

PAUL GARDNER – IMPAIRED DRIVING TRANSCRIPT

[00:00]

(Peppy music plays while introductory slides show the Institute for Transportation and Iowa Department of Transportation logos and then the video title of “Impaired Driving”)

[00:06] [Speaker – Paul Gardner, Iowa State Patrol Officer]:

(Music quiets)

So, crashes involving impaired driving are totally preventable. Those who go out celebrating, they’re consuming alcoholic beverages. They need to make sure that they have a sober designated driver on hand to get them home safely.

[00:17]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of car keys next to alcoholic beverages)

And you can easily call an Uber, a taxicab, have a friend or family member get you home safely.

[00:25]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of a hand holding a bottle of a beer while behind the steering wheel of a vehicle, with effects on the windshield suggesting a blurry view of the outside)

Those who get behind the wheel when they are impaired, that’s a decision they make. And, that’s a decision that can have some very serious consequences.

[00:33]

(Brief b-roll zooms out on a still image of a police car that has a vehicle pulled over on the side of the road)

So, if you get caught driving while under the influence, if you get pulled over, you’re likely going to be going to jail that night. You’re going to lose your driver’s license, which can cause loss of employment, loss of scholarships, all kinds of things that can happen as a result of you being charged for an OWI.

[00:48]

(Brief b-roll video shows a closeup of blue flashing lights atop a police vehicle as other vehicles drive by in the background)

Or, even worse, if you get yourself into a crash, if you hurt or kill somebody because you were under the influence behind the wheel, those can carry some very significant consequences.

[01:00]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of a crashed vehicle with a crushed hood and broken front windshield, with a police car and ambulance, both with their lights on, and an EMT in the dark background)

You could spend a lot of years in prison because you hurt or killed somebody because you were drunk.

[01:10]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of a joint being held by a person behind the steering wheel of a vehicle that appears to be on a residential roadway)

So, if a peace officer has you pulled over on the side of the road and he suspects you're impaired, whether it be on alcohol or drugs, the field sobriety tests, they're not mandatory, they are optional.

[01:23]

(Brief b-roll zooms out on a still image of a police officer at the driver's side window of a car that has been pulled over, with the side-view mirror obscuring the driver, and the officer's vehicle with its lights on in the background)

However, if you refuse chemical testing after being read the implied consent advisory, which implied consent means it's assumed that you're going to consent to chemical testing when a peace officer has reasonable suspicion that you're under the influence of drugs or alcohol. That's up to you, whether you take the test or not. If you refuse, the consequences are usually stiffer.

[01:36]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of a truck rolled on its side in the shoulder of a roadway, with an Iowa State Patrol vehicle with its lights on in the foreground and an emergency vehicle and orange cone in the background around the truck)

Impaired driving is definitely something that is totally avoidable. The crashes we see as a result of drunk driving and impaired driving are something that should not happen.

[01:44]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of a vehicle dashboard, with effects on the windshield suggesting a blurry view of the rear of a braking vehicle, while added text states, "916 people were killed in crashes involving an alcohol-impaired driver in Iowa from 2009–2018" and credited to "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention")

So, the main takeaway from this is they need to make sure that when they go out and celebrate, they need to plan ahead, be responsible, get somebody sober to get them home safe.

[01:56]

(Video of Paul Gardner fades to black as louder peppy music resumes, while outro slides provide a disclaimer that reads, “This video was developed by the Institute for Transportation (InTrans) at Iowa State University for the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) with the purpose to provide the material for driver education instructors in Iowa. InTrans is responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the information presented herein as of May 1, 2025. Driver education instructors may use the material in its entirety or may use any of the material individually. The material is for educational purposes only. It is strictly prohibited to sell any part of this video. If any of the material is reused, please credit the Iowa DOT. For more information or questions, please contact Vania Boyd, Driver Education and Motorcycle Rider Education Manager, Iowa DOT, Vania.boyd@iowadot.us.” and show the Institute for Transportation and Iowa Department of Transportation logos)