

2026 • Issue 1

from the desk of the **SJOL**

JUDGE JOHN W. GRINSTEINER (RETIRED)

Welcome to the JOL Newsletter for North Dakota 2026, Issue 1:

The reality is that in the vast majority of DUI cases, both pretrial and post sentence, the defendant returns to the community. By placing defendants under appropriate conditions with proper monitoring, judges can ensure community safety, while balancing accountability and compassion. The last issue of the newsletter covered some of the monitoring tools available to judges, including ignition interlocks, the 24/7 Program, and supervision, both pretrial and post judgment. These tools can be most effective, maybe even becoming change agents, if they are used intentionally. How can we get to intentional? By obtaining more information on which to base your decisions.

This issue of the newsletter will cover screening and assessment and some of the informational tools available to judges and court personnel. The sooner that impaired drivers can be screened, assessed and connected with services, the better informed decision making will be throughout the criminal justice process. I believe this statement is true for almost all defendants.

Also, inside this issue of the newsletter are the most recent 2025 year-end North Dakota crash statistics along with the usual case law and resource/training sections. Finally, the wellness corner has a couple of new suggestions from readers and a fun video link that can help maintain and/or enhance your well-being. ■

About the JOL Program (Judicial Outreach Liaison and Fellows Program):

The Program provides peer-to-peer judicial education, court case interpretations, guidance, and liaisons between the judiciary and highway safety community. Our educational efforts focus on evidence-based sentencing practices, criminal justice reform, and reducing impaired driving recidivism, among others. The Program consists of three National Fellows, as well as Regional and State Judicial Outreach Liaisons (JOLs).

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Why Screening and Assessment?

• Paul F. Hofmann, APPA Regional Outreach Liaison and Mark Stodola, APPA Probation Fellow

During the past 30 years, the world of community supervision (probation and parole) has seen a seismic shift from management by what your “gut” is telling you, to informed decision making based on validated screening and assessment tools. These tools have been instrumental in informing decision making at pretrial, presentence and post-sentence supervision. Focusing on those domains that contribute to crime results is a lowered rate of recidivism. At the same time, research has shown there is no “generic” assessment tool that adequately captures the criminogenic risk factors of all criminal justice populations. This is especially true for high-risk impaired drivers. In this article, we will discuss the role of DUI screening and assessment tools, the role they play in supervision and how judges can effectively interpret this information when making sentencing decisions.

Screening and assessment are structured tools used to gather information about an individual’s risk level, needs, and readiness for change.

Screening is typically a brief process used early in the justice system to determine whether an individual may have underlying issues such as substance use disorders, mental health concerns, or criminogenic risks that warrant further assessment.

Assessment goes deeper. It involves standardized instruments that measure the severity of these issues and identify the specific factors that contribute to impaired driving behavior, such as alcohol or drug dependence, impulsivity, attitudes toward risk, and social supports.

In community supervision, assessment results inform the level of monitoring, the frequency of contacts, and the focus of interventions. For example, two individuals with the same offense may have very different profiles — one requiring intensive treatment and close monitoring, and another better suited for education and minimal supervision. The goal is to align resources with risk and need.

Research has shown that some criminal populations such as sex offenders and impaired drivers have unique criminogenic risk factors that are not adequately captured with generic assessment tools. When using these generic tools, DUI populations tend to score as low risk and low needs, when their subsequent actions (new DUIs or traffic offenses)

reveal they are not. Here’s why. Typically, the DUI population has a higher level of employment and education as well as pro-social family support than other criminal justice populations. These are key triggers that impact recidivism. At the same time, there are unique considerations that require DUI specific assessment tools.

The Impaired Driving Assessment (IDA) is a tool developed by the American Probation and Parole Association with funding provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration specifically designed to capture the risk and identify the needs of impaired drivers.

Researchers determined that there are 5 major risk factors that impact DUI recidivism.

