




Vision Zero Council

3/7/23

10:00a.m.-12p.m.



Vision Zero Council - Agenda

- I. Committee Chair Welcome and Introductions
 - II. Adoption of 12/13/22 Meeting Minutes
 - III. .05 BAC Coalition Presentation – Thomas M. Louizou – Co-founder
.05 Saves Lives Coalition
 - a. Council Questions
 - IV. Legislative Update
 - a. Legislative Updates from VZC Agencies
 - V. Sub-Committee Discussion and Next Steps
 - a. Council Guidance to Sub-Committees for 2023
 - b. Sub-Committee membership and leadership roles
 - VI. Next Meeting – dates and potential topics for 2023 VZC meetings
 - VII. Public Comment
 - VIII. Adjourn
- 

Welcome and Introductions





Adoption of
12.13.22
Meeting Minutes



.05 B.A.C. Coalition Presentation

Thomas M. Louizou
Strategic Roadway Safety
Former NHTSA Regional Administrator (retired)
Co-founder .05 Saves Lives Coalition
<https://www.05saveslives.org/>
tlouizou@gmail.com



.05 Saves Lives

Connecticut Vision Zero Council
March 7, 2023

Thomas M. Louizou, co-founder
.05 Saves Lives Coalition

www.05saveslives.org

History of BAC Limits for Driving

- 1936 – Norway adopts first illegal per se law based upon **BAC at .05**
- 1983 – Oregon and Utah adopt **.08 BAC**
- 1997 – AMA recommends **.05 BAC** for DUI
- 2000 - **.08 BAC** National standard adopted by Congress
- 2005 – All States have **.08 BAC** laws
- 2013 – 2018 – NTSB and NASEM recommend **.05 BAC** limit
- 2018 – Utah **.05 BAC** law effective 12-30-18
- 2023 – 90+ countries with **.05 BAC** laws
- 2023 – CT, HI, NC, NY, OR, WA introduced **.05 BAC** legislation

DWI - largest single contributor to road fatalities

- **30% of all traffic fatalities in the Nation – no change for over 25 years**
- **40% of all traffic fatalities in CT**
- **46% of all CT traffic fatalities involve a driver +.01BAC**

Risky Business and costly

- Risk of being killed for drivers between .05 and .79 is 7 times that of drivers with no alcohol (NIH/NIAAA, Voas)
- Costly: Alcohol involved crashes \$69 billion economic cost to the Nation (NHTSA)
- Costs employers ~ \$50 billion; almost 85% due to off-the-job alcohol use
- Those not directly involved in crashes pay for roughly 3/4s of all crash costs

Virtually all drivers are impaired at .05 BAC

- **Decline in visual function incl. reduced ability to track moving objects and peripheral vision**
- **Reduced coordination incl. divided attention and steering**
- **Reduced judgement incl. reaction time and response to emergency situations**

.05 % BAC laws reduce crashes and save lives

- 90+ countries have .05% BAC or lower laws
 - Alcohol consumption is the same or higher than in the US, yet their ARF are lower
- Studies show that when DWI laws are lowered from .08 to .05%, alcohol related fatal and injury crashes decrease when combined with enforcement and public education. (NIAAA)
- Deters people at all BAC levels from driving – even at high BACs
- NIAAA (Fell & Scherer, 2017) **11.1%** decline in ***fatal alcohol-related crashes*** according to the meta-analysis.
- An estimated 12-15 lives per year could be saved in Connecticut

Evaluation of Utah's .05 Per Se Law

- The fatal crash rate reduction from 2016 to 2019 in Utah was **19.8%**.
- In comparison, the rest of the United States showed a **5.6%** fatal crash rate reduction from 2016-2019.
- No significant change in **DUI arrests**
- The report concluded: "Overall, ...05 per se law had demonstrably positive impacts on highway safety in Utah."

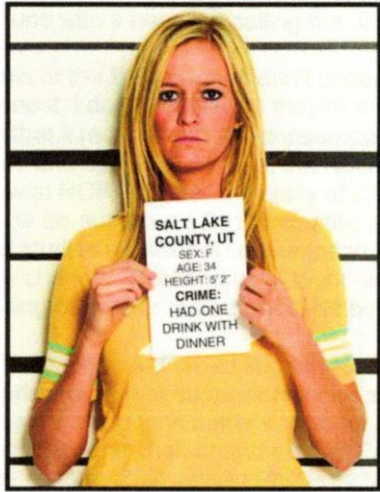
Evaluation of Utah's .05 Per Se Law

- **No law enforcement/judicial crisis**
 - **Police already arresting under-21-year-old drivers, commercial drivers at lower BACs (.02 and .04) as well as other drivers under .08.**
 - **Majority of arrests still above .08. Arrests in the .05 to .08 range dropped (4%)**
 - **Probable cause for the stop remained the same**
 - **HGN of the three SFSTs valid at .05 as it is at .08 and .10 BAC**

Evaluation of Utah's .05 Per Se Law

- No tourism or hospitality industry crisis
 - Visits to State and National Parks increased
 - Spending up 7%
 - Social media posts positive
 - alcohol sales and tourism measures continued to **increase.**

UTAH:
COME FOR VACATION,
LEAVE ON PROBATION



Utah Governor Gary Herbert is currently considering signing a bill that could land someone in jail for driving after having as little as one drink. This move would negatively impact the hospitality and tourism industries, as well as create a new class of criminals: Responsible adults who drink moderately.

