

DRIVER DISQUALIFICATIONS:

Alcohol, Leaving the scene of an accident and committing a Felony



As of August 23 of 2014, drivers who receive a dismissed or not guilty ruling in court after getting a traffic violation will qualify for removal from their CSA scores. This change is greatly beneficial to the driver and to the carrier, since the violation will be eligible to be removed from the FMCSA's scoring system.

Based on these new changes, we want to make sure you are aware of what constitutes a Driver disqualification. It is important to understand these laws to avoid receiving a citation that you could lose in court or even worse to lose your license. You may not drive a commercial motor vehicle if you are disqualified for any reason. Disqualification results from committing offenses in a CMV and in some cases from offenses committed in your personal noncommercial vehicle.

In the following weeks, we'll be covering all circumstances causing disqualification. In today's newsletter we'll discuss Alcohol, Leaving the scene of an accident and committing a Felony. It is illegal to operate a CMV if your blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is .04 or more.

If you operate a CMV, you must understand that you have given your consent to be tested for alcohol. To imply that you don't want to be tested is considered a positive result.

For a first offense you will lose your CDL for at least one year for:

- Driving a CMV with a breath or blood alcohol concentration of .04 or higher.
- Driving your personal vehicle or CMV under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Refusing to be tested for breath or blood alcohol regardless of the type of vehicle driven.
- Leaving the scene of an accident
- Committing a felony involving the use of a motor vehicle.
- Driving a CMV when the CDL has been suspended, revoked, cancelled, or disqualified.
- Driving a CMV in possession of a controlled substance.
- Causing a fatality through negligent operation of a CMV.

You will lose your CDL for life for a second offense.

You will lose your CDL for life if you use a CMV to commit a felony involving controlled substances.

You will be put out-of-service for 24 hours if you have any detectable amount of alcohol under .04%.