

Illinois Impaired Driving Task Force Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 17, 2026
Approval: Approved
Recorded By: Shannon Alderman
Date: Friday, April 17, 2026
Time: 9:00 AM - 10:19 AM
Location: Virtual & In-person

Attendees:

Chair: Nancy Easum

Shannon Alderman, Rita Kreslin, Melissa Gonzalez, Brenda Glahn, Steven Potete (Will County Sheriff's Police), Jennifer Cifaldi, Joseph Wagner, Vince Warren, Desiree Sierens, Hon. Mark Shaner (Ret.), Rich Krajewski (DuPage County), Kaci Wray (NHTSA), Andrea Winner

Call to Order:

The meeting was opened and participants were welcomed. The March 6, 2026 meeting minutes were approved by motion of Rita Kreslin and unanimous voice vote.

Introductions:

Members and guests introduced themselves and their roles. Nancy Easum welcomed Steven Potete of the Will County Sheriff's Police as a new participant and Rita Kreslin offered to send membership materials for anyone interested in joining the task force.

Presentation/Discussion:

Brenda Glahn delivered a "Legislation 101" presentation on the Illinois legislative process. She reviewed how to use the Illinois General Assembly website to identify and track bills, locate the correct statutory language, draft strike-and-insert proposals, include effective dates, and monitor committee schedules and deadlines. She also explained sponsor selection, the importance of concise fact sheets, filing witness slips, committee and floor action, amendments, and the governor's options after passage. Brenda then demonstrated how to use the ILGA website to review bill history, sponsors, committee assignments, schedules, and live or archived proceedings.

Rita Kreslin thanked Brenda for the presentation and said AAIM's legislative committee and several board members are reviewing the task force's previously developed legislative concepts so they can be packaged more effectively and pursued more strategically in future sessions. Rita also requested a copy of Brenda's PowerPoint for reference.

Members discussed House Bill 4333, which would lower the per se BAC limit from 0.08 to 0.05. Brenda Glahn and Rita Kreslin reported that the bill was moved out of Rules and assigned to a substantive committee, but it was not heard before the committee deadline.

and is effectively stalled for the session unless attached to another legislative vehicle. Members discussed the lengthy history behind adoption of the 0.08 standard in Illinois and agreed that any future effort to move to 0.05 would require substantial education of legislators and the public about impairment at lower BAC levels. Rita offered to share supporting research with the group.

Rich Krajewski raised broader concerns about repeat DUI offenders, refusal issues, and the frequency with which some DUI cases are reduced or dismissed. Jennifer Cifaldi responded that Illinois law is comparatively strong, but enforcement outcomes are often undermined by plea practices, rescission of statutory summary suspensions, and inconsistent judicial and prosecutorial handling of DUI cases. Members discussed the need for stronger and more consistent DUI-related training for prosecutors and judges, including victim-centered education, and Steve Potete described similar concerns in Will County along with positive experience inviting younger prosecutors to sit through DUI training presented by law enforcement.

Jennifer Cifaldi also promoted a free June 24, 2026 regional traffic safety training in O'Fallon through SILEC for southern and central Illinois stakeholders, noting that some outreach to state's attorneys had received little response. Desiree Sierens suggested contacting elected state's attorneys directly and agreed to help provide contact information. During the same discussion, Brenda Glahn noted that legislation to criminalize refusal would likely be viewed as a penalty enhancement and would be difficult to pass in the current environment.

Other Business:

Nancy Easum reminded members that at the next full task force meeting on Friday, May 29, 2026, each program subcommittee should report one or two priority items it would like to move forward under the strategic plan. Rich Krajewski cautioned members to make sure they are working from the June 2023 updated version of the strategic plan, and Rita Kreslin agreed to resend the current plan, contact list, and updated subcommittee materials to the group.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:19 AM by voice vote.

Next Meeting: Friday, May 29, 2026 - 9:00 AM Location: Virtual & In-person