

The Role Of Toxicology To Tackle Drug Impaired Driving

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Moderator: **Elise Simonsen**, Policy Analyst, NGA Homeland Security and
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The Orange County Model: Testing, Training, Research, & Collaboration

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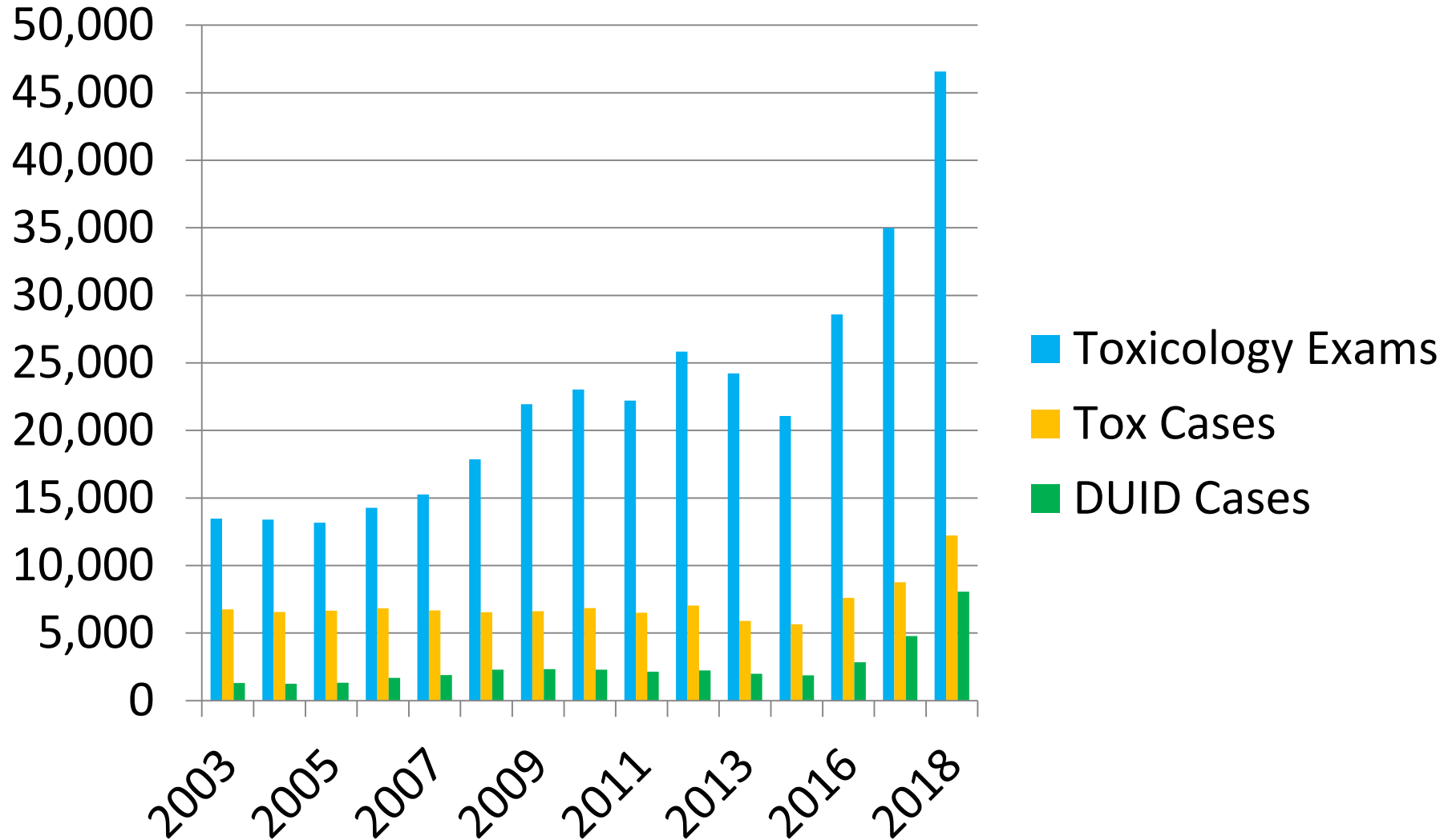


The Orange County Model





The Orange County Model





How does the OCCL process a DUID case?

- All blood cases with driving violations are tested for ethanol and other volatiles.
- All blood cases are screened for 300+ drugs.
- All positive screens are confirmed automatically.
- All drug requests are conducted if reasonable and sufficient sample volume is provided; not already included in screen.
- All **DRE** samples are comprehensively tested including all requests regardless of charge.

