# **BETWEEN THE LINES** NATIONAL TRAFFIC LAW CENTER

#### **UPCOMING TRAININGS** & CONFERENCES

A full list of NDAA's virtual learning sessions is available at > ndaa.org/training-courses/. For current information, effective best practices, and targeted resources for prosecutors, visit > ndaa.org/covid-19.

NDAA's Mastering Masking Digital Course/ **On Demand Training (CLE Available)** ndaa.org/training/mastering-masking-2/

NDAA's Human Trafficking and the Impact on **Commercial Driver's Licenses/On Demand Training** > ndaa.org/training/human-trafficking-and-the-impact-oncommercial-drivers-licenses/

NDAA's Prosecuting DUI Cases Online Course/ **On Demand Training (CLE Available)** > ndaa.org/training/prosecuting-dui-cases/

NDAA's Investigation and Prosecution of Drug-Impaired **Driving Cases Online Course/On Demand Training** (CLE Available)

ndaa.org/training/on-demand-learning-investigationand-prosecution-of-drug-impaired-driving-cases/

Prosecutor-Initiated Resentencing, Part 1 Live webinar August 16, 2022 @ 12:00-1:30 pm ET

**Public Information Officer Training** August 22-24, 2022, Bellevue, WA

#### RESOURCES

**Impaired Driving Resources** 

> ndaa.org/programs/ntlc/

**CDL-Related Resources** 

> ndaa.org/programs/ntlc/commercial-drivers-license/

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## **Students Against Destructive Decisions**

#### **Empowering Students to Make** Healthy Decisions for a Safer World

By Rick Birt, SADD President and CEO

The year—1981. Hair was big, and the music was good. While we think fondly of this era, impaired driving crashes were the number one killer of young people at the time. In the suburbs of Massachusetts, the city of Wayland came to understand this public health crisis in a very personal way. Over the span of three short weeks, several hockey players were killed in three separate alcohol-related crashes. The town was devastated. The students, teachers, and community could not make sense of this repeated tragedy. However, the young people of Wayland High School refused to let this loss be an ending, so they turned their adversity into action. Thus, the first chapter of Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) was started.

The year—2022. A great deal has changed in our country, yet we still find that car crashes remain a leading cause of death and injury for young people. SADD, now a national network of over 7,500 chapters in middle schools, high schools, and



colleges, has an army of over 400,000 members working each day to turn the tide on this public health crisis. In addition, the organization's focus has expanded to include the full range of mobility safety topics, substance use, mental health, and leadership development. We know youth development doesn't happen in a silo. Young people who engage in risky behavior, like impaired driving, are often suffering a mental health crisis at the same time. Understanding the world in which young people operate is critical to their long-term health and safety. We need a culture change, and we need you to help keep young people safe. With an expanded focus, SADD now stands for Students Against Destructive Decisions.

#### Start the Conversation Before You're Ready

Parents remain the number one influencer of how young people view the world around them. During those teen years, young people are balancing their pursuit of independence with the knowledge that



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the adult allies in their lives have laid the foundation for how they view their world. Parents and other caring adults must have regular conversations with their teens about the risks and pressures they will face, including impaired driving. Start that conversation before you're ready—odds are they're more prepared than you think. You can find incredible resources for getting that conversation going and how to make it age-appropriate on the SADD website.

#### Set Expectations

Most young people thrive in a world where there are clear expectations. Teens need to understand the expectations about impaired driving and the consequences at home and school. When teens choose to use alcohol or other impairing substances, they put themselves and others at risk. There must be clear consequences at home if a young person uses alcohol or drugs. No, this is not a right of passage, as we've heard others say. SADD is working to educate parents on the consequences they face as the organization continues to advocate for stronger social hosting laws, especially as the conversation about cannabis is sweeping the country. If you allow a young person to become impaired, you are putting their life and financial certainty at risk—it's that simple.

#### It's a Scary World

Now more than ever, young people are stressed, confused, and anxious. We see violence in our communities and discord across the country. We are still facing a global pandemic that has brought so much loss to so many. Processing all of this as a young person can be overwhelming. Talking about anxiety and mental health are critical conversations. Mental health is tied to traffic safety at the deepest levels, and until we ensure all young people have the resources they need to find balance in their mental wellness, we will not win the battle against impaired driving. The SADD Mental Health Tool Kit is an excellent resource for any parent looking for ways to start the conversation.

#### We're Here to Help

With thousands of chapters across the country, we're proud to work with many of the leaders of our communities. Starting a SADD Chapter is free and easy—chances are there's one in your community. Visit the SADD website at > www.SADD.org to find your state contact and begin working with this powerful and dedicated group of young people who want nothing more than to see their peers and community remain safe.

