown

arrive alive DRIVE SOBER® is reminding drivers to review the penalties, costs and consequences for impaired driving and to plan a safe ride home. Surveys of the public over the last nine years have found that the public are unaware of the some/all of the penalties – federal and provincial - which have been increasingly harsher over the last 15 years. Some of the knowledge gap includes:

- Maximum penalty for impaired driving causing death is life in prison
- Immediate suspension from driving at .05 (as of May 1st for 3 to 30 days)
- Consequences for impaired driving include the loss of a regular valid driver licence in Ontario for two+ years in Ontario
- First-time impaired driving conviction will cost a driver (to drive again) more than \$20,000 in fines, fees, education, insurance, legal costs, etc.
- Ignition interlock restriction is part of the reinstatement process for first-time offenders
- Impaired boaters lose their *driver's* licence and face *all* the consequences for impaired driving

In its 21st year of sharing information to promote awareness about impaired driving risks, penalties and prevention strategies – arrive alive DRIVE SOBER® is reminding drivers and passengers to find and use whatever strategy works for them: call home, take a cab, designate a driver, use public transit or stay overnight. This year there have been several reminders that there is more work to be done – today's sentencing date for Wladyslaw Bilski is one of them.

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Visit www.arrivealive.org for more information.

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OUR MISSION STATEMENT: to provide leadership and programs to eliminate impaired driving in Ontario and enable people and communities to share resources and information that will prevent injuries and save lives.