- Prior involvement in the justice system specifically related to impaired driving.

The more prior DUI arrests an individual has, the more likely they are to commit a new DUI offense.

- Prior non-DUI involvement in the justice system.

This includes individuals with numerous traffic citations such as running red lights, speeding or driving without a license, as well as non-DUI/alcohol-related criminal charges.

- Prior involvement with alcohol and other drugs.

Research shows that a significant percentage of impaired drivers are polysubstance users. Despite this, most citations for DUI note only a single substance, usually alcohol. This population may use multiple drugs in addition to or instead of alcohol. Supervising officers should not assume that alcohol is the only substance of choice with this population.

- Mental health and mood adjustment issues.

Research shows that 33% of men and 50% of women with multiple DWI’s have a diagnosable mental health condition. This includes Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as well as other conditions which may actually be the primary factor related to the DUI.

- Resistance to and non-compliance with current and/or past involvement in the justice system.

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Individuals who have failed to comply with court-ordered treatment, community supervision, or electronic countermeasures are at increased risk of DUI recidivism. Non-compliance with ignition interlock devices is a strong predictor of DUI recidivism.

What Should a Judge Know About DUI Supervision Screening and Assessments?

Judges play a crucial role in ensuring that DUI screening and assessment results are properly integrated into sentencing and supervision decisions. Some key points judges should understand include:

- **Validated Tools Matter:** Instruments should be evidence-based and validated for the impaired driving population. Common examples include the Risk and Needs Triage (RANT), the Impaired Driver Assessment (IDA), and the Computerized Assessment Referral System (CARS).
- **Assessment Results Should Inform Sentencing and Referrals:** The results provide valuable guidance on the level and type of supervision, whether clinical treatment is indicated, and what conditions will best support rehabilitation and public safety.
- **Static vs. Dynamic Factors:** Judges should recognize the difference between static (unchangeable) factors like prior convictions and dynamic (changeable) factors like current substance use or peer associations — the latter being the key targets for intervention.
- **Collaboration Enhances Outcomes:** When judges, probation officers, and treatment providers share information and align decisions with assessment findings, outcomes improve significantly.

Why Are DUI Screenings and Assessments Effective?

Screenings and assessments are effective because they make decision making data-driven rather than assumption-based.

- They help practitioners identify who is at greatest risk to reoffend and what drives that risk, allowing supervision and treatment resources to be focused where they will have the greatest impact. Research shows that there is a myriad of factors apart from alcohol use that impact the decision to get behind the wheel of a car while impaired.
- They promote consistency and fairness, ensuring that similar cases are treated similarly while still addressing individual differences.

- They provide a roadmap for intervention, allowing officers and treatment providers to measure progress and adjust supervision plans as needs change.

Research consistently shows that when supervision and treatment are guided by validated assessments — particularly when combined with motivational and behavioral strategies — impaired drivers are less likely to reoffend.

What Could Make It Better?

Even the best tools depend on the quality of their implementation. Several strategies can enhance the effectiveness of screening and assessment:

- **Training and Fidelity:** Practitioners must be trained not only in how to administer assessments but also in how to interpret and use the results. Tools lose value if applied inconsistently or used simply as checklists.
- **Integration into Decision-Making:** Assessment results should actively inform case planning, treatment referrals, and sanctions — not sit in a file.
- **Reassessment:** Risk and needs change over time. Periodic reassessment ensures supervision remains responsive and proportionate.
- **Cross-System Communication:** Collaboration between courts, supervision officers, and treatment providers is essential. Shared understanding of assessment outcomes helps create coordinated case plans that balance accountability with support.
- **Incorporating Client Engagement:** Practitioners who use assessments as opportunities for dialogue — rather than interrogation — help clients take ownership of their change process.

What Is a Therapeutic Response and Why Does It Matter?

A therapeutic response is any supervision or court action that seeks to promote behavioral change rather than relying solely on punishment. In the context of impaired driving, this means using incentives, feedback, evidence-based treatment focused on the needs of the individual, not just the charge, and supportive interventions alongside accountability measures.

