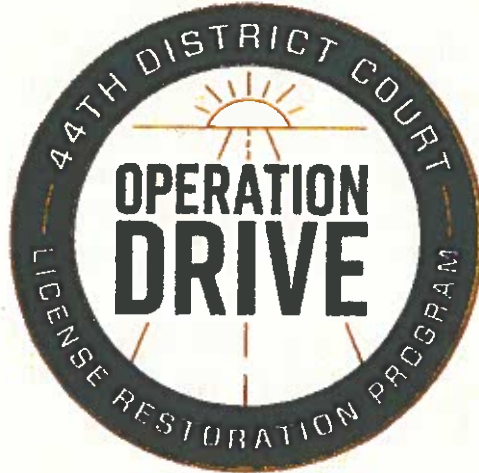




OPERATION DRIVE FACT SHEET

- **44TH District Court began license restoration efforts as early as 2013 and started keeping statistics in March 2016.**
- **Eventually the Court utilized the specialty court model, with regular reviews and assistance provided by court-appointed attorneys through MIDC special budget accommodation**
- **The goal is to provide STRUCTURE, INFORMATION, and ENCOURAGEMENT.**
- **Once someone is identified as an Operation Drive candidate, their sentencing is delayed, all payment obligations are suspended, and a review date is set up. Individuals are NOT on probation – no unnecessary drug/alcohol testing, reporting to a probation officers, etc. However, the regular reviews help participants stay on task.**
- **The Operation Drive docket is scheduled every Thursday afternoon and participants are allowed to connect remotely to the court session to alleviate the significant transportation issues they face. In the days leading up to review sessions, the attorneys will reach out to provide reminders of court dates and provide advice.**
- **The review sessions are crucial because the Court and the specialty attorneys help the participants develop a plan to resolve whatever outstanding matters exist that prevent the acquisition of a license. Particularly important in circumstances where there are significant barriers to a valid license, the review allows the participant to set “action items” to take care of before the next review, making a seemingly impossible task manageable. Additionally, there are some challenges that participants can’t do on their own and the Court and the attorneys can take steps to help (i.e., reaching out to another Court, getting explanations from the SOS, etc.)**
- **Once a participant acquires a license, the Court then offers a significant reduction in fines and costs (usually 80%) and will also allow a long-term payment plan if necessary.**
- **Current number of licenses restored since March 2016: 1480**
- **Current number of individuals in the program: 520 active participants**

Welcome to Operation Drive!



Congratulations! You are part of the most successful license restoration program in the State of Michigan. Whatever past experiences you may have had in the court system, we can assure you that this process will be substantially different. We look forward to working with you to either restore your license or to help you obtain a license for the first time.

Our program works.

Since the origination of the program in 2016, we have helped over **1400** participants become validly licensed drivers.

As a participant in our program, you most likely fall into one of three categories:

- 1) **Revoked License** – In this situation, the goal of the program is to get the participant in the best possible position to apply for license restoration.
- 2) **Suspended License** – In this situation, the goal of the program is to understand why the participant's license is suspended and provide guidance to help the participant clear any and all suspensions and make their license valid again.
- 3) **Never Applied for or Never Obtained a License** – In this situation, the goal of the program is to help the participant understand the process of applying for a license; such as setting up an appointment, preparing for the written and road tests, understanding what documents are needed to secure the license.

(PLEASE CONTINUE READING ON THE NEXT PAGE)

You will be receiving a sentencing/review date with this letter. It is very important that you appear on this date. The Court has decided that to better help with your transportation issues, we will conduct this matter on ZOOM. Zoom instructions are also included with this letter. You will not need to appear in person. If something comes up and you cannot attend, please call our judicial staff as soon as possible (246-246-3651 or 248-246-3663) to reschedule. Please try to do this before your hearing date.

If you have obtained your license - the hearing will be conducted as a sentencing. **You do not have to worry about going to jail.** The court will significantly reduce your fines and costs AND give you a long-term payment plan.

If you have not yet obtained your license - the hearing will be conducted as a review. **You do not have to worry about going to jail.** We will work together with you to develop a game plan for how to obtain your license. While it may be true that in some cases the process could be lengthy, an individualized plan will make the process easier and shorter. After the review, the matter will be adjourned for another review several months later.

While this case is pending, any payments with this Court will be suspended. You are not on probation. You do not have to report to a probation officer, and you do not have a list of conditions you have to follow. This program has one goal - You obtaining a full and valid license!

You will have experienced attorneys helping you through this process.

John Angott (313) 221-0675

Elizabeth Chiappelli (248) 310-1456

Feel free to text/call them regarding your case. Make sure you have your case number (It is on the notice). They might not have all the details regarding your case the moment you call, but they can investigate and provide guidance and will be with you during all court hearings.

Good luck and we look forward to working with you!


Hon. Derek W. Meinecke
44th District Court Judge


Hon. Andrew W. Kowalkowski
44th District Court Judge