Background
• While there were a million DUI arrests in 2018, most people driving under the influence are never detected.
• Crime related costs of excessive drinking were over $70 billion in 2006.
• South Dakota allowed DUI offenders in five counties to test their blood alcohol content twice a day. Failure brought immediate certain punishment.

Study Overview
• This paper evaluates South Dakota’s 24/7 Sobriety Program—a novel, large-scale intervention requiring those arrested for or convicted of an alcohol-related offense to abstain from alcohol and submit to alcohol tests multiple times daily.

Key Takeaways
• Multiple offenders in the 24/7 program were less likely to be arrested 12 months, 24 months, and 36 months later than those multiple offenders not in the program.
• The authors posit that only a third of offenders were enrolled in the program. They conclude full participation would lower the re-arrest rate by 36%
• Among offenders who had committed their third DUI, the percentage of reduction in re-arrest were greater: 52% reduction at 12 months; 38% reduction at 24 months; 33% reduction at 36 months.
• These findings provide empirical support for applying “swift-certain-fair” sanctions to deter noncompliance in community supervision settings.
• This paper also provides policymakers with evidence for a new approach to reduce criminal activity among those whose alcohol use leads them to repeatedly threaten public health and safety.

Learn More
• https://doi.org/10.1002/pam.22217