

Interview Guide for Suspended Licenses Project

Objective: The two primary objectives of this interview are to 1) elucidate and contextualize the process and experience of having a license suspended, and 2) qualitatively understand the impact of this life event, with a focus on economic, social, and health outcomes. This guide was developed based on individual stories posted to the Fines and Fees Justice Center webpage, Intersectionality, and the Theory of Planned Behavior/Theory of Reasoned Action.

Key Constructs:

- 1) License suspension (Why, Where, How long) as the event of interest
- 2) How having a license suspended has impacted the person's economic, social, and health outcomes.

These first questions are just so I get to know a little bit about you and the circumstances surrounding your suspended license.

1. How old are you?
2. What is your sex (what does it say on your birth certificate)?
3. What gender do you identify as?
4. What race or races best describe you? (Tell me all that you think apply)
5. Would you describe yourself as Hispanic or Latino/a?
6. Are you single, married, divorced, or widowed?
7. What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed?
8. Are you primarily responsible for the care of anyone? By this I mean are you the caretaker for children, parents, or other relatives or people? *If yes, what is the relation, what are their ages, do they have any chronic health problems or disabilities?*
9. Do you have a physical or other type of disability, or a chronic health problem? For example, diabetes, arthritis, lupus...)
10. How old were you when you first got your license?
11. Approximately how long ago was your license suspended?
_____ years/months/weeks/days
12. Why was your license suspended? *Create options list to check, with "other" fill-in option*
13. Who suspended your license? For example, a judge? The MVC?
14. How were you notified or told that your license had been suspended?
15. Since your license has been suspended, what is the primary way you get to where you need to go?
 - ☐ Driving
 - ☐ Riding with friends
 - ☐ Public transportation
 - ☐ Rideshare (Uber, Lyft)
 - ☐ Biking or walking
 - ☐ Other: _____
16. How likely do you think it is that you will be able to successfully get your license back?
Your answer choices are: Very unlikely, Unlikely, Likely, and Very Likely

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Interview Domains/Topics

Great! Now I would like to talk to you about how having your license suspended has impacted different parts of your life. First...

Economic impacts

- Tell me about your worklife since your license was suspended
 - *Has it changed?*
 - *How has having a suspended license influenced the interviewing process?*
 - *How has having your license suspended influenced how you get back and forth to work? What about the timing for your work?*
- Tell me about fines and/or court fees **related to your suspended license.**
 - *Are you on any kind of payment plan to pay off these fees?*
 - *If yes, how do you make these payments (e.g., portion of pay check, loans)? Do you feel that you are able to pay these fines?*
 - *Have these payments impacted your ability to pay other bills?*

Social Impacts

Take a minute to think about your social life. By this, I mean relationships and interactions with family (including your children), friends, and your larger community.

- How has having your license suspended impacted your relationships with family, friends, and/or significant others, if at all?
 - *How has your license suspension affected the way you like to take care of your children or other individuals you care for? For example, getting them to health care appointments, sporting or school events/activities?*
 - *How does not having your license affect your ability to help any family members or community members? What about how connected you are/feel to your community?*

Health Impacts

- Tell me about any ways having a suspended license has impacted your physical or mental health.
 - *Does having your license suspended, or having to pay fines related to it, interfere with your ability to attend any regular appointments or to fill any prescriptions you need?*
 - *Since having your license suspended, have you noticed any kind of health consequences, specifically things that were not issues before your license was suspended?*

Other

- If you had to say, what are the 3 biggest barriers to getting your license back?
- Is there anything else you would like to tell me about how your suspended license has impacted your life?
 - *Are there any positive things that have come out of not having a license?*
 - *If you had to tell me the most important way that not having a license has influenced your life, what would you say?*