



OWENS & PERKINS
Attorneys at Law
A Professional Corporation



OWENS PERKINS

Areas of Practice

Family Law
Business Law
Contract Law
Civil Litigation
Estate Planning
Probate
Guardianship
Criminal & DUI
Real Estate Law

Real Estate Law

Owens & Perkins offers a full range of Real Estate Legal Advice for Short Sales, Foreclosures, Deed in Lieu and traditional commercial and residential real estate transactions.

Attorney Spotlight

C.D. Owens

Senior Partner for Owens & Perkins, P.C., C.D. has been practicing law in Scottsdale, AZ since 1967 and was first admitted to practice in 1949. Experience that you can count on!



July 4th, the Holidays, and Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

To begin with, we at Owens & Perkins do not condone drinking and driving or endangering others due to significant alcohol consumption. Therefore, despite the following advice, please drink responsibly.

What is a BAC?

To understand how the statutes in Arizona work regarding driving under the influence, it is first important to understand how impairment due to alcohol is measured. To begin with, the amount of alcohol in your bloodstream is termed your BAC or Blood Alcohol Content. Although you may not feel the effects of the alcohol in your system, the law is that regardless of whether you “feel” the effects of the alcohol, it is gauged only by your BAC. However, if your BAC level is not at the minimum level of .08 to be charged with a DUI, you nevertheless can be charged with operating a motor vehicle while being “impaired to the slightest degree.” Needless to say, no matter what the alcohol content in your bloodstream is, if you are impaired due to alcohol, you can be charged with a DUI.

BAC Related Penalties

In Arizona, if you have a BAC of .08 to .14 within two hours of driving, you will be charged with a DUI. If your BAC is .15 or greater, then you will be charged with an extreme DUI, which has harsher and more severe penalties than a standard DUI. If your BAC is .20 or higher, you will be charged with a super-extreme DUI, and will face even harsher penalties. All DUI charges come with possible jail time in addition to fines and other penalties.

What are Your Rights?

It is important to remember when pulled over for a DUI that you do have certain protected Constitutional Rights. First, you have the right to remain silent. Second, you have the right to decline to perform **both** an eye and coordination field test. Third, you have the right to contact your attorney privately, and you must exercise this right prior to taking any blood, breath, or urine test, unless it will cause undue delay. Fourth, you have the right to preserve a sample of your blood, breath, or urine for independent evaluation.



Some knowledge regarding our DUI laws can go a long way if you are ever stopped. However, if you find yourself facing a DUI charge, we strongly encourage you to consult with an attorney to help you navigate this process. Having someone at your side who knows the law and can protect your rights may make a world of difference.

If you would like more information about DUI's, please visit our DUI website at:

www.opduilaw.com