

DO YOU KNOW THE PENALTIES FOR Social Hosting & Underage Drinking?

SOCIAL HOSTING

Criminal Law Article, Section 10-117(b), of the Annotated Code of Maryland states that an adult may not knowingly and willfully allow an individual under 21 years of age to actually possess or consume alcoholic beverages at the residence, or within the curtilage (roughly meaning yard) of the residence, that the adult owns or leases as a tenant and in which the adult resides.

In other words, even if you don't furnish alcohol for an underage drinking party in your home or on the property around your residence, but give implicit approval, you may be subject to prosecution under this law. However, this does not apply if the individual furnishing the alcohol, and the person being served are members of the same immediate family, and the beverage is possessed or consumed in a private residence or within the curtilage of the residence of the adult. This law does not apply to alcohol use in participation of a religious ceremony.



If you are convicted of giving alcohol to a person under 21, you can receive a fine up to **\$2,500** for the first offense and up to **\$5,000** for a second offense.

UNDERAGE DRINKING

If you are under the age of 21 and found to have purchased, possessed or consumed alcohol, you face a fine of **\$500** for your first offense and **\$1,000** for the second or subsequent offense. Anyone under 21 who violates their alcohol restriction must automatically participate in the ignition interlock program or face suspension.



If you are under 21 and in possession of a fake ID, you face a fine of up to \$500 and up to 2 months in prison. Twelve points will be assessed on your driving record, and your driver's license may be suspended or revoked. *Source: Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration*

A reminder from



STATE'S ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
CALVERT COUNTY

