York County DUI Prevention Initiative
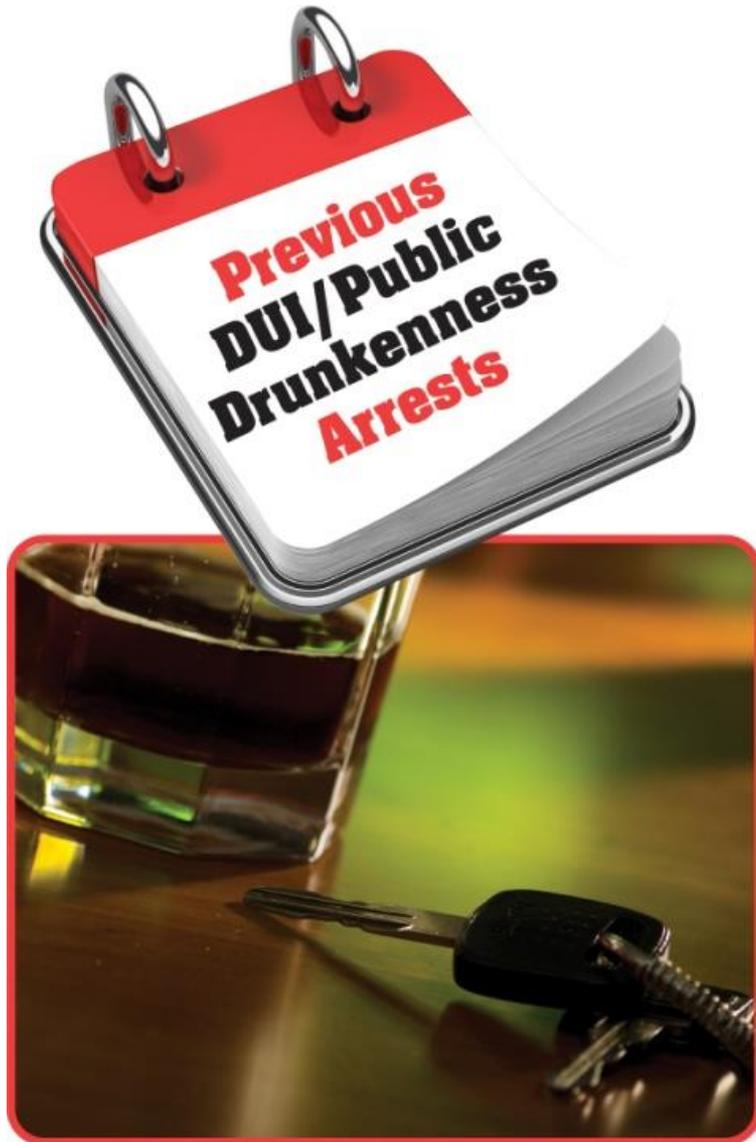
The Case That Got It Started