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Therapeutic responses are grounded in the principles of behavioral science and motivational interviewing. They recognize that lasting change occurs when individuals internalize the reasons for change, not merely when they are coerced by external sanctions.

This approach matters because impaired driving often stems from chronic, relapsing conditions like mental health and substance use disorders. This is also a population with a high degree of defensiveness along with a reluctance to make life changes. A purely punitive response may suppress behavior temporarily but rarely leads to sustained recovery. Therapeutic responses, on the other hand, build insight, motivation, and accountability — all of which contribute to long-term change and community safety.

Conclusion

Screening, assessment, and therapeutic responses are not merely procedural steps in managing impaired drivers — they are the foundation of effective, evidence-based practice. When judges and practitioners understand how to use these tools collaboratively, the justice system becomes more than a mechanism for punishment; it becomes a system that fosters rehabilitation, supports recovery, and protects the public. ■

Impaired Driving Assessment (IDA)

The Impaired Driving Assessment (IDA)¹ is a tool developed by the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) with funding provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) specifically designed to capture the risk and identify the needs of impaired drivers. In 2013, with support from NHTSA, APPA completed the initial validation of the IDA using a normative sample of 948 impaired drivers sentenced to probation.

The IDA is a differential screening tool consisting of 45 items across two components. It is designed to:

- Estimate the risk for future impaired driving.
- Provide preliminary guidelines for service needs.
- Assess the level of responsivity to supervision and services.
- Identify the degree to which traffic safety has been jeopardized among individuals convicted of a DUI offense.

The IDA incorporates eight domains that measure key areas linked to impaired-driving recidivism, including:

- Prior justice system involvement (DUI-related and general).
- Alcohol and/or drug involvement.
- Mental health and mood adjustment issues.
- Resistance to, or noncompliance with justice system interventions.

The tool includes a client self-report consisting of questions that identify the client's perception

of the DUI, and an evaluator report consisting of questions that capture static information including the client's arrest, treatment, and intervention history. By comparing the information in both reports, the evaluator can determine the best estimate of client risk and preliminary information on treatment needs, their level of defensiveness, and their acceptance and motivation to change.

The tool focuses on domains including alcohol and other drug disorders, legal non-conformity, and defensiveness, as well as acceptance and motivation. Included in these risk domains are psychosocial disorders. These questions address the client's self-view of recent and current psychological and work status. The scores reflect the extent of distress related to stress, depression, anger management, and alcohol and other drug use to manage these conditions and difficulty around job productivity.

To support implementation, APPA developed a training curriculum equipping practitioners with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to effectively administer and apply the IDA with impaired-driving clients. Training is available both virtually through live webinars and in person at APPA's Training Institutes.

Building on this foundation, APPA and NHTSA partnered to create a computerized version of the IDA, making the instrument more accessible for courts and community supervision agencies nationwide. To date, professionals across 48 states and Guam have been trained in administering the IDA with impaired-driving clients, further advancing efforts to improve public safety and promote effective interventions. ■

¹For additional information, please visit: [IDA Resource Center - Using the IDA](#)
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North Dakota 2025 Fatal Crash Statistics as of 12/31/2025



Fatalities: 85

Crashes: 77

Operators Tested Positive BAC: 19

Operators Tested Negative BAC: 18

Operators Not Tested: 0

Fatalities from Alcohol Crashes: 24

No Seat belt (for seat belt eligible vehicles) 33

Speed-related fatalities: 16

Pedestrian fatalities: 8

Motorcycle fatalities: 17

Fatal Crash Involved Lane Departure: 44

Fatal Crash Involved a Younger Driver(s) 14-20 years old: 11

Fatal Crash Involved an Older Driver(s) 65+ years old: 22

Fatal Crash Involved a Train: 1

Fatal Crash Involved a Commercial Motor Vehicle(s): 14

Holiday Fatalities: 8

*Please note that the final 2025 crash board numbers are still being finalized, as there are crashes that are still under investigation and not yet categorized. You can find a link to the NEW 2024 North Dakota Crash Summary here: [2024CrashSummaryWEBupdate.pdf](#)

