

THC-Impaired Driving is not the same as drunk driving and treating it like it is *costs lives.*

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The Core Truth

Alcohol and THC affect the brain differently. Tools that work for drunk driving do not work for marijuana-impaired driving. Detecting THC is not the same as proving impairment.

Until this reality is addressed, roads will remain unsafe.

What THC Does to Driving

- THC impairs:
- Reaction time
- Coordination and motor control
- Divided attention
- Judgment and situational awareness

In 2020:

- **12.6 million people drove under the influence of drugs**
- **11.7 million reported cannabis use**

Risk Is Real — Even If It's Different Than Alcohol

Based on Colorado data:

- THC-only impaired drivers are ~14× more likely to crash than sober drivers
- Alcohol-impaired drivers are ~30× more likely to crash

 Fourteen times the risk is still extraordinarily dangerous.

Polydrug Use Is Deadliest

- Polydrug-impaired drivers: up to 45× higher crash risk
- ~80% of THC-positive DUI cases also involve alcohol or other drugs

Crash Data Shows a Deadly Trend

- Cannabis-involved crash deaths have more than doubled since 2000
 - THC + alcohol combinations have surged
 - Many fatal THC levels far exceed state limits
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Detection ≠ Impairment

There is no valid THC equivalent to a blood-alcohol limit.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

“The poor correlation of THC level in the blood or oral fluid with impairment precludes using THC levels as an indicator of driver impairment.”

Why this matters:

- Occasional users may be impaired after THC is no longer measurable
 - Chronic users may test positive long after impairment has passed
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Today's Marijuana Is Different

- THC potency is far higher than in past decades
- Edibles and concentrates cause delayed and prolonged impairment
- Mixing THC with alcohol dramatically increases crash risk

Meanwhile, industry messaging promotes marijuana as “safe” and “harmless.”

Real Families. Permanent Loss.

Behind every statistic is a life lost:

- **Amanda Hill** (CO, age 24) — killed by a THC and cocaine-impaired driver
- **Mason McClenathan** (CO, age 16) — killed by a THC-impaired driver

Safety must be built first — not retrofitted.

Protect Families First

Until a reliable THC impairment assessment exists:

- Expanding marijuana commercialization is irresponsible
- Public education is a life-saving necessity

This is not politics. It is public safety.

Advocating for science-based policy and families harmed by marijuana-impaired driving.



DUIDVictimvoices.org



EveryBrainMatters.org



SafeHealthyTexas.org