3 iPhone DUI and DWI Apps for Measuring Blood Alcohol Intoxication Levels

We all know that if you are going out with friends for the night and are planning to drink alcohol, then the best thing to do is to leave the car at home and find alternate transportation or assign a designated driver for the evening. Of course, there are always those who do not heed such warnings, and simply choose to rely on all kinds of devices to measure their own BAC or blood alcohol concentration.

A number of software apps have been developed for drivers throughout the country with smartphones. Since many states have tightened up their <u>DWI and DUI penalties</u> and laws, companies have created applications that allow users to track their own blood alcohol content levels. Creators and developers of these apps state that these programs aim to get drivers to think twice before getting behind the wheel after having consumed alcohol.

Many individuals insist they are still able to drive, even if they are obviously intoxicated. In such situations, friends often need to present proof that the individual is unfit to drive. Here are three of the most popular DUI/DWI iPhone apps in the market today:

BreathalEyes

<u>BreathalEyes</u> is an iPhone app that detects the eye's involuntary movement. This app is similar to the field sobriety test Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus that police officers conduct on drivers. The twitching and jerking of the eye on it's own is a sign of alcohol consumption, and BreathalEyes uses the iPhone's camera to record a driver's eye movement while the driver's head remains forward.

The developers of this app suggest, however, that the individual conducting the test should be able to hold the phone steady during the test duration or should be sober. Good lighting conditions are also required.

DrinkTracker

<u>DrinkTracker</u> is an app that, as the name denotes, keeps a record of one's BAC and the drinks that one consumes for the evening using a BAC calculator and a personal Breathalyzer simulator. The app requires a one-time setup of the user's personal profile, which includes his or her age, sex, height, and weight.

When the user begins to drink, he or she must select his or her profile. The DrinkTracker compares the user's alcohol intake and metabolic rate, and then provides the user with regular updates of BAC levels. The app is also able to set a target BAC, allowing the app's countdown timer to be set to the approximate time this target is reached.

The latest version of DrinkTracker includes a GPS-based feature called "Outta Here!". This feature uses Google Maps so that a user may obtain directions to his or her next destination, call a taxi, or even email other contact to pick the user up.

Intoxicheck

<u>Intoxicheck</u> is an app that helps individuals determine how impaired they are in terms of their reaction time, memory, dexterity, and sense of judgement. The app is made up of six self-administered challenges that help drivers to estimate their level of intoxication.

Intoxicheck first creates an unimpaired standard by allowing the user to perform the challenges while still sober. After having consumed alcohol, the individual must then perform the same challenges. The app compares the before and after results, assessing how impaired the user is.

With Intoxicheck, it is not necessary to count the number of drinks one consumes and to guess the alcohol content of each drink.

Reliability of DUI / DWI Smartphone Apps

With so many DUI / DWI prevention apps out there, it's important to note that they are by no means perfect. Many of these apps come with a legal disclaimer that makes it clear to users that these apps are primarily intended for entertainment purposes.

These apps to intend to provide their users with useful tools that help ensure safe driving. Of course, these apps do not want to provide a sense of false security, and cannot guarantee that they can prevent users from being arrested for DUI or DWI.

About The Author

Douglas T. Kans is a veteran DWI Attorney at Kans Law Firm, LLC in Minneapolis, MN