



**Robin M. Stimson**  
**Manager of Victim Services**  
**Mothers Against Drunk Driving**  
**Testimony in Support of HB 749**  
**House Judicial Proceedings Committee**  
**February 24, 2021**

- Thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee for allowing me to testify in support of House Bill 749. My name is Robin Stimson, Manager of Victim Services, with Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). MADD thanks you, Delegate Atterbary for sponsoring this lifesaving legislation.
- You'll likely hear many stats and numbers during this and other hearings today. It is my hope after this testimony that you remember just three (3) numbers. 100 and zero and 1. 100 because the crime of drunk driving is 100 percent preventable and 0 because the only number that matters at MADD is zero. Zero deaths. Zero injuries. Zero families impacted by impaired driving crashes. Lastly the number 1, because one more victim is too many.
- My role as a proponent for victim rights has provided me the honor of supporting the survivors and families that have been injured or lost a loved one as the result of these horrific crimes. They may come from different backgrounds and stations in life, but they all have one thing in common – **none** of them ever want another person to suffer the pain and loss they have as a result of another's poor choices. It has been my privilege to advocate for them and walk with them on their path toward healing. That includes my presence here today. Ignition Interlock devices are life-saving. They address the 100, 0 and 1 numbers I just mentioned.
- In 2016, the Drunk Driving Reduction Act, also known as 'Noah's Law,' made Maryland one of 34 states (plus the District of Columbia) to have in-place an all-offender ignition interlock law.
- A Probation Before Judgement (PBJ) allows drunk drivers for a second chance; an important chance at redemption. However, PBJs alone do not always change behavior and reduce impaired driving.
- The interlock allows offenders to remain a part of society and to continue to provide for their families by driving to the grocery store, doctor's appointments or anywhere else. It's a benefit for the offender, as well as for the community-at-large.
- States with mandatory interlock laws saw a .8 decrease in deaths for every 100,000 people each year – which is comparable to lives shown to have been saved from mandatory airbag laws.



- In 2019, 167 people died in drunk driving crashes across the state, which represents 32 percent of all traffic deaths. Increasing the use of interlocks is proven to reduce drunk driving. **Over the past 13 years, ignition interlocks have prevented at least 67,197 attempts to drive drunk in Maryland. Can you imagine how many more attempts to drive drunk will be stopped by enacting this proposal?**
- Maryland already sets mandatory conditions for PBJ's, but fails to include the use of an interlock for every participant. At least eight states require interlocks for PBJ's. The passage of HB 749 would continue to solidify Maryland as a leader in this arena.
- MADD firmly believes that PBJ's allows too many drunk drivers to avoid an interlock and, as a result, avoid to learn how to drive sober.
- Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, please pass this legislation to give your constituents and victims a future of No More Victims © and drunk drivers a true second chance.
- Thank you.

MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

# VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

ONE IS TOO MANY



MADD National President,  
Alex Otte  
Injured due to impaired  
boating crash  
in 2010



Jami Leigh Smith  
Killed by a drunk driver  
in 1987



Darius Brown (far right)  
Killed by a drunk driver  
in 2004  
(The entire Brown Family was  
injured in the same crash)



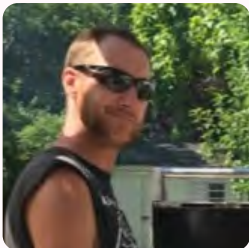
Rory Weichbrod (far left)  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2010



Matthew Murphy  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2018



The Kalnasy Family  
(from left; Katie, Chris and Angie)  
Severely Injured Due to an Drunk  
and Drugged Driver  
in 2016



Joey Meiklejohn  
Killed by a Drugged Driver  
in 2017



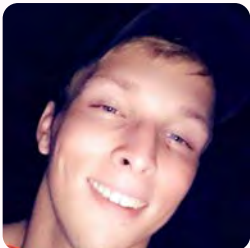
Sgt. Mark F. Parry  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
2002



Raymond Quartuci  
Killed by a Drugged Driver  
in 2018



Karen Joyce Davis  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2000



Allen Welch  
Killed by a Drunk and Drugged  
Driver  
in 2019



Raymond McCarter, Jr.  
Killed by an Impaired Driver  
in 2019



Glencia Cain  
Killed by a Drunk Driver in  
1979



Jhoanna Nicole Caballero  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2018



Natasha Hudson  
Killed by a Drunk Driver in  
2018



Taylor Halbleib  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2017



Ethan Ruefly (center)  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2018



Kayla and Daniel Amos  
Killed by a Drugged Driver  
in 2016



Marc Alexander, Sr.  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2020



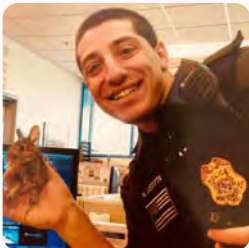
Jon Bos  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2020



Christian Guerreiro (center)  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2018



The Mejia Family  
Twins Alexander Mejia and  
Rosalie Mejia, and Isaac Mejia  
Killed in 2018  
(Parents Alexis and Juanita  
survived, but were injured in  
the same crash)



Officer Noah Leotta  
Killed by a Drunk Driver  
in 2015