Let's work together to fight the real drunk driving problem.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
RESPONSIBLELIMITS.COM

Fund for the American Beverage Institute

Public supports .05 BAC laws

- 63% of Americans support .05% BAC laws (AAA)
- A national poll showed 55% approving a .05% BAC law
- Supporting orgs include:

National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)	National Safety Council (NSC)	Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety (AHAS)
Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy (CIRP)	National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM)	World Health Organization (WHO)
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)	Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine (AAAM)	American Medical Association (AMA)
Remove Intoxicated Drivers (RID)	.05 Saves Lives Coalition	FIA Foundation
Vision Zero Network	Safe States Alliance (SSA)	Liam's Life Foundation
American Public Health Association (APHA)	Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE)	National Road Safety Foundation (NRSF)

Potential .05 BAC Law Issues

- Costs to implement (**should be minimal**).
- DWI Arrests (should be a **small increase** in arrests, but not enough to overburden the courts)
- Can it be enforced? (**same rules** of enforcement apply)
[McKnight et al 2003]
- Will it deter high BAC drivers (lowering the limit to .08 **did affect drivers at .15+ BACs**)

[Sources: Wagenaar et al, 2007; Hingson et al, 1996, 2000]

Summary

.05% BAC law is simply the right thing to do

- it is backed by good science, the majority of Americans support it, and it has been proven around the world to save lives.
- this law does not necessarily increase arrests.
- it does deter impaired drivers *before* they get behind the wheel and is most effective when combined with high visibility enforcement and education.
- The idea that innocent social drinkers will be victimized is unsupported. A .05% BAC law does not discourage alcohol consumption. It does deter deadly drinking and driving. – it is true, life-saving, primary prevention.

www.05saveslives.org

Tom Louizou

tlouizou@gmail.com

Vision Zero Council— Legislative Update

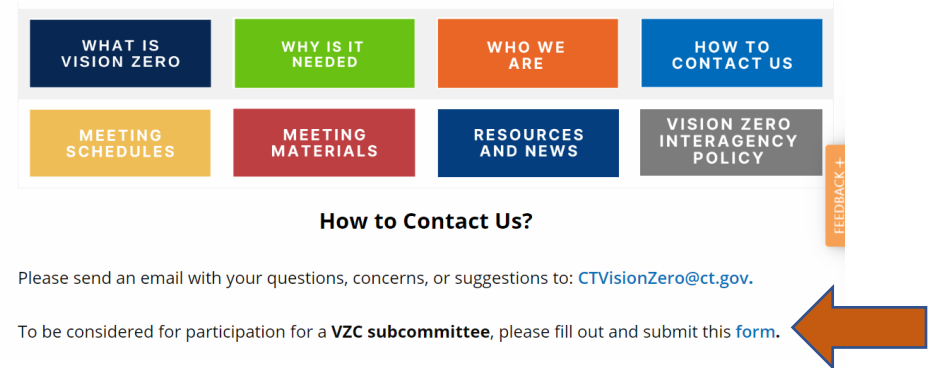
- HB 5917 – An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Vision Zero Council
- HB 6746 – An Act Concerning Wrong-Way Driving Detection and Prevention
- Council member updates – respective agencies

Vision Zero Council – Sub-Committee Guidance

- **Vision Zero Council Subcommittees:**
- Engineering
 - This subcommittee will focus on ways in which traffic safety improvements can be attained through changes to transportation systems. For example, adoption of a “Safe Systems” approach to roadway design projects.
- Enforcement
 - This subcommittee will focus on how traffic safety laws and their enforcement impact the safety of all road users.
- Education
 - This subcommittee will focus on how educational campaigns targeted at specific groups of road users can improve traffic safety.
- Equity
 - This subcommittee will focus on identifying equitable policy initiatives that keep participating agencies working in concert to focus traffic safety efforts.

Vision Zero Council – Sub-Committee Guidance

- General Discussion
- Sub-Committee Activities – 2023
 - Sub-Committee Membership and Leadership Roles
 - Membership Poll posted to [VZC Website](#)



- Sub-Committee Activities Prior to Next VZC Meeting
- Sub-Committee Activities Following Next VZC Meeting

Vision Zero Council – Administrative Items



Next Meeting(s)

June 6, 2023 10:00AM – 12:00PM

September 19, 2023 10:00AM – 12:00PM

December 5, 2023 10:00AM – 12:00PM



Other Administrative items:

Legislative Tracking

Potential topics of discussion for meetings in 2023

Vision Zero Council – Public Comment

Please raise hand or use Q&A
box

Due to FOIA and public access laws, please refrain from using the Chat feature for anything other than our ability to coordinate/help speakers who need assistance using zoom.