

## Reckless behavior may signal other challenges

**Anthony:** I was a gunner. I didn't drive in Iraq but one of my biggest duties was to keep us safe, keep the truck safe, keep everyone in the convoy safe, and I would have to do anything I had to do to get cars away from us; whether it'd be intimidating them with my rifle, pointing my weapon at them. And coming back here, you can't do that kind of stuff.

So, I was speeding obviously. I had a mustang at the time doing 120 mph and just reckless driving. I didn't get in any accidents, but I was definitely really reckless; running red lights. I figured I was invisible. I got purple heart plates. No one's gonna pull me over and I just did whatever I wanted; broke any rule I wanted. I wasn't really a violent drunk before, every now and then I might have been, but I notice on every turn, I just had a lot of anger, I had to deal with these things and I just got really aggressive, got in fights, hurt people. Some people hurt me, but I noticed that was a pretty big problem for me when I returned. At the VA, they're helping me understand why certain things are happening and that's made things a little bit better, at least knowing what it is and that it's not really normal, but something that we can probably fix.



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

**MAKE THE**  
**CONNECTION**