Risk and Needs Triage (RANT)

The Streamlined Risk and Needs Triage (RANT) is a highly secure, web-based tool designed to help judges and other criminal justice professionals place adult drug offenders into the appropriate care setting.² The RANT is a screening tool specifically developed to match the prognostic risk and criminogenic needs of defendants, especially those with substance use disorders, with appropriate dispositional outcomes that promote recovery and law-abiding behavior. It is widely used in drug courts and community supervision settings to inform treatment decisions for high-risk individuals. By matching offenders to appropriate services, RANT helps optimally target resources for improved public safety and public health outcomes.

How it works

Streamlined RANT includes a client risk/needs assessment that can be administered by program personnel in 15 minutes or less – with minimal training required. The RANT tool consists of 19 items, 14 of which assess risk factors while the remaining 5 focus on needs. This dual approach allows for a comprehensive understanding of an individual's risk level and treatment requirements.

Reports

The software immediately generates an easily understandable scored report sorting offenders into one of four risk/needs quadrants based on their risk and needs: High Risk/High Need (HH); Low Risk/High Need (LH); High Risk/Low Need (HL); Low Risk/Low Need (LL) with direct implications for the optimal level of criminal justice supervision and behavioral health care. The report also lists the specific risk and needs factors identified for the client.

Research

RANT is derived from empirical evidence showing that outcomes in community correctional settings are influenced by how well drug offenders are matched to services suited to both their criminogenic risks and clinical needs. Backed by years of systematic research, RANT has shown good internal consistency, has been independently validated by several organizations, and its findings have been published in a peer-reviewed journal.

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The Streamlined DUI-RANT was developed from the empirically-based Risk and Needs Triage tool (RANT) for the DUI population. DUI-RANT is designed to help judges and other criminal justice professionals place adult DUI offenders into the appropriate care setting. The Streamlined DUI-RANT includes a similar client risk/needs assessment that can be administered by program personnel in 15-20 minutes or less, with minimal training required. Simple screens guide users through the 23 items individually and instantly provides client-level reporting upon completion.

Additionally, DUI offenders have been shown to present with unique markers of risk and need that distinguish them from drug offenders. Most states and jurisdictions rely heavily on blood alcohol concentration levels and number of prior DUI offenses in making sentencing and treatment decisions. Research identified and incorporated the predictive use of these markers into the DUI-RANT. By identifying the specific needs of individuals, RANT aids in optimally targeting resources, ensuring that high-risk individuals receive the necessary supervision and treatment.

In summary, the RANT tool is a valuable asset in the criminal justice system, providing a structured approach to assessing and managing the risks and needs of individuals, ultimately aiming to reduce recidivism and support recovery. ■

² For additional information, please visit: [Criminal Justice Tools - PHMC Research & Evaluation Group](#)
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Computerized Assessment Referral System (CARS)



The CARS (Computerized Assessment and Referral System) is a screening and assessment tool designed to identify mental health and substance use issues among DUI offenders, helping to connect them with appropriate treatment.³ CARS is the result of a collaboration between the Cambridge Health Alliance Division on Addiction and Responsibility, a nonprofit organization with a focus on preventing drunk driving.

