



**MINNESOTA
JUDICIAL BRANCH**
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Ignition Interlock Update August 2014

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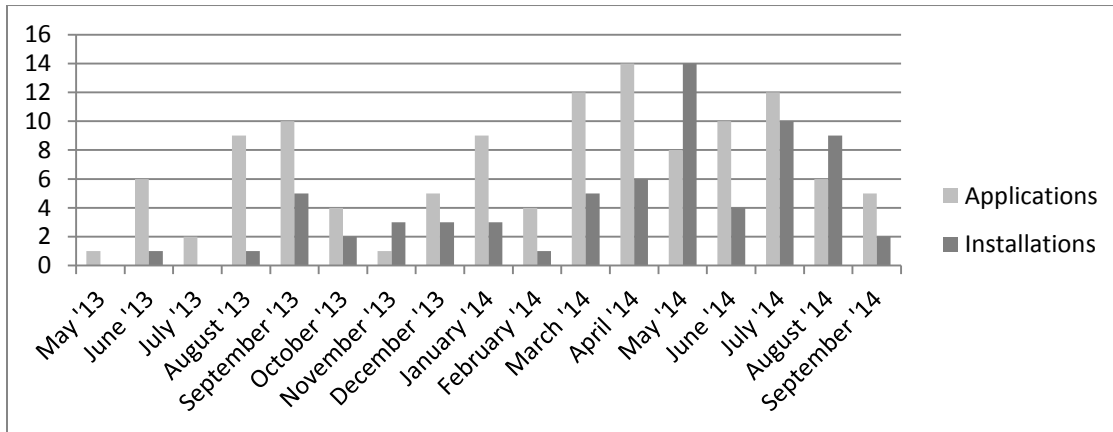
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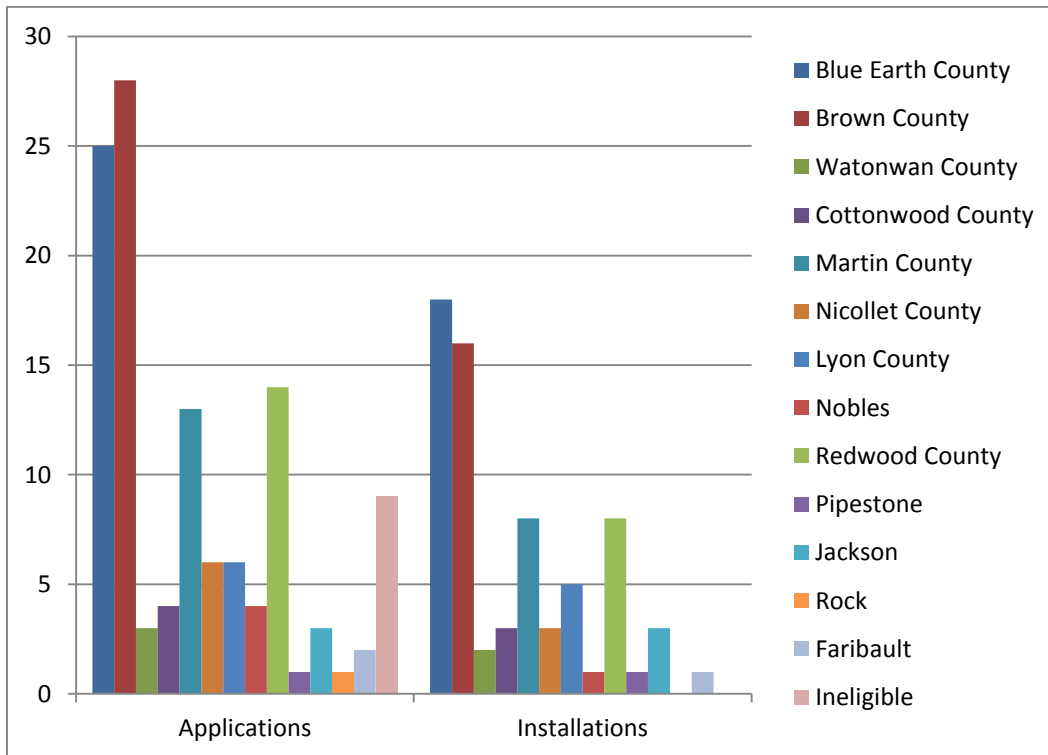
Fifth Judicial District Ignition Interlock Program Statistics

Our program reached a total of 106 applications and 57 installations. Court-ordered referrals are coming in from Brown, Faribault and Martin Counties. Voluntary applications for the program are coming in from across the Fifth District, through Brown and Blue Earth Counties have continued to have the highest participation in the program.

