A Ten Year Profile of Drinking Drivers in Ontario

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The paper reviews the criminal history over the past decade (1996 - 2006) of 879 drivers charged with an alcohol related driving offence in Toronto, Ontario, Canada in 1996 as well as the criminal and driving history of a sub-sample of 100 drivers drawn randomly from the larger sample. Although these drivers were reported on previously1, the paper reviews a ten- year criminal and driving history to determine the specific and general deterrent effect of the 1996 arrest over time as well as measuring the number of these drivers who subsequently re-entered the criminal justice system due to an arrest for a criminal driving offence or otherwise. For the sub-sample, a more detailed review determines what, if any, interaction with law enforcement has occurred during the ten-year period as a result of drinking and driving, as well as other driving behavior. The paper reviews the long-term affect of the introduction of the immediate ninety-day administrative driver licence suspension (A.D.L.S.) on this group of drivers.

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