Mental health problems that extend beyond substance use disorders are common among impaired drivers and can affect treatment and intervention outcomes. However, in many impaired driving programs, clients do not undergo comprehensive screening for psychiatric disorders. The goal of treatment professionals and criminal justice professionals is to provide the resources to make the last DUI conviction, truly the last DUI. By looking at the individual, and not just the charge, we are better able to focus on the mental health factors that can lead to a stop in recidivism and a path to recovery.⁴

Purpose of CARS

The CARS tool was developed to address the needs of DUI offenders by identifying underlying mental health and substance use disorders that may contribute to their behavior. It aims to provide a standardized method for assessing these individuals, which can lead to more effective treatment and reduced recidivism rates. The tool is particularly useful for judges, treatment providers, and probation officers in understanding the needs of DUI offenders and tailoring interventions accordingly.

Features of CARS

Comprehensive Assessment: CARS screens for signs and symptoms of various mental health issues and substance use disorders. It evaluates up to 20 major psychiatric disorders and generates user-friendly diagnostic reports with treatment recommendations.

Multiple Versions: The tool offers different versions to fit various needs, including options for self-administration and assessments conducted by trained staff. This flexibility allows for broader application in different settings.

User-Friendly Reports: After completing the assessment, CARS provides detailed reports that highlight individual risk factors and suggest tailored treatment referrals based on the individual's needs and location.

Administration of CARS

CARS assessments can take between 25 minutes to three hours to complete, depending on the modules selected and the responses provided by the client. It can be administered by anyone, and is easy to understand, providing immediate personalized information about the mental health disorders for which a client may qualify or is at risk. The tool includes various modules that assess DUI-related factors, suicidality, and personality disorders, allowing for a thorough evaluation of the individual's mental health status.

Conclusion

The CARS assessment tool is a valuable resource for addressing the complex needs of DUI offenders. By identifying mental health and substance use issues, CARS helps connect individuals with the appropriate treatment, ultimately aiming to reduce repeat offenses and improve public safety. ■

³ For additional information, please visit: carstrainingcenter.org • Cambridge Health Alliance, Division on Addiction

⁴ See National Traffic Law Center, *Between the Lines*, Volume 33, Issue 7 (July 2025).

Wellness Corner (NEW)



In a previous issue of the newsletter we did some work in the area of judicial wellness and I included some thoughts and resources in the articles and listed additional resources at the end of that issue that could help if you were experiencing secondary trauma or feeling isolated. A link can be found here: [SJOL Newsletter | 2025 Issue No2.](#)

After asking for things that work well for you, I received a handful of responses (keep them coming), so I will be sharing one or two each quarter here in the new "Wellness Corner" of the newsletter. Maybe one of these coping mechanisms can help maintain and/or enhance your well-being. I appreciate the trust you have placed in the JOL and your willingness to help each other through your individual judicial careers!

1. "I started drum lessons. Think Todd Rundgren's, Bang the Drum all Day." Maybe the drums aren't for you but learning an instrument can be a fun way to unplug. No musical talent? It doesn't take talent to put on your favorite music while you do the household chores. Music can be medicine!
2. "I joined a winter golf simulator league, it's a blast."

Being lighthearted is definitely good for your wellness. Checkout a Gen X North Dakota State Trooper explaining winter storm safety in Gen Z terms on Instagram.

Trooper Chris Pulver, who has 27 years of law enforcement experience, used Gen Z slang and internet terminology with assistance from off camera to deliver winter driving safety messages as the state faced an incoming storm system. The post has received thousands of more views on other social media platforms. Link here: [North Dakota trooper goes viral with Gen-Z winter storm warning](#)



Recent Court Opinions of Note

("A little late-night reading") — Alexander J. Bott, UND School of Law

The court opinions are a special contribution of my friend and colleague Earl G. Penrod, Senior Judge, Indiana Judicial Outreach Liaison, and Judge in Residence, National Judicial College

