

## Medical Conditions & Driver Safety

Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles



Concerned about a family member or friend who may be unsafe to drive because of a medical condition?

Know anyone who is taking medications that affect their ability to drive safely?

Observed anyone you know driving poorly or recklessly as a result of a possible medical issue?

Noticed any dings, dents, or scratches on a loved one's car and suspect a medical condition may have contributed to the damages?

Know someone who acts confused or gets lost while driving in familiar areas and think there may be a possible medical cause for this behavior?

- According to a 2011 study by the National Institutes of Health, several chronic medical conditions may increase the risk of a driver being involved in a traffic accident.
- These conditions include alcoholism, cardiovascular disease, epilepsy, diabetes, dementia and mental illnesses.
- It's possible that medical disabilities may be a factor in up to 10 percent of all traffic accidents in the U.S.
- In addition to illegal drugs, the use of some medications may cause driving impairment.

## **How to Report an Unsafe Driver**

Anyone can report a driver who may be unsafe to operate a motor vehicle as a result of a medical condition. The report is **kept strictly confidential under Florida Law.** To get a Medical Reporting Form, go to <a href="http://www.flhsmv.gov/forms/72190.pdf">http://www.flhsmv.gov/forms/72190.pdf</a>, call 850-617-3814 or email medical@flhsmv. gov.

Reporting a medically unsafe driver may be difficult, especially if the driver is a loved one. However, removing unsafe drivers from the road is often necessary for their safety as well as the welfare of others. Your actions may prevent a motor vehicle crash and save lives. Remember, reporting an unsafe driver is confidential. Your identity is protected under Florida law.

## Florida's Medical Review Process

After receiving the Medical Reporting Form, the Department conducts an investigation to ensure there is cause to initiate a review of the driver.

- If cause is shown, the driver is advised they are under medical review and are asked to provide medical information from their physician to the Department.
- Once received, the information is provided to the Department's Medical Advisory Board.
- After review, the Medical Advisory Board provides a recommendation regarding the individual's ability to drive.
- This recommendation may be to:
  - · Require additional information from the driver;
  - · Require the driver to re-take the driving test; or
  - Revoke/deny a license.
- If a license is denied/revoked, the driver may request an administrative hearing to appeal the decision.

For more information, including resources for alternative transportation, please visit www.flhsmv.gov or call 850-617-3814.







