

Other Ways to Get Busted with Alcohol



It is a misdemeanor for a person under 21 to attempt to purchase an alcoholic beverage and to possess/carry an alcoholic beverage.

Minnesota Statute 340A.503



It is a misdemeanor for a person under 21 who claims to be 21 years of age or older, or uses a false/altered identification or driver's license.

Minnesota Statutes 340A.503 and 171.22

It is a gross misdemeanor for a person of any age who sells, furnishes or gives any alcoholic beverage to someone under 21.

Minnesota Statutes 340A.503 and 171.22

Definitions to Remember



Misdemeanor: A crime for which a sentence of not more than 90 days or a fine of not more than \$1,000, or both, may be imposed.

Gross misdemeanor: Any crime which is not a felony or misdemeanor. A sentence of not more than one year or a fine of not more than \$3,000, or both, may be imposed.

Operating a motor vehicle: Being in the position to manipulate any of the controls that put a motor vehicle into operation. The vehicle does not have to be moving. Keys do not need to be in the ignition.



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Are You Under 21?



**Kiss Your License Good-bye
If You Drink a Drop of Alcohol
and Drive.**

Hard to Swallow Laws for Underage Drinkers



In Minnesota, it's illegal to drink alcohol if you're under 21. If you drink and drive, you could face the state's DWI laws and penalties under the "Not a Drop" law.



"Not a Drop" says you will lose your license from 30 to 180 days if an officer observes you operating or in physical control of a motor vehicle and determines you have been drinking. The length of suspension will depend on your prior record.

Minnesota Statute 169A.33

And there's more.

Under "Vanessa's Law," if your license is revoked because of an impaired driving crime or crash-related moving violation, you lose your license until you are at least 18. If you commit these crimes without a valid license at all, you can't apply for a permit until you are 18.

Why Such Tough Laws? Because of Tough Facts:



- Persons 21 and younger make up 10 percent of all the state's licensed drivers, but account for 15 percent of the drivers in fatal crashes.



- The driving ability of young people is more likely to be impaired by small amounts of alcohol than that of older drivers.

- Young drivers with an alcohol-concentration level under 0.08 percent are more likely to be involved in fatal crashes.

