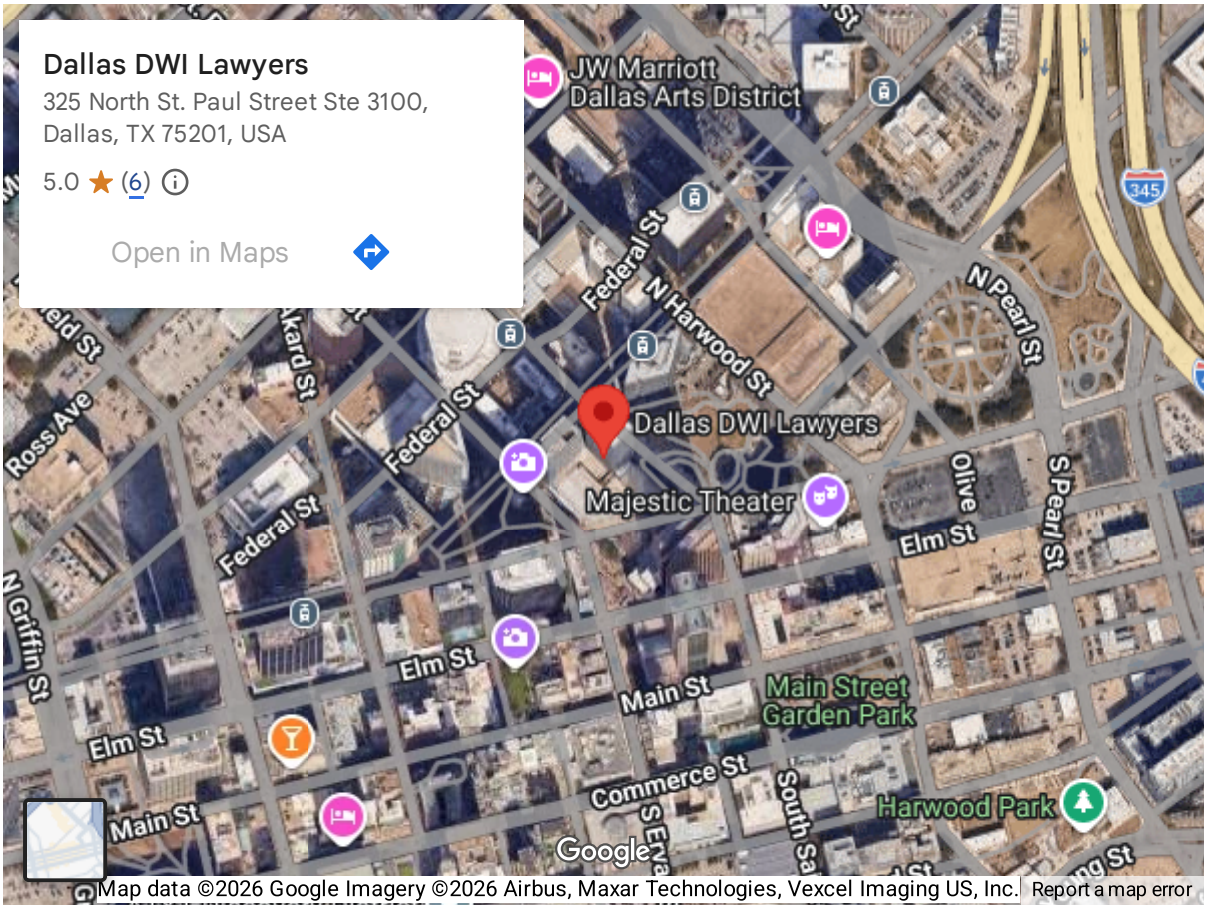
Elm Street east of downtown sounds different after dark. Live music drifts out of open doors, crowds move between Elm, Main and Commerce, and the parking lots under and around the elevated I-345 fill up by mid-evening. When the shows end, all of those cars try to get back onto Central Expressway, I-30 or the downtown grid at once. Dallas Police keep a visible presence in Deep Ellum on busy nights, and DWI arrests are a regular part of that. Dallas DWI Lawyers is a few minutes west of the neighborhood in downtown Dallas and handles DWI defense exclusively. Deep Ellum stops tend to involve crowded streets, pedestrians stepping off curbs and drivers trying to merge out of tight lots. An officer might cite an illegal turn, a failure to yield or a car that hesitated too long at a light. Those observations have to support reasonable suspicion for the stop. After that, the officer's decision to arrest has to rest on probable cause, which usually comes from field sobriety tests and the driver's answers to questions. Loud streets, bright lights and a crowd watching from the sidewalk are poor conditions for testing balance and eye movement, and we look at how each test was given and scored rather than accepting the officer's summary.

