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SUBLETTE COUNTY TRAFFIC POLICY

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The Sublette County Attorney's Office recognizes the importance of enforcing traffic laws to the overall safety of the local community and all those who drive within Sublette County. Sublette County is situated in a rural, high-altitude area with a variety of unique safety considerations for drivers (i.e., ice, snow, high winds, winding mountain roads, and wildlife). In 2021, the Wyoming Department of Transportation estimated that there were over 13,000 state-wide crashes, with 268 crashes (including 4 fatal crashes) in Sublette County.

To protect the safety of the community, the position of the Sublette County Attorney's Office is to treat traffic citations with the utmost seriousness. Accordingly, the Office prosecutes all traffic citations to resolution or to bench trial (unless otherwise required by law).

"Resolution" generally means conviction and payment of appropriate fines. Sublette County; however, has two traffic diversion programs: Alive at 25 and an online traffic school through DrivingBasics.com. Completion of either program would result in a dismissal, and these are extremely limited opportunities. PLEASE NOTE: resolution through traffic diversion is solely at the discretion of the Sublette County Attorney's Office.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOUR TICKET DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA FOR EITHER PROGRAM, THEN YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR DIVERSION.

ONLINE TRAFFIC SCHOOL

Sublette County offers an online traffic school through www.drivingbasics.com. Please note that taking the course will not qualify you for dismissal unless you are approved to take the course beforehand by this office. Application processing time can take up to 14 business days. The Course costs \$135 (which is paid in lieu of a fine). The Office will not accept any traffic school certificates from any other programs.

To qualify for online traffic school, you must meet **all** of the requirements listed below:

- 1) The following offenses are eligible for online traffic school:
 - *Violation of W.S. § 31-5-301*: Speeding, up to 11 mph over the posted speed limit. Offenses that occur in a construction or school zone do not quality.
 - *Violation of W.S. § 31-5-222*: Stop sign and yield sign violations.
 - Violation of W.S. § 31-5-202: Improper passing.
 - Violation of W.S. § 31-5-203: Improper overtaking on the left.
 - *Violation of W.S. § 31-5-217:* Failure to use turn signal.
 - Violation of W.S. § 31-5-226 Improper Backing.
 - *Violation of W.S. § 31-5-304:* Driving too slowly (if minimum speed).
 - *Violation of W.S. § 31-5-208:* Failure to obey one-way traffic signal.
 - Violation of W.S. § 31-5-910: No Headlights.
- 2) There must be no crash involved.
- 3) You must have no history of traffic violations within the previous three (3) years.
- 4) You must not have a Commercial Driver's License.

Please note that online traffic school is only an option on one citation (for example, if you received two citations in same stop, online traffic school would only be an option for one of the two citations).

ALIVE AT 25

Sublette County recognizes that studies show that young drivers are particularly at risk for being involved in a fatal crash. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, for example, found that young drivers accounted for 8.5 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2020, even though such drivers accounted for only 5.1 percent of all licensed drivers. To better protect the community, Sublette County offers a traffic school program for young drivers (ages 15-24) known as Alive at 25. Alive at 25 is an in-person driver's awareness course that is approximately 4 and ½ hours long and is provided by the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

To qualify for the Alive at 25 program, you must meet **all** of the requirements listed below:

- 1) You must be charged with a traffic offense.
- 2) There must be no crash involved.
- 3) You must have no history of traffic violations.
- 4) You must not have a Commercial Driver's License.

Clayton M. Melinkovich

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