

My name is Shirelle Green. I am here as Matéo Green's mother, and as someone whose life was forever changed by the loss of my child. This heartbreak drives me to advocate for justice and safer roads for all families.

On April 6, 2024, Matéo was one of three passengers in a single car crash. The driver, an acquaintance, had a blood alcohol level twice the legal limit. Because of his injuries, my son was pronounced brain dead on April 7, just two weeks after his 23rd birthday.

As a result of current statutes that allow testing to be performed at the discretion of first responders, no sobriety test was given at the scene. This delay in collecting evidence denied our family the timely justice we needed. Almost a year later, the driver accepted a plea and received only 18 months in jail, of a possible 10-year sentence. This outcome made me feel like my son didn't matter to the justice system. As I talk to others who have experienced this tragedy, they feel the same way.

Matéo's Law would require **mandatory** on-the-scene impairment testing for any driver involved in a crash resulting in death or serious injury. Removing the need to depend on the discretion of an Officer or EMT alone. This bill ensures timely evidence collection, accountability, and fairness for victims and drivers alike.

From 2019 to 2023, Maryland averaged 142 impaired driver fatal crashes each year. These are not just numbers; they are sons, daughters, parents, and friends. When the 2024 statistics are released, my son will be included in those. Passing Matéo's Law is a necessary step to prevent future losses and restore public trust in our justice system.

Often when I share our story people will say, "I can't imagine what your family is going through" ... but I ask that as you consider you vote for this Bill that you try... try to imagine what we are experiencing losing our son, brother, grandson and nephew to this preventable crime; consider how you would vote for this Bill if this tragedy were to strike your family.

I urge you to support Matéo's Law to close gaps, strengthen trust, and protect families across Maryland. No other family should endure delayed justice or the preventable loss of a loved one. Thank you for your time and consideration.