Constitutionality of a Municipal 'Overserving Intoxicated Person' Ordinance

On August 18, 2023, Windbreak staff members removed an intoxicated patron from the premises who subsequently drove away from the location and was involved in a single vehicle accident. The patron had a blood alcohol concentration of 0.291 and was arrested for driving under the influence. The Fargo Police Department investigated the Windbreak regarding the serving of alcohol to the patron. The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo appealed from a district court judgment reversing its decision to uphold the City of Fargo Liquor Control Board's determination that the Windbreak Saloon violated Fargo Municipal Code ("F.M.C.") § 25-1509.2 in serving an overly intoxicated person. The Commission argues it did not act arbitrarily, capriciously, and unreasonably when it determined that the Windbreak served alcoholic beverages to an intoxicated or impaired person in violation of F.M.C. § 25-1509.2; the Windbreak lacks standing to raise a void for vagueness challenge; and F.M.C. § 25-1509.2 prohibiting service of alcoholic beverages to an intoxicated or impaired person is constitutional. The decision was reversed. The North Dakota Supreme Court found a district court erred in finding Fargo Municipal Code § 25-1509.2 to be unconstitutionally vague.

Liquid Hospitality v. Bd. of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo, 2025 ND 136 (July 31, 2025)

Whether Consent was Voluntary under the Totality of the Circumstances

The North Dakota Supreme Court, in a detailed opinion on statutory construction and interpretation, holds that when interpreting a statute, the primary goal is to determine the legislature's intent by looking to the statute's plain language and attempting to give each word, phrase, and sentence its ordinary meaning. Statutes are construed as a whole and harmonized to give meaning to related provisions. The statutes' context and the purposes for which they are enacted are considered, in addition to the actual language, its connection with other clauses, and the words or expressions which obviously are by design omitted. Chapter 39-20, N.D.C.C., addresses chemical tests for intoxication and implied consent for individuals who operate motor vehicles. Section 39-20-01, providing for implied consent for chemical tests, must be read in conjunction with section 39-20-01.1, addressing chemical tests of drivers in serious bodily injury or fatal crashes. Warrantless searches are unreasonable unless they fall within a recognized exception to the warrant requirement. Consent is one exception to the warrant requirement, provided the consent is voluntary. The district court's suppression of a chemical test was reversed and remanded with instruction for the court to determine whether the consent was voluntary under the totality of the circumstances.

State v. Bell, 2025 ND 201 (December 4, 2025)

Useful Resources and Links

1. National Traffic Law Center, *Between the Lines*

Between the Lines, is a newsletter published by the National Traffic Law Center. Below is a particularly relevant editions based on this quarter's topics:

Click here: [\(July 2025\) Breaking the Cycle of Impaired Driving Recidivism](#)

2. Impaired Driving Assessment (IDA) Resource Center

Click here for more info: [IDA Resource Center](#)

3. Public Health Management Corporation (RANT & DUI-RANT)

Click here: [Criminal Justice Tools - PHMC Research & Evaluation Group](#)

4. Computerized Assessment and Referral Systems (CARS)

Click here: [Cars Training Center](#)

5. Responsibility.org Judicial Resources

Click here: [Alcohol Responsibility Judicial Resources | Responsibility.org](#)

Click here: [Screening and Assessment](#)

Click here: [Pre-Trial Services Guide](#)

6. All Rise: Risk and Needs Screening Tools for DWI/DUI

Click here: [FAQ: Risk/Need Tools for DWI Courts–All Rise](#) and [All Rise Fact Sheet Risk/Needs Tools](#)

7. All Rise (IDS): SBIRT Screening | Brief Intervention | Referral to Treatment

Click here: [SBIRT \(one-pager\)](#)

Click here: [Impaired Driving Solutions–All Rise](#)

Upcoming Trainings/Events/Webinars

*This is not an exhaustive list and is geared toward impaired driving

ICADTS: Women Behind the Wheel: Understanding Female Impaired Drivers

Description: Traditionally alcohol consumption has been a male-dominated activity. While men historically outpace women in drinking patterns, hospital and emergency room visits, arrests for impaired driving, and deaths related to alcohol use, the differences among the genders are shrinking. Impaired driving arrests for women grew 92.6% between 1998 and 2012, while similar arrests for men increased by only 8.6% during the same period. Women now make up about 25% of the alcohol-impaired drivers involved in fatal crashes. This webinar will focus on the female impaired driver and gender-specific concerns, including pathways to use, alcohol use patterns, life experiences, familial responsibilities, risks and needs, and effective strategies to address recidivism among women who drive impaired.

