



The Road to Redemption: North Carolina License Restoration

Freedom Requires Focus. Victory Favors the Prepared.

Why License Restoration Matters

A suspended license doesn't just stop your movement — it stops your momentum. In North Carolina, hundreds of thousands of people are sidelined by suspensions caused by administrative barriers, not dangerous driving. At Stowe Law Firm, we help people break that cycle. Restoration is about mobility, stability, and dignity — and we guide every step with precision and purpose.

Know the Type of Suspension You're Facing

Type	Meaning	Typical Causes
Indefinite Suspension	No set end date. License remains suspended until you act.	Failure to appear, failure to pay fines, lapse in insurance.
Term Suspension	Fixed suspension period — 30 days, 6 months, or longer.	Points accumulation, serious traffic offenses, DWI.
Permanent Revocation	Lifetime loss of driving privileges, sometimes restorable through DMV hearing or petition.	Multiple DWIs, habitual revocations, or felony driving offenses.

Common Scenarios and Strategic Fixes

- Failure to Appear (FTA): You must resolve your case and pay a \$200 FTA fee before reinstatement is possible.
- Failure to Pay Court Costs: File a Motion to Remit or Modify Fines and Fees (Form AOC-CR-415) to reduce or forgive debt.
- Insurance Lapse or Accident Suspension: Submit proof of insurance (DL-123) or show two years have passed since the incident without legal action.

The License Restoration Roadmap

- Request your Complete Certified DMV Record
- Identify and resolve the cause of your suspension
- Pay any required court, FTA, or DMV fees

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- Complete any required assessments or classes
- File your DL-123 insurance verification
- Prepare for your DMV hearing (if required)
- Reinstate your driving privileges
- Stay compliant — protect your progress

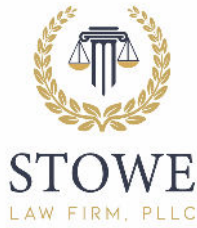
Quick Reference: Common Fees and Forms

Item	Description	Cost	Where to Pay/File
Civil Revocation Fee	Required after DWI arrest before driving privilege	\$100	Clerk of Court in charging county
Failure to Appear Fee	Added if you miss court and case isn't resolved	\$200	Clerk of Court where the case originated
Restoration Fee (DMV)	General reinstatement cost once suspension ends	\$65	NC DMV
DL-123 Form	Proof of liability insurance coverage	N/A	Issued by insurance company
DWI Substance Abuse Assessment	Required for DWI-related suspensions	\$100	Licensed NC provider

Fillable Client Checklist

Task	Completed?
Requested complete driving record from DMV	☐
Identified cause of suspension	☐
Paid civil revocation and court fees	☐
Completed assessment or treatment	☐

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- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Filed proof of insurance (DL-123) | ☐ |
| Confirmed compliance with all requirements | ☐ |
| Requested DMV hearing if necessary | ☐ |
| Confirmed restoration eligibility date | ☐ |

DMV Hearings: Where Preparation Wins

Restoration hearings are formal administrative proceedings. The hearing officer reviews your history, documents, and credibility. We prepare you for every question and ensure your record is accurate and complete.

Limited Driving Privileges

If you can't yet restore fully, you may qualify for limited privileges such as Pretrial, Post-Conviction, or Ignition Interlock privileges. We handle filings, drafts, and court coordination to ensure a quick and compliant process.

After Restoration

Once reinstated, your responsibility is to stay compliant: maintain active insurance, avoid new citations, and follow DMV reporting requirements. We perform periodic record checks to ensure your standing remains clear.

The Stowe Advantage

Our system for license restoration is tested and precise. We combine deep legal knowledge with strategic foresight to remove barriers and restore independence. At Stowe Law Firm, preparation isn't paperwork — it's power.

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