

Know the Law!

Minor in Possession

It is a *civil violation* for a minor (anyone under age 21) to possess liquor or imitation liquor except within the scope of their employment or in the home/presence of their parent. Possession by consumption applies if there is any alcohol in the minor's bloodstream. A minor can be considered in possession if alcohol is within arm's reach.

Fines of \$100-\$500 plus court fees.

Disorderly Conduct

Includes fighting in public, goading someone to fight in public or in private, or making disturbing noise (including music, yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, etc.). Noise levels are limited to 55-60 Db after 10pm (equivalent to the level of conversational speech, as measured at the property line.)

Fines of \$100-\$500 plus court fees.

Maine Liquor Liability Law

In addition to any criminal charges, anyone who serves alcohol to a minor or visibly intoxicated person can be held liable for damages, injury and loss to a person or property in a civil action.

Damages up to \$350,000 per person, plus victim's unlimited lifetime medical expenses.

Providing Alcohol to Minors (Furnishing) or Providing a Place for Minors to Consume

It is a *criminal offense* for any person, adult or minor, to furnish liquor or imitation liquor to a minor, or allow a minor under that person's control, or in any place under that person's control, to possess or consume liquor or imitation liquor.

Fines of \$500 - \$2,000, and/or a jail sentence of 6-12 months.

If injury or death occurs due to the actions of guests, the person responsible for furnishing the alcohol may be charged with a felony.

Disorderly Houses Ordinance

A building may be designated a Disorderly House if the police have visited the building a minimum number of times in any 30 day period, ranging from 3 to 5 times depending on the number of units. Calls are in response to disturbances created by the owner, tenants, or guest. The owner of a Disorderly House is required to meet with police to develop and implement a plan to improve the situation, and may be held responsible for the cost of future police calls. **Repeated designations as a Disorderly House may result in the building being condemned and some or all tenants being required to vacate.**