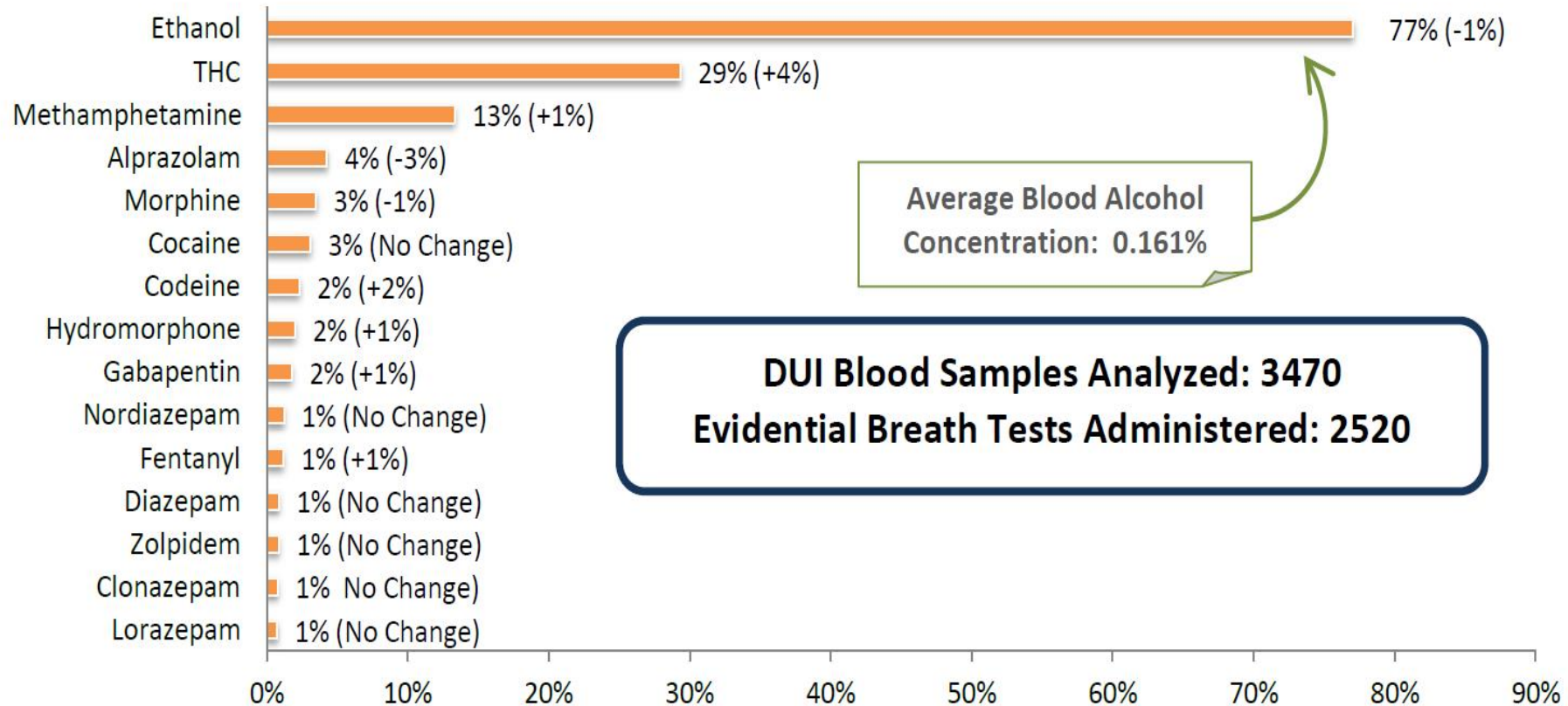


OCCL DUI Trends 2018

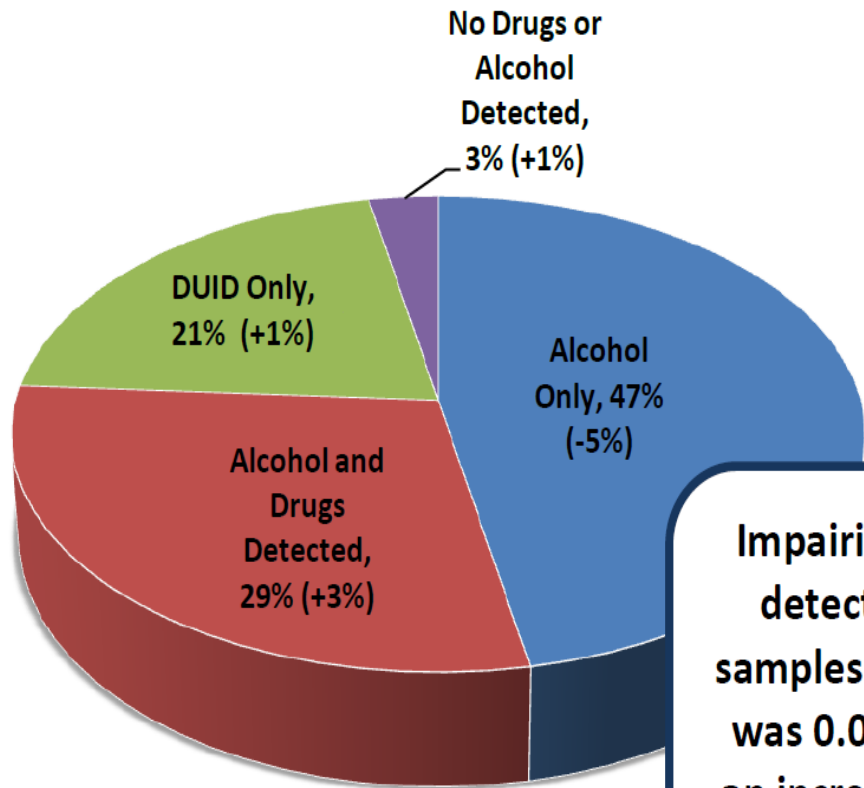
Samples Analyzed from August – December 2018

Top 15 Drugs Detected

The numbers in parentheses indicate the 1 year change

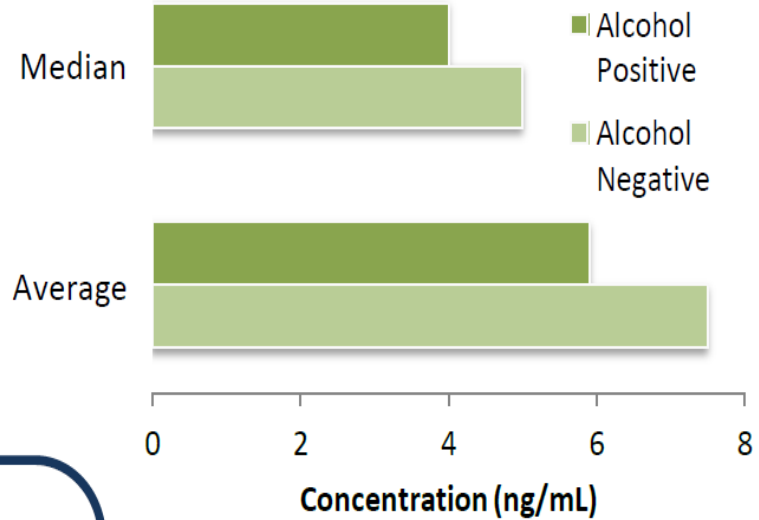


DUI/DUID

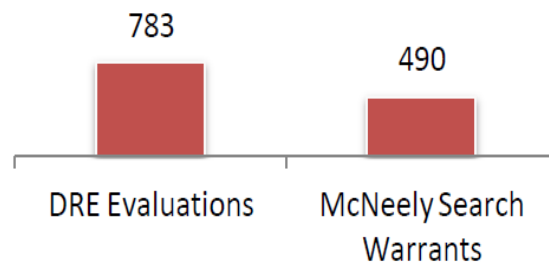


Impairing drugs were detected in 36% of samples where the BAC was 0.08% or greater, an increase of 5% from the previous year.

THC



DRE and McNeely





Fatally-Injured Drivers

Year	Case Count	THC	Cannabis Use	THC Only	Ethanol	At least one drug
2016 operators tested (81%)	101	21%	23%	5%	29%	50%
2017 operators tested (80%)	118	17%	18%	9%	32%	56%
2018 operators tested (76%)	99	25%	28%	11%	36%	62%

