

Hamden Police Department General Orders

Policy Number: 024-020

Effective Date: July 01, 2012

Section: Patrol

Rescinds: August 01, 2005

Title: Possession of Alcohol by
Minors.

Approved By:

Approval Date:

PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for handling of cases involving possession of alcohol by a minor.

POLICY

Officers of the Hamden Police Department will thoroughly investigate all incidents involving the improper use of possession of alcoholic beverages. If person(s) involved are under 21, appropriate action will be taken.

General

CGS 30-89 became effective October 1, 1986. The law, as summarized below, makes mere possession of alcohol by a minor a misdemeanor offense.

A. Any person under 21 who possesses any alcoholic liquor .

1. On any street or highway.
2. In any public place.
3. In any place open to the public.
4. May be issued a misdemeanor summons.

B. Exemptions.

1. Person over age 18 who is an employee or permit holder under Section 30-90a AND who possesses alcoholic liquor in the course of his employment or business.
2. A person under 21 who possesses alcohol on the order of a practicing physician.
3. A minor accompanied by a parent, guardian or spouse who is 21 or over.

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Procedure

When an Arrest is going to be Made:

A. Possession of Alcohol by Juveniles (Under 18).

1. Juvenile will be taken into custody, a juvenile summons completed and the juvenile released to a parent and/or guardian.
2. Evidence will be confiscated, tagged and secured in an evidence locker in the property room.
3. Inventory of property seized without a warrant form will be completed and forwarded with the summons.

B. Possession of Alcohol by Minors Age 18-20.

1. Provided they have positive ID, subjects may be issued a misdemeanor summons with a criminal court date.
2. If there is a doubt to the subject's ID, they will be brought to HQ for identification.
3. If identification is then made, they will be released from HQ with a misdemeanor summons.
4. If no ID can be made, the subject will undergo procedures for a normal custody arrest including prints, pictures, booking sheet, MID number, etc.
5. Evidence will be handled as in 2 and 3 above
6. Notification of parents is optional but recommended.

D. Liquor in M/V by Minors.

1. C.G.S. 14-111a states:
 - a. A person under legal drinking age.
 - b. Operating a M/V.
 - c. Unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.
 - d. In which a police officer finds alcoholic liquor.
 - e. May be summoned by such officer to a hearing at the Motor Vehicle Department.

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2. All persons under age 21 operating in violation of 14-111a, the officer will fill out the appropriate sections of the State Written Warning Report - Operator under 21 years of age and forwarded with incident report to the Motor Vehicle Department for the purpose of the violator to be summoned by DMV for a hearing.