

AREAS OF PRACTICE

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June 13, 2010

Maryland DUI Arrest: Attorney General's Aide Faces Charges

Carl Snowden, the director of the Office of Civil Rights for the Maryland attorney general's office, was arrested and charged with DUI and other traffic offenses, including driving while impaired by alcohol, negligent driving, failure to obey traffic control devices, and failure to obey designated land directions. This is the third time since 2002 that Snowden finds himself needing the services of a [Maryland DUI lawyer](#).

In 2002, Snowden was charged with DUI and convicted of the lesser charge of driving while impaired and related offenses. He was sentenced to a year's probation and received a \$250 fine. He refused a breathalyzer test during that arrest, and his license was temporarily suspended. In 2005, he was again arrested and charged with driving under the influence and negligent driving. In his most recent incident on June 8, 2010, Snowden was arrested and charged with DUI after an officer noticed him driving erratically.

The arresting officer reported that he noticed Snowden's vehicle veering across the center line and straddling the shoulder several times shortly before 1:30 a.m. When the officer pulled Snowden over, he claims he detected the odor of alcohol. Snowden explained that he had only had one drink. The officer had Snowden perform three field sobriety tests and then arrested Snowden on suspicion of DUI. At the police station, a breathalyzer test showed his BAC to be .09, slightly above the legal limit of .08 for DUI and .07 for DWI.

Snowden is not the only public official to recently seek counsel from a [Maryland DUI attorney](#) after repeated DUI charges. David A. Jacobs, a lobbyist who has represented the Prince George's County Council and Sheriff's Department, was released in November of 2009 after serving 36 days in jail as required under the terms of his sentence for his seventh DUI conviction. In the accident which led to the conviction, Jacob's BAC was twice the legal limit for DUI, registering at .17.

After Jacobs' most recent DUI conviction, he received a sentence of 28 days in an inpatient alcohol treatment program. [Maryland DUI lawyers](#) know that repeated DUI arrests and convictions are may be an indication of alcoholism for which treatment, rather than jail time, is often the more suitable solution.