Gender: Male

Age: 50

- **Prior DUI in 1999**

- **Two previous incarcerations for Public Drunkenness**

- **Per previous policy: Transported for a blood draw and released**
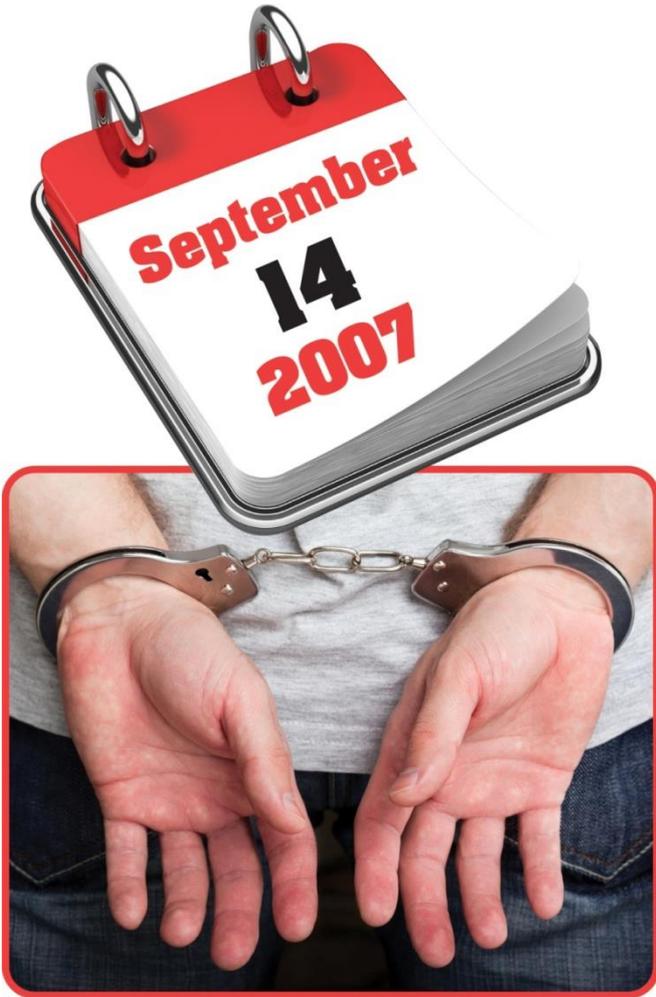
Defendant stopped for DUI

Per previous policy:
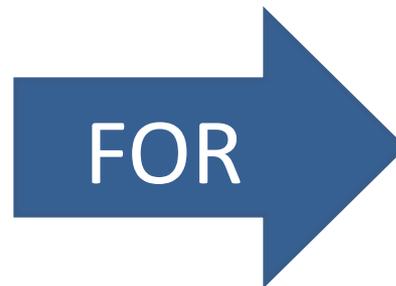*Transported for a blood draw and released*

Defendant stopped for DUI

3 months later
received BAC results: **.386**

Defendant arrested for Public Drunkenness
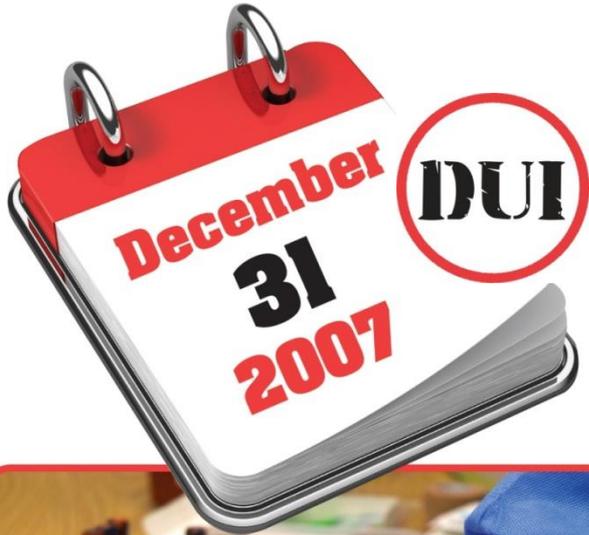
Charge filed against defendant

November 8 2007

August 2 2007 — DUI

FOR

Defendant stopped for another DUI

December 31 2007
DUI

Per previous policy:
Transported for a blood draw and released

Defendant stopped for **another** DUI

December 31 2007 DUI

3 weeks later

received BAC results: **.345**

Charge filed against defendant

FOR

Preliminary Hearing

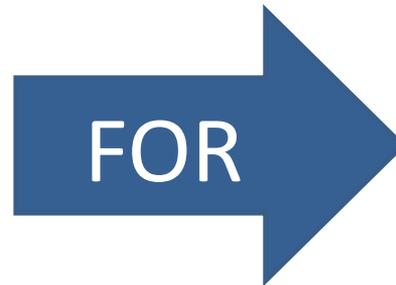## Judge sets bail at $0

FOR

Defendant stopped for another DUI

Per previous policy:
Transported for a blood draw and released

Defendant stopped for another DUI

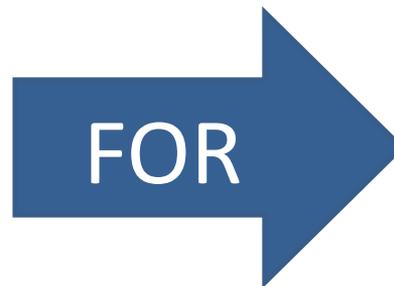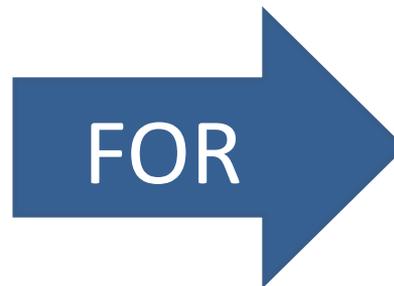2 weeks later
received BAC results: **.527**
(in addition drug charge filed)

Preliminary Hearing

Judge sets bail at $0

FOR

Defendant appears in Court of Common Pleas for

No request to modify bail

Preliminary Hearing

Judge sets bail at $0

FOR

Defendant appears in Court of Common Pleas for

May 20 2008

December 31 2007 DUI

No request to modify bail

Defendant stopped for another DUI
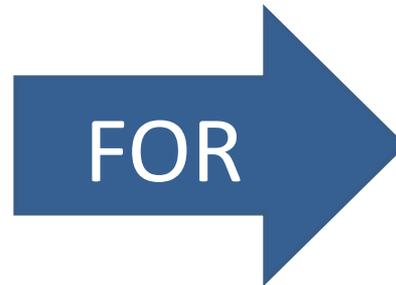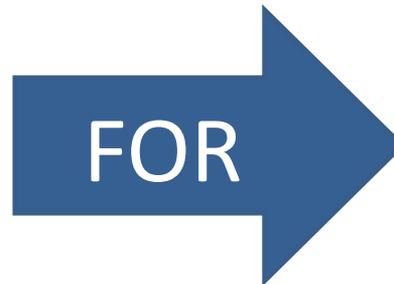
5th

Alcohol Related Offense in 11 Months

Per previous policy:
Transported for a blood draw (refusal), defendant released

Charge filed against defendant

July II 2008

July I 2008 DUI

FOR

Preliminary Hearing

Judge sets bail at $0

FOR

Defendant locked up for Probation Violation for excessive use of alcohol

Was this an isolated incident or a regular problem?

- Did informal survey among other Judges

- Asked DA to investigate

- Started tracking number of DUI cases

- Outcome:
  - ¼ of case load were DUI cases
  - ¼ of the DUI cases involved repeat offenders

Task Force representatives who examined the issue included:

- District Attorney
- Police Departments
- Probation Department
- Sheriff
- Warden

- Law Enforcement
- District Justices
- Court Administrators
- County Commissioners
- Treatment Providers

Developed Protocol for Arrest/ Bail

- Police officers now required to run records upon stopping defendants for DUI to determine if a repeat offender

- If record of prior arrest, defendant is arrested immediately and taken for blood and then a bail hearing before a District Justice

- District Justice sets bail with conditions of drug/alcohol evaluation and SCRAM monitoring

"Selling" new process to Law Enforcement and District Justices

- Police objected. They did not want to do additional paper work or make arrest.

- District Justices did not want to hold bail hearings in the middle of the night.

- We streamlined the arrest process and met with the Chiefs and laid out the problem.

- Did the same with the District Justices.

- Explained that many of the defendants expressed that they did not quit drinking until the day before they got their SCRAM bracelet.

Sentencing Changes

- Incorporate PA DUI sentencing matrix
- Benefits to County and defendants

Program Outcomes

- 90 % plus reduction in offenders with multiple DUIs in one year

- Public safety improved

- Lowered highway fatalities

- The alcoholic is not deterred by loss of license or jail but is by losing ability to drink

- Thousands saved in not incarcerating many DUI offenders