Applications & Installations by Month



Applications & Installs by County



Impaired Driving Risk Assessment: A Primer for Practitioners

There is increasing recognition of the importance and benefits of tools such as risk assessment and treatment as alternatives to complement punitive measures. Research shows that properly designed strategies and tools developed to match offenders' risks and needs with appropriate programs and interventions have beneficial effects (Bonta 2002; NIDA 2006; Oglaff and Davis 2004), including reductions in recidivism as well as reductions in substance misuse that translate into long-term risk reduction and higher levels of public safety. The use of evidence-informed risk assessment tools and practices is linchpin to making the best use of available resources to achieve greater declines in the magnitude of the problem.

The use of risk assessment instruments has become commonplace to help practitioners in the criminal justice and remedial driver licensing systems to differentiate among various types of impaired drivers, especially those more prone to recidivism. However, to use these tools effectively, it is important that practitioners possess a clear understanding about the most effective ways to apply risk assessment instruments to better manage impaired drivers and to direct them towards appropriate treatment interventions that are built upon best practices.

[Click here for more information, including the typical profiles and characteristics of impaired drivers, differences between men and women, risk assessment instruments and treatment interventions.](#)

New Alcohol Monitoring Option on Intoxalock's Ignition Interlock Device

Ensure your alcohol offenders are staying sober when they are not using their vehicle by using Intoxalock's new add-on for the ignition interlock device. Intoxalock's eLERT 24 allows probation agents to arrange up to three testing windows throughout the day. Offenders would be required to blow into the device during three preset windows, regardless of whether or not they are driving the car. The standard windows are 5 – 8 am, 5 – 8 pm and 10 pm – 12 am. These windows can be shortened and adjusted based on what a probation agent feels is most appropriate for assuring the offender's sobriety.

The cost for this add-on is \$20 per month. The software on the ignition interlock device can be updated remotely so no appointment is required to arrange the testing.

Any positive or missed test results in immediate notification to our program staff. Photos are reviewed just like all other photos on the device. Faribault, Martin & Jackson County's Drug Court and the Fifth District's Veterans Court are already using eLERT 24 and Brown County probation will be soon as well.

Traffic deaths in Minnesota surpass 200 for the year

[August 18, 2014 by Melanie Sommer](#)

After a rash of fatal accidents recently, the number of traffic deaths in Minnesota has surpassed 200 so far in 2014, according to the [Minnesota Department of Public Safety](#).

This year's tally is 204, after the deaths of two motorcyclists within the past week. However, the number is below the tally at the same time last year of 220 deaths.

The most recent fatality was a woman who crashed her motorcycle while driving on Hwy. 52 at 55th St. NW in Rochester Sunday evening. The Minnesota State Patrol says Laurie Snyder, 58, of Rochester, was on an evening cycle ride with two friends when she "lost consciousness and control of the bike" and crashed, the [Star Tribune](#) reports.

Snyder was wearing a helmet, and there was no evidence that she had used alcohol. State Patrol spokesman Lt. Eric Roeske said Snyder's autopsy will pinpoint the cause of her death.

Another motorcyclist was killed in an accident in Wright County last week. Robert Brau, 21, of Willmar, died Thursday morning when the motorcycle he was driving collided head-on with a car being driven by a 17-year-old girl on U.S. Highway 12 near Montrose, according to the [North Wright County Today](#).

Of the 204 traffic deaths so far this year, 31 were motorcycle fatalities. Last year at this time, 44 motorcycle deaths had occurred, according to the DPS.

In western Wisconsin, three people were killed in a head-on crash in Trempealeau County Monday morning, the [Winona Daily News](#) reports.

A minivan driving west on Hwy. 95 about 7:35 a.m. crossed the center line and struck an SUV driving east, according to Trempealeau County Sheriff Richard Anderson.

Both drivers were killed, as well as a passenger in the minivan who was sitting in a rear seat. Two others in the minivan were injured and were taken to area hospitals, according to the Daily News.

The most common factors for traffic crashes are speeding and distracted driving. But the main cause of fatal crashes is alcohol. Drunk driving is responsible for one out of every five traffic fatalities, according to the DPS.

Law enforcement agencies throughout Minnesota are participating in an enhanced enforcement campaign to crack down on drunk drivers from now through Labor Day, Sept. 1.