Recording: [Passcode Required - Zoom](#) Password: E8P*!5kr

ICADTS Conference Webinar -Impaired Driving Interventions: Mental Health & Co-occurring Disorders

Description: This encore presentation will highlight research-based best practices used to affect behavior change leading to reduced impaired driving recidivism and the correlation between mental health, substance use, co-occurring disorders and impaired driving.

Recording: [Passcode Required - Zoom](#) Password: ZsA1QQ.W

2026 Lifesavers Conference – Dates

April 19–21, 2026 (Sun.–Tues.) Baltimore, MD

Registration is open, click here: [Registration - Lifesavers Conference on Roadway Safety](#)

RISE Conference – Future Dates

RISE26, July 20–23, 2026 (Mon.–Thur.), Nashville, Tennessee.
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center. [RISE26](#)

RISE27, July 19–22, 2027 (Mon.–Thur.), National Harbor, Maryland.
Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center.

ABA JOL Webinars

▶ ON-DEMAND

Title: “The Importance of Tribal Courts in Building Recovery Capital”

Speakers: Hon. J. Matthew Martin (moderator) Danielle Finn, Nisha Wilson, and Hon. Adam Eisenberg

Link: [The Importance of Tribal Courts in Building Recovery Capital | American Bar Association](#)

Title: “Veterans Treatment Courts: Serving Those Who Serve”

Speakers: Tara Osborn (moderator) Casey Clevenger, Karen Khalil, Mary Jane Knisely

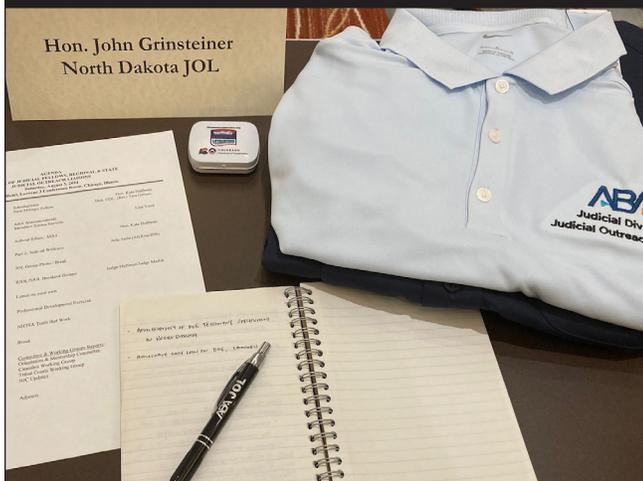
Link: [Veterans Treatment Courts: Serving Those Who Serve | American Bar Association](#)

Title: “Determining Impairment in Drug Impaired Driving Cases”

Speaker: Hon. Alan Blankenship

Link: [Determining Impairment in Drug Impaired Driving Cases | American Bar Association](#)

STAY TUNED!



I stand as a resource for each of you, so don't hesitate to reach out. Coming up in the next quarterly newsletter will be toxicology (get ready to get your science on). If you have an issue that is somehow connected to impaired driving (think seven degrees of Kevin Bacon), I'll do my best to help. If it's not, I'm still happy to listen and help if I can. I know how isolating the position can be, so you have a friend in me! Until next time, peace on your heart and strength for your fight no matter how big or small!

As the State's JOL, John brings you access to current and evidence-based practices that will assist you in your work and help promote more effective outcomes in impaired driving and other traffic related cases. With the help of the ABA's Judicial Division and its partnerships with various organizations (NHTSA, National Judicial College, NCSC, AllRise), John works to provide education, training, and technical assistance to judges and court staff throughout ND.

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