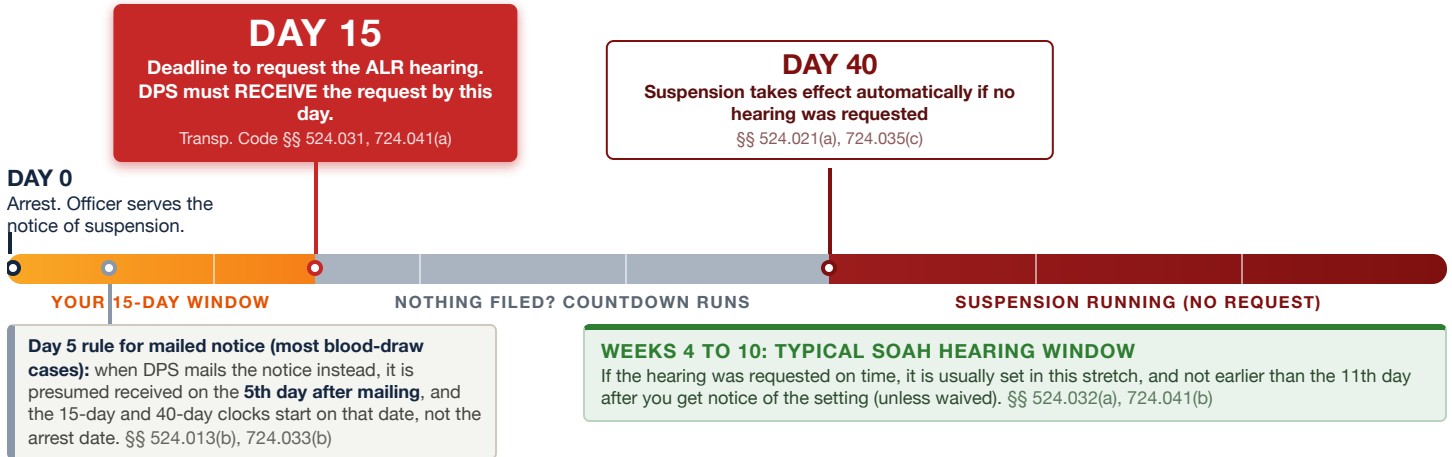


The Texas 15-Day / 40-Day ALR Timeline

Every Texas DWI arrest opens a second, civil case against your driver's license. **You have 15 days to demand a hearing.** Do nothing, and the suspension starts automatically on Day 40.

ALR = Administrative License Revocation (DPS, decided at the State Office of Administrative Hearings) Scale: days after notice of suspension is received or presumed received



REQUEST THE HEARING BY DAY 15

- ✓ **The suspension stops.** It does not begin on Day 40. It is stayed until the judge's final decision. §§ 524.032(d), 724.041(c)
- ✓ **DPS carries the burden.** It must prove the stop, the arrest, and the failure or refusal. Fall short on any element and the license is reinstated. §§ 524.035, 724.042, 724.043(b)
- ✓ **Free discovery for the DWI case.** The hearing can put the arresting officer under oath months before trial.

LET DAY 15 PASS WITH NO REQUEST

- ✗ **The hearing right is gone.** The suspension takes effect automatically on Day 40 and may not be probated. §§ 524.021, 724.035(c), 724.045
- ✗ **Full suspension runs:** 90 days (failed test) or 180 days (refusal) on a first offense; longer with priors. See below.
- ✗ **Fallback only:** an occupational (essential need) license may allow limited driving for work, school, and household duties.

HOW LONG THE ALR SUSPENSION LASTS (ADULT DRIVERS)

ALR CASE TYPE	FIRST OFFENSE	PRIOR CONTACT WITHIN 10 YEARS
Failed the test Breath or blood at 0.08 or more · Transp. Code § 524.022(a)	90 days no alcohol or drug enforcement contact in the prior 10 years	1 year one or more alcohol or drug related enforcement contacts
Refused the test Refusal to give breath or blood · Transp. Code § 724.035(a), (b)	180 days refusal alone doubles the first-offense suspension	2 years one or more alcohol or drug related enforcement contacts

How to read this chart. The ALR case is civil and runs on its own track, separate from the criminal DWI charge, although an acquittal of the criminal charge requires DPS to rescind the ALR suspension (§§ 524.015(b), 724.048(c)). The hearing request must be in writing (fax or another manner DPS prescribes) and must reach DPS headquarters in Austin by Day 15 (§§ 524.031, 724.041(a)). The weeks 4 to 10 hearing window reflects typical SOAH practice, not a statutory guarantee. Minors face different suspension periods (60, 120, or 180 days, § 524.022(b)). Before any suspension takes effect, and while a timely-requested hearing is pending, an otherwise valid license remains valid. Timelines assume a first ALR event; every deadline above is verified against the current Transportation Code, Chapters 524 and 724.