

# “Alex and Calvin’s Law”

## Providing Alcohol to Underage Drinkers – Penalties

### Annotated Code of Maryland, Criminal Law § 10-121



#### What is the Alex and Calvin’s Law?

According to Maryland Law, legal, financial and health penalties exist if an adult **knowingly and willfully allows** an individual younger than 21 to possess or consume an alcoholic beverage at the adult’s residence or **furnishes or obtains** an alcoholic beverage to an individual younger than age 21 for the purpose of consumption by that individual (§ 10-116 and § 10-117); and the adult **knew or reasonably should have known** that the individual would operate a motor vehicle after consuming the alcohol, and as a result of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of or impaired by alcohol, the individual causes serious physical injury or death to the individual or another person.

#### What are the penalties for breaking this law?

Penalties include a fine of \$2,500 - \$5,000, jail time up to