

So you made a mistake, you got a DUI, DWI, or wet reckless ticket. Let's start fixing the problem.

Getting your drivers license reinstated is usually a four step process.

- Enroll in the alcohol/drug awareness program.
- Complete your suspension period
- Get a SR-22
- Go to the DMV, pay your fees, and get your license reinstated.

Enrollment

The DMV has different lengths of time you must attend their designated programs depending the severity of your conviction.

The most common is the first offender program that runs 18 months. If you are a multiple offender, you may be required to attend a longer period of time. The second offender program, or SB_38 program, is 18 months. **You cannot get your license back until you complete the SB-38 program if you are ordered to take this program.**

After you enroll in the program, the school will send the confirmation of enrollment form to the DMV. The DMV's processing time is about 10 - 14 days to show on their computers that you have indeed been enrolled.

The suspension period

When you are arrested for DUI the police give you a pink sheet of paper that tells you what your are supposed to do. It says something like "you can complete a suspension period of 30 days, and then apply for a restricted license, or you can complete a four month suspension and then apply for an unrestricted license".

There is one more alternative. If you called a good lawyer right away after you were arrested, he/she could have filed a temporary drivers license with the DMV, and you would not have your license taken away until you failed the DMV hearing.

Most people opt for the restricted license because it will allow you to drive to and from the alcohol/drug program, and to and from work and during the course of employment.

The restriction lasts for five months, and then you can apply for an unrestricted license. Other people would just as soon have it all behind them and wait the four months and be able to drive anywhere and anytime they want. The people that got a lawyer, and therefore a small reprieve from the immediate suspension, usually fail the DMV hearing and must then serve their suspension period at that time.

SR-22 filing

An SR-22 is just a piece of paper. It is a form issued by your insurance company, filed at the DMV, that shows them you have a valid insurance policy. If you stop paying for your insurance, or it gets canceled. The DMV will resuspend your license. You don't have to get a SR-22 for every car that you own. You can get a SR-22 policy for any vehicle you don't own (a non-owners policy).

If you have an insurance policy, your company must give you a SR-22 filing, and they must cover you for the same