

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [RST](#)  
**Subject:** Road Safety Submission - drink driving and zero BAC  
**Date:** Friday, 20 August 2021 9:28:38 PM

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Mr Tim Mills

In response to Ms Armitage's article in The Examiner 19 August 2021 I would like to make this submission, a personal opinion I feel strongly about, which I think deserves consideration if we are serious about reducing road trauma.

One of the fatal five causes is drink/drug driving, often resulting in a completely innocent party being injured/killed. Because drink driving is known to be a common cause, there are rules for some classes of drivers to have a zero blood alcohol concentration (BAC). I think this rule should be extended to all drivers. Allowing 0.05 BAC is **encouraging** drink driving, but if we were serious, we would be **discouraging** drink driving. Many people are fined for drink driving, so we know the limit is not adhered to, and that individuals have differing tolerances, and hence some tragic consequences.

In Tasmania, zero BAC applies to:

- drivers of all public passenger vehicles (e.g. buses and taxis)
- drivers of vehicles exceeding 4.5 tonnes GVM
- unlicensed and learner drivers
- provisional licence holders
- people convicted of causing death driving a motor vehicle
- people with three or more drink-driving convictions in 10 years

If zero is best for these classes of drivers, it makes sense (to me) that it would be best for all drivers. Drink at your destination. Not "one for the road, I won't exceed 0.05".

James Talbot

See: <https://austroads.com.au/publications/assessing-fitness-to-drive/ap-g56/drivers-legal-bac-limits>