

Michigan DWI Attorney Paul J. Tafelski Discusses the Difference Between DUI, OWI, OWPD, and OWVI Charges

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Michigan DWI attorney Paul J. Tafelski (https://www.michigandefenselaw.com/blog/what-is-the-difference-between-dui-owi-owpd-and-owvi-charges-in-michigan/) releases a new article discussing the differences between DUI, OWI, OWPD, and OWVI charges in Michigan. The lawyer mentions that there are a few common acronyms used to denote drunk driving. DUI (driving under the influence), or DWI (driving while intoxicated) are a few of the most common acronyms. However, the actual legal terms are more focused.

?In Michigan, we have various levels of impaired driving offenses. What you are charged with will depend on many factors, including your blood alcohol content (BAC), your age, whether you were visibly impaired by law enforcement, or whether the presence of drugs was detected in your system. Commonly referred to as DUI charges, in Michigan, our charges are legally specified as OWI, OWPD, and OWVI,? says the Michigan DWI attorney.

The lawyer mentions that in Michigan, it is unlawful to drive while intoxicated or impaired by alcohol or a controlled substance. It is also unlawful to drive with a BAC or Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08% or more, and if there is cocaine or any schedule 1 controlled substance in their system.

Attorney Paul J. Tafelski adds that those who are under the age of 21, are not allowed to drive with a BAC of over 0.02%. Those who are under the age of 21 are also not allowed to buy, possess or consume any alcoholic beverages if they are not accompanied by someone over the age of 21.

In the article, attorney Tafelski says that OWI, or operating while intoxicated is usually used interchangeably with the term DUI. If a person is driving with a BAC of 0.08% or more, they may be charged with an OWI. There is also zero tolerance for those who are under the age of 21 which means that they may be charged with an OWI if they are found with a trace amount of alcohol in their system.

According to attorney Tafelski, ?An OWVI, or operating while visibly impaired, can be charged regardless of BAC level since it is based on visible criteria. If a law enforcement officer feels that you are impaired and cannot operate your vehicle safely, you can be charged with an OWVI regardless of how much or little alcohol you have consumed. An OWVI can also be charged when an officer believes you are under the influence of drugs that were legally prescribed or taken.?

Lastly, the lawyer emphasizes the importance of having a skilled DWI lawyer when facing a DWI or DUI charge. An experienced lawyer may be able to help the defendant understand their rights and protect their freedom.

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