

# *The Maine Liquor Laws*

*Consequences - Real & Residual*

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# **Illegal Possession**

**It is unlawful for any person under the age of 21 to possess liquor or imitation liquor except if it is in the scope of their employment or in a home in the presence of their parent or legal guardian.**

# Illegal Possession

## Penalties:

*18, 19 and 20 year olds – Civil Violation*

*1<sup>st</sup> offense                      \$200 to \$400*

*2<sup>nd</sup> offense                      \$300 to \$600*

*3<sup>rd</sup> offense                      \$600*

*Individuals 17 years of age - Juvenile Crime (Non-Arrest)*

# **Illegal Transportation of Liquor**

**No person under the age of 21 shall transport alcoholic beverages in a motor vehicle except in the scope of their employment or at the request of their parent.**

# Illegal Transportation of Liquor

## Penalties:

- *1<sup>st</sup> offense - 30 day license suspension  
fine of up to \$500*
- *2<sup>nd</sup> offense - 90 day license suspension  
fine of not less than \$200*
- *3<sup>rd</sup> offense - 1 year license suspension  
fine of not less than \$400*
- *Car Insurance*

# Giving False Written or Oral Information

It is unlawful to give a licensee false written or oral evidence of age to attempt to purchase liquor or gain entrance into a licensed establishment where minors are not allowed.

# Giving False Written or Oral Information

## Penalties:

- *18, 19 and 20 year olds – Civil Violation*
  - ❖ *1<sup>st</sup> offense - \$200 to \$400*
  - ❖ *2<sup>nd</sup> offense - \$300 to \$600*
  - ❖ *3<sup>rd</sup> offense - \$600*
  
- *Individuals 17 years of age and under Juvenile Crime (Non-Arrest)*
  - *Upon conviction court may suspend driver's license*
    - ❖ *1<sup>st</sup> offense - 30 days*
    - ❖ *2<sup>nd</sup> offense - 90 days*
    - ❖ *3<sup>rd</sup> offense - 1 year*

# **Furnishing Liquor or Imitation Liquor to a Minor**

**It is unlawful to furnish liquor or imitation liquor to a minor, or allow a minor to possess liquor or imitation liquor on a premise under one's control.**

## **Exceptions:**

- ❖ *A licensee, clerk, servant or agent (Administrative/Civil)*
- ❖ *Serving liquor to a minor in a home while the parent is present*

# Furnishing Liquor or Imitation Liquor to a Minor

## Penalties:



- *finer from \$500 to \$2000*
- *possible jail sentence of 6 to 12 months*
- **In cases of death or serious bodily injury an individual can be charged with a felony that could result in a jail sentence of up to 5 years and fines up to \$5000**
- *possible action under Maine liquor liability act*
- *Criminal record*

# **Illegal Sale of Liquor**

**It is unlawful to sell or aid in the sale of liquor without a license issued by the State of Maine.**

# **Illegal Sale of Liquor**

## **Penalties:**

- **1<sup>st</sup> offense - \$300 to \$500 fine and up to 30 days in jail**
- **2<sup>nd</sup> offense - \$500 to \$1000 fine and up to 60 days in jail**
- **3<sup>rd</sup> offense - \$1000 and 60 days in jail**
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- **May not hold liquor license or interest for 5 years after conviction.**
- **May not sell liquor for a period of 2 to 5 years after conviction.**
- **Criminal Record**

# **Drinking in Public**

**Any person who drinks liquor or possesses an open container in any public place, after being forbidden to do so by a law enforcement officer or within 200 feet of a sign posted prohibiting public drinking commits the crime of drinking in public.**

# Drinking in Public

## Penalties:

- **Fine up to \$1000**
- **And/or up to 6 months in jail**
- **Criminal Record**

# **MAINE LIQUOR LIABILITY ACT**

**Any individual who recklessly or negligently serves liquor to a minor or visibly intoxicated person and the service causes property damage, bodily injury or death to a third party, damages of up to \$250,000 plus medical expenses can be awarded.**

# Questions?

Contact:

**The Maine Office of Substance Abuse**

**1-800-499-0027**