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Busy event nights also raise the chance of a collision, and an injury changes the case completely. If a crash causes serious bodily injury, the charge can become intoxication assault, a third-degree felony. If someone dies, the charge is intoxication manslaughter, a second-degree felony carrying 2 to 20 years and a fine of up to $10,000. These cases usually involve blood evidence, accident reconstruction and close scrutiny of how the crash happened, and they are heard in the District Courts at the Frank Crowley Courts Building. On holiday weekends, Dallas County runs no refusal enforcement, which means judges are on call to sign blood search warrants quickly when a driver **More helpful hints** declines testing. Kelvin M. Rodgers prosecuted felony and DWI cases in Caddo Parish, Louisiana for more than five years before moving to defense work, and he brings that background to serious cases like these. Our office is easy to reach from the neighborhood. The DART Green Line runs from Deep Ellum station into downtown, stopping at the St. Paul station a short walk from the Republic Center tower. A DWI defense attorney should hear about your case as early as possible, especially with the 15-day deadline to request an ALR hearing. Call or text (945) 403-4331 24/7 for a free case evaluation, and come see us at our St Paul Street office downtown.

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FAQ About

DWI Defense Attorney in Dallas How much is a DWI lawyer in Texas? Fees depend on whether the case is a first offense misdemeanor or a felony, whether there is an ALR hearing to fight, and whether the case goes to trial. Dallas DWI Lawyers starts with a free case evaluation so you can hear what your specific case involves before you commit to anything. Call or text (945) 403-4331 to set one up. What happens after a DWI arrest in Dallas? Most people arrested in Dallas are booked at the Lew Sterrett Justice Center and released on bond, often with conditions such as an ignition interlock. Misdemeanor DWI cases then move through the County Criminal Courts at the Frank Crowley Courts Building, while a separate license suspension case starts with DPS. The team at Dallas DWI Lawyers deals with both tracks from the first call. How long do I have to request an ALR hearing in Texas? The request must be made within 15 days of receiving notice of the license suspension, which is usually the day of the arrest. Missing that window means the suspension can take effect without a hearing. Dallas DWI Lawyers files ALR requests and represents drivers at the hearing, so call (945) 403-4331 as early as you can. Is a first DWI a felony in Texas? A standard first DWI is a Class B misdemeanor with a minimum of 72 hours and up to 180 days in jail, and a fine of up to $2,000. It becomes a Class A misdemeanor if a test shows 0.15 or more, and it can be a state jail felony if a passenger under 15 was in the car. Our downtown Dallas office on St Paul Street handles every level of these charges. Can a DWI be dismissed in Texas? Dismissals do happen, usually when the stop lacked reasonable suspicion, the arrest lacked probable cause, or the breath or blood evidence has problems. No lawyer can promise a dismissal, but Dallas DWI Lawyers prepares each case as if it is going to trial and reviews the video, reports and lab records for weak points. Should I refuse a breath test in Texas? Texas is an implied consent state, so a refusal can bring a license suspension of at least 180 days and can be mentioned at trial. Officers can also get a blood warrant, especially during Dallas County no refusal weekends. Every situation is different, so talk to a DWI defense attorney about how a refusal affects your own case. Can I still drive after a DWI arrest in Dallas? Usually yes, at least for a short time, because the suspension does not start right away and a timely ALR request can hold it off until the hearing. If a suspension does take effect, an occupational license may let you drive to work, school and essential errands. Dallas DWI Lawyers helps with both, starting with a call to (945) 403-4331. How long does a DWI stay on your record in Texas? A DWI conviction stays on your Texas criminal record permanently unless the law gives you a way to seal or clear it. Some first-offense cases may qualify for nondisclosure, and expunction is generally limited to dismissals, acquittals and no-bills. The firm can review your eligibility during a free case

evaluation. What makes a DWI a felony in Texas? A DWI becomes a felony with two prior intoxication convictions, a passenger under 15, a serious injury (intoxication assault) or a death (intoxication manslaughter). These carry prison ranges from 180 days in a state jail up to 20 years. Managing Attorney Gary L. Medlin has been Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization since 1989. Do I need a lawyer for a first DWI in Texas? You are not required to have one, but a first DWI can still mean jail time, fines, a license suspension and a permanent record. A lawyer can challenge the stop and the testing, and may be able to pursue options such as deferred adjudication where the law allows it. Dallas DWI Lawyers answers calls and texts 24/7 at (945) 403-4331. Can a DWI be reduced to a lesser charge in Texas? In some cases, problems with the evidence lead prosecutors to offer a reduced charge such as obstructing a highway or reckless driving. Whether that is possible depends on the facts, the test results and your history. Attorneys at Dallas DWI Lawyers include former prosecutors who understand how those decisions get made in Dallas County. What is the difference between a DWI and a DUI in Texas? In Texas, DWI is the charge for adults who are intoxicated while driving, while DUI is a Class C charge for drivers under 21 with any detectable amount of alcohol. A young driver can face either charge depending on the evidence. Dallas DWI Lawyers defends underage drivers from SMU, University Park and across Dallas.