

QUESTIONS YOU MAY ASK

Q. Someone enters our establishment with a questionable ID. Do we have to sell to them?

No, if you have any doubt about a person's age or the validity of their ID, you have the right to refuse to serve or sell alcohol to them.

Q. You hire a 16 year old as a cashier. Are they able to sell alcohol?

No, a person must be at least 18 years of age to sell or serve alcohol.

Q. A clerk at your party store is very busy when a youthful-looking boy purchases beer from your clerk who was too busy to ask for ID. A police officer stops the boy and discovers he is only 16. Can the clerk get into trouble?

Yes, a person who knowingly sells to someone under 21 or who fails to make a *diligent inquiry* may be arrested and charged with a misdemeanor. *"Diligent inquiry is a dedicated effort to establish beyond doubt that the potential customer is of legal age."*

Q. Can you sell beer to a person under 21 years of age if that person is accompanied by a parent?

No. At no time may alcoholic beverages be sold or furnished to a person under 21 years of age.

Q. What age should someone look in order for you to ask for ID?

We recommend you request identification from anyone who appears under 40 years of age.

REPORTING UNDERAGE SALES

- MI Liquor Control Commission (MLCC)
Enforcement: Toll Free Hotline: 866-893-2121
- MLCC On line: <https://www6.dleg.state.mi.us/Parsers/complain.asp>
- Contact your local law enforcement

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Michigan Liquor Control Commission**
www.michigan.gov/lcc
-Lansing Enforcement Office
517-322-1370
-General Info: 866-813-0011
-Ordering Products: 800-701-0513
- **Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking:** www.mcrud.org
- **Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center:** www.udetc.org
- **Information for Alcohol Vendors:**
www.drugfreejackson.com/resources.htm



Jackson County



DrugFreeJackson.com

536 N. Jackson Street, Jackson, MI 49201

Phone: 517-796-5133

Fax: 517-784-2430

E-mail: khaynes@uwjackson.org

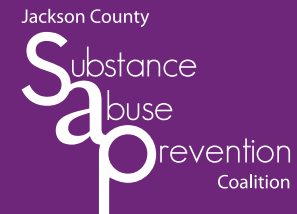


United Way
of Jackson County

Preventing Alcohol Sales to Minors in Jackson County



Provided to you by the



DrugFreeJackson.com

A GUIDE FOR RETAILERS

PREVENTING LIABILITY

Evidence shows that following the law, having policies in place regarding the sale of alcohol to minors, enforcing your policies and providing training for your staff, all limit your liability. Here are some steps you may take to help reduce your risk.

CHECK IDENTIFICATION (ID)

BE FAMILIAR WITH ALTERED ID'S: What to look for

- An ID has been physically changed—typically only the birth date and year are altered.
- Check for numbers that have been scratched or bleached out and inked over, or cut out and reinserted.
- Look for rough spots around the edges and over the photo where laminate may have been altered.

BEWARE OF SOMEONE ELSE'S ID

- Compare the photo with the person presenting the ID. Ask the presenter to sign his/her name on a sheet of paper and compare the signature to the one on the ID.
- Can the person verify personal data on the ID such as address or birth date? What is their Zodiac sign (if you know it)? *Feel free to ask these questions—it is your right.*
- Request alternate pieces of identification (People with fake ID's rarely carry back up identification.)



Under 21—Vertical License

ACCEPT ONLY THESE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION

- State Drivers License
- State Identification Card
- Immigration Card
- Military Identification Card
- Passport



PROVIDE STAFF TRAINING

While server trainings are only mandatory for new or transferring establishments (effective 2001), training staff members is an important part of preventing sales to minors. Staff will learn visible signs of intoxication, basic alcohol content among different types of drinks, legal hours for sales, penalties related to minor sales and consumption, acceptable identification, etc.

Four programs have been evaluated and approved by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) as follows:

- TAM® - Techniques for Alcohol Management
800-292-2896 ▪ www.mlba.org
- TIPS® - Training for Intervention Procedures
800-438-8477 ▪ www.gettips.com
- BarCode® - Serving Alcohol Responsibly
800-968-9668 ▪ www.michiganrestaurant.org
- C.A.R.E.® - Controlling Alcohol Risks Effectively
800-344-3320 ▪ www.ei-ahla.org

CONSEQUENCES FOR SELLING TO MINORS

Penalties for selling alcohol to minors can range from a misdemeanor to a loss of your license. Make sure you are aware of the consequences.

Misdemeanor: An employer or employee who sells or furnishes alcoholic beverages to a minor may be found guilty of a misdemeanor.

MLCC Violations: Penalties for violations, especially repeat violations, can incur fines up to \$1,000 per charge and include the loss of the liquor license.

Your local unit of government can request that the MLCC revoke the license for a licensee who has been found guilty of selling alcoholic beverages to minors on three separate occasions in one calendar year.

Loss of License: "In Jackson County we take providing alcohol to minors as a serious crime and prosecute violators to the fullest extent of the law." -Henry C. Zavislack, Prosecuting Attorney, Jackson County

KNOW THE LAW

If you want to view the laws pertaining to liquor sales in Michigan, you can view the Michigan Liquor Control Code of 1998, Act 58 of 1998 on line at www.michigan.gov/dleg - search for "liquor control code." **Chapter 7 (Section 436.1701) applies directly to sales to minors.**

COMPLIANCE CHECKS AND DECOY'S

Law enforcement agencies and the MLCC periodically use under-21-year-old decoys to try and purchase alcoholic beverages from licensees. The decoy must be 18 or 19-years-old, must use their own identification and are not allowed to use false ID or lie to the clerk.