Amy Miles
Director of Forensic Toxicology
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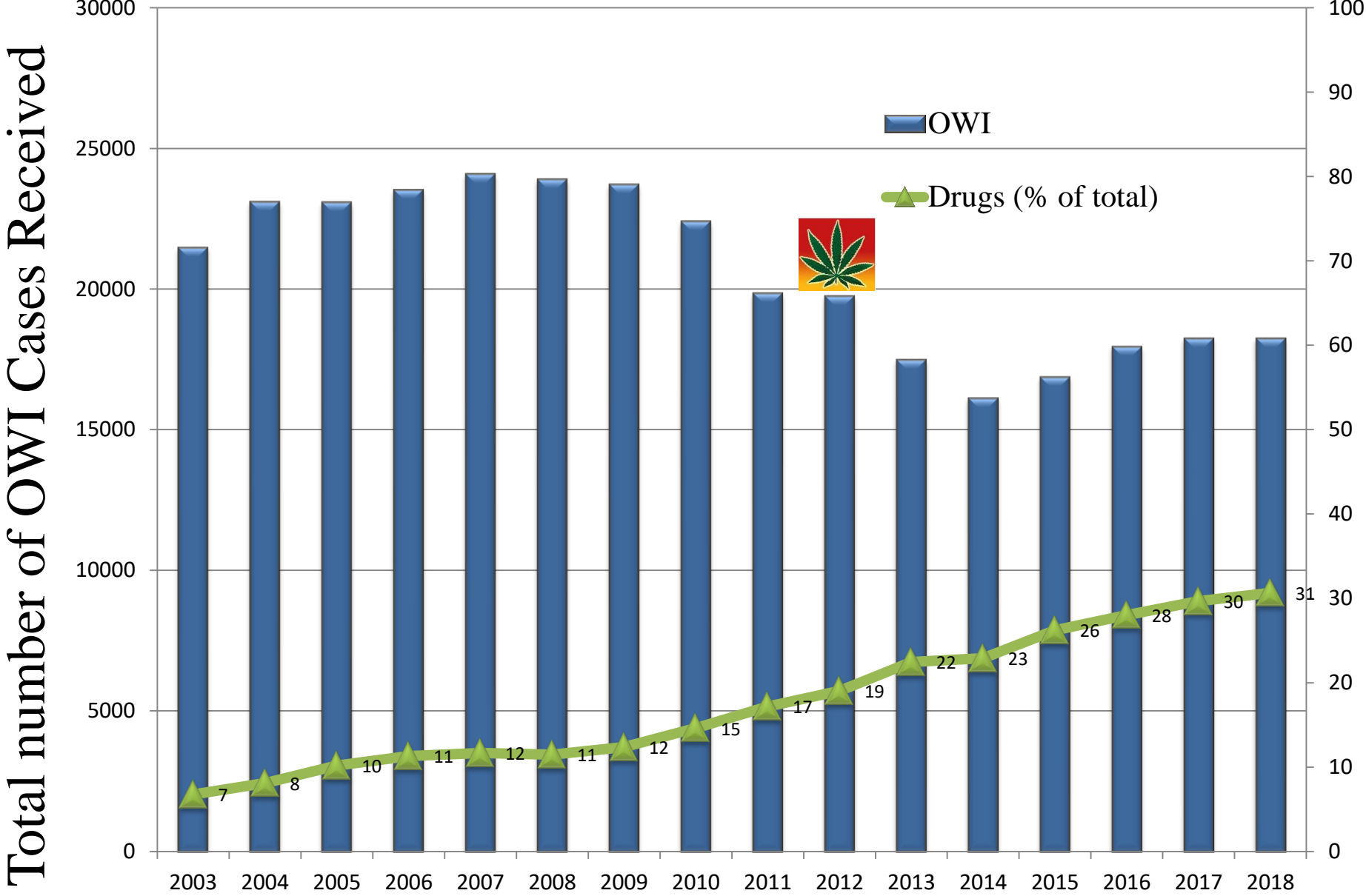
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WSLH Forensic Toxicology Team

- 3 Supervisors
- 5 Support Staff
- 13 Chemists

- Law enforcement samples (~18,000 cases/yr)
- Death investigation cases (~2,700 cases/yr)
- Testify in court all over the state
- Provide training in WI and across the country

WSLH Toxicology Workload: 2003-2018



Year

Policies For Alcohol and Drug Testing

- Limit testing based on BAC
 - Common amongst other forensic laboratories doing DUID casework
- Limit testing based on Scheduled drugs
 - Each state is different, if policy exists, based on statute
- Resource coupled with technology limitations may drive testing decisions.

Forensic Toxicology in a Public Health Lab

State/Local
Health Dept

CDC

Highway
Safety

Chemical
Emergency
Response

Assoc of
Public Health
Labs
(APHL)

Investigation

blood

Oral Fluid

forensic

Driving

poison

impairment

legal

Investigations

Death

toxicology

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