

Drunk drivers jailed for causing crashes that seriously injured others



Traffic policemen escort (from second left) Christopher and Ali after their court proceedings.



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SIBU: Two motorists were each sentenced to nine years' imprisonment and fined RM30,000 in separate cases at the Sessions Court here yesterday for driving under the influence of alcohol and causing accidents that left two people seriously injured.

Judge Musyiri Peet also disqualified both men from holding or obtaining a driving licence for 10 years after they pleaded guilty under Section 44(1A) (b) of the Road Transport Act 1987.

In the first case, Ali Kilat, 54, from Lebaan was sentenced for an accident at about 7.30pm on May 31, 2026 along the Sibutanjung Manis Road near Rumah Henry Belabau.

The brief facts of the case stated that Ali's car entered the opposite lane and collided with another car, leaving a 55-year-old

female passenger with serious injuries including fractures involving the facial bones and the area surrounding the eye.

A chemistry report showed that Ali's blood alcohol concentration was 140mg per 100ml of blood, which was 2.8 times the prescribed limit of 50mg per 100ml.

In mitigation, the accused said it was his first offence and that he had been drinking during the Gawai Dayak festival.

He also said he was the sole breadwinner, cared for his elderly parent, and had lost his job as a boat driver.

In the second case, Christopher Bandau, 45, from Jalan Oya was sentenced over an accident at about 8pm on May 24, 2026 along Jalan Ulu Oya.

The court heard that the accused's car collided with a motorcycle after he turned right at a junction, leaving the 20-year-old motorcyclist with multiple serious injuries including fractures to both femurs, the pelvis and the thoracic spine. The victim required surgery.

Christopher's blood alcohol concentration was 175mg per 100ml of blood, or 3.5 times the prescribed limit.

In mitigation, Christopher said he is married with three children—two of whom are still schooling—and that his unemployed wife depends on his daily earnings of RM80.

He also cited his car and house loan repayments.

The prosecution sought deterrent sentences in both cases, stressing the danger posed to other road users by motorists driving under the influence of alcohol.

In sentencing the two accused, the judge said such offences were serious and that guilty pleas could not diminish their seriousness or the harm suffered by the victims.

The court stressed that severe consequences were necessary to deter similar offences and protect the public.

Deputy public prosecutor Cynthia Emmelda Jerry prosecuted both cases, while the accused were unrepresented.