What started as a movement continues today and as a force of change. SADD is working to empower students, engage adult allies, mobilize communities, and change lives. Forty years later, there has never been a more urgent need for all young people to find a place where they belong and to work to be part of the solution. The future is bright with these leaders showing us the way.

#### About the Author

**Rick Birt** serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of SADD at a national level. As such, he is responsible for leading the organizational programming, outreach, development, and communication efforts, while leading the SADD National Staff.

Working closely with the Board of Directors, Rick sets and implements the strategic direction for SADD, empowering the millions of students in which SADD serves. An expert in the matters of youth health and safety, Rick has authored several publications that feature SADD's unique form of a peer-to-peer approach that is vital to creating lasting behavior change in youth. Rick also frequents major news outlets, where he provides perspective for parents on best practices for helping their teen succeed. A SADD alumni himself, he has over a decade of prevention experience.



Previously, Rick held the position of Executive Vice President, Director of Strategic Partnership, and Development Officer for SADD. Before joining the SADD team, he led Midwest Operations as the Midwest Education Outreach Coordinator for Impact Teen Drivers.

Rick is actively involved in the community and spends time giving back to the Washington, DC area. Prior to his move to the District, he spent six years on the Northwestern Local Schools Board of Education (Ohio) and serves on several local and national boards that work to make a change at the community level. Rick is a self-proclaimed dessert aficionado, who enjoys frequent travel adventures and a good Netflix binge.



### NTLC's 2022 Virtual CDL Conference Recordings Now Available

NTLC is excited to announce that the "Virtual 2022 Commercial Driver's License Violations Conference: Enforcement, Prosecution, & Reporting," with 255 attendees, was a tremendous success. If you were unable to attend and would like to watch the recorded sessions, they are available on NTLC's website here. Topics include:

- "Case Analysis Presentation on a Multivehicle Crash Near Mt. Pleasant Township, Pennsylvania" by Dr. Robert Molloy of the National Transportation Safety Board
- "Understanding CDL Licensing and the Entry Level Driving Program" by Kentucky CDL Coordinator Judy Wolf
- "NTLC—Working for CDL Stakeholders" by National Traffic Law Center's Joanne Thomka
- "CVSA Strategies and Resources to Improve Safety and Increase CDL Compliance" by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's Christopher Turner
- "CDL Masking—One Driver One License One Record—What You Need to Know to Help Save Lives on America's Roadways" by NTLC's Jim Camp and Aaron Ann Cole-Funfsinn
- "The Roles of the Court: Access to Justice, Convictions & Reporting" by the National Judicial College's Judge Gayle Williams-Byers
- "Human Trafficking and the Implications for CDL Holders" by Truckers Against Trafficking's Kylla Lanier, FMCSA's Isabella Marra and NTLC's Aaron Ann Cole-Funfsinn
- "Hot Topics in CDL" by American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrator's Kristen Shea, Kansas TSRP Corey Kenney, Washington TSRP Miriam E. Norman, Seale PD's Impaired Driving Coordinator Jonathan Huber, and Indiana TSRP Christopher Daniels





### Save the Date!

September 15, 2022

Silver Legacy Resort Casino Reno, NV

#### **REGISTER HERE**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Courtney Jan Senior Project Coordinator cjan@ndaajustice.org

Please note there is no cost to attend this training. Space is limited. Attendees must register. Participants who live more than 50 miles away from the training site are eligible for travel reimbursement pursuant to GSA guidelines. Travel days are September 14, 2022 and September 15, 2022.

## **Mastering Masking**

Legal and Ethical Consequences of Plea Negotiations Involving Commercial Driver's Licenses



Photo courtesy of https://www.ernstlawgroup.com/blog/semi-tractor-trailer-vehicle-crash-highway-166/

The National Traffic Law Center is pleased to offer this course designed to provide prosecutors and other traffic safety professionals with the materials and techniques necessary to train other prosecutors and traffic safety professionals in their respective jurisdictions on the fundamentals of the federal and state prohibitions against Masking Commercial Driver License convictions.

#### Participants will be able to:

- Understand the Federal definition of "Masking," "Conviction" and "Disqualification" pursuant to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations
- Learn about the ethical consequences of Masking
- Explore various techniques and skills to educate other professionals on Masking

\*49 CFR §384.226: "The State must not mask, defer imposition of judgment, or allow an individual to enter into a diversion program that would prevent a CDL driver's conviction for any violation, in any type of motor vehicle, of a State or local traffic control law (other than parking, vehicle weight, or vehicle defect violations) from appearing on the driver's record, whether the driver was convicted for an offense committed in the State where the driver is licensed in another State."