



INVESTIGATING & PROSECUTING THE IMPAIRED DRIVER

LOUISIANA DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

INVESTIGATING AND PROSECUTING THE IMPAIRED DRIVER

SEPTEMBER 4-5, 2025

BATON ROUGE, LA

AGENDA

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DAY 1 (THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4)

8:00-8:45 REGISTRATION

8:50-9:00 WELCOME AND COURSE OVERVIEW

Jacqueline Sanchez, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor

Louisiana District Attorneys Association, Baton Rouge, LA

9:00-10:00 SESSION 1 – BLOOD DRAWS & READING TOX REPORTS

[1.00 CLE HOUR]

Attendees will learn what drugs are currently trending in blood samples taken from DUI drivers and the sources of these drugs in Louisiana. Attendees will also gain insight into how to read toxicology reports.

Rebecca Chiasson, Chemistry Manager

Louisiana State Police Crime Lab, Baton Rouge, LA

10:00-10:15 BREAK

10:15-11:00 SESSION 2 – HIGHWAY SAFETY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

[0.75 CLE HOUR]

Join us for an inside look at the latest legislative updates shaping highway safety. We'll break down the key bills that passed this session and what they mean for law enforcement and prosecutors.

Zachary T. Daniels, Executive Director

Louisiana District Attorneys Association, Baton Rouge, LA

Jacqueline Sanchez, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor

Louisiana District Attorneys Association, Baton Rouge, LA

11:00-11:15 BREAK

11:15-12:15 SESSION 3 – CDS ANALYSIS

[1.00 CLE HOUR]

Attendees will learn how the state lab analyzes controlled dangerous substances.

Rebecca Chiasson, Chemistry Manager

Louisiana State Police Crime Lab, Baton Rouge, LA

12:15-1:15 LUNCH – PROVIDED

1:30-3:00 SESSION 4 – SCREENING, CHARGING, EVALUATING, & PREPARING THE DRUG
IMPAIRED DRIVING CASE

[1.50 CLE HOURS]

This session will dive into the key decisions prosecutors face in impaired driving cases. Topics include bond and interlock considerations, the science behind ignition interlock devices and transdermal technology, and practical strategies for handling non-English-speaking defendants in DWI cases.

Jessica Raines, Assistant District Attorney

First Parish Court, 24th Judicial District Attorney's Office, Gretna, LA



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3:00-3:15 BREAK

3:15-4:30 SESSION 5 – DWI CHALLENGES AND HOW TO COMBAT THEM [1.25 CLE HOURS]
Learn about common DWI challenges, from an invalid stop to an officer's finding of impairment, and how to anticipate and refute these challenges.
Brett Sommer, Assistant District Attorney
21st Judicial District Attorney's Office, Livingston, LA

EVENING FREE

DAY 2 (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5)

8:30-10:00 SESSION 6 – THE INS AND OUTS OF SFSTs AND THE DRE PROGRAM [1.5 CLE HOURS]
This course provides an overview of Standardized Field Sobriety Tests (SFSTs) and their role in impaired driving investigations. Attendees will also explore the history of the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) program, the 12-step evaluation process, and the seven drug categories DREs are trained to identify.
Sergeant Randy Lanoux, Enforcement Agent
Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, Baton Rouge, LA
Sergeant Michael Hebert, Enforcement Agent
Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries, Lake Charles, LA

10:00-10:15 BREAK

10:15-11:45 SESSION 7 – DIRECT AND CROSS EXAM [1.50 CLE HOURS]
Learn how direct and cross exam work, what to expect, and what common pitfalls you might encounter in an impaired driving case.
Jessica Raines, Assistant District Attorney
First Parish Court, 24th Judicial District Attorney's Office, Gretna, LA

ADJOURN

THIS EVENT PRESUMPTIVELY QUALIFIES FOR 8.5 HOURS OF CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION.