

No Refusal DWI Periods Explained

Law enforcement representatives in New Orleans and the surrounding areas have credited a relatively new tactic with an increase in drunk driving arrests. This tactic, referred to as a 'No Refusal' Period or weekend has been a source of some confusion among local residents.

During a 'No Refusal' Period, law enforcement officials coordinate with local DAs and judges to allow police officers to receive immediate search warrants to obtain blood or other chemical samples from suspected drunk drivers.

In practice, this means that a judge is either on location at a DWI checkpoint or on call in chambers in order to issue warrants directly to local police as soon as they apprehend a suspected drunk driver. These search warrants allow officers to obtain a blood sample which can be analyzed for alcohol concentration. This tactic makes it impossible for drivers to refuse to submit to chemical analysis and can result in a large number of drunk driving arrests.

Outside of 'No Refusal' Periods, drivers have the right to refuse to submit to blood or breathalyzer tests although this generally results in automatic suspension of their drivers license if convicted later.

If you or anyone you know are arrested as part of a 'No Refusal' DWI weekend, contact Bloom Legal 24/7 at 504-599-9997 or online at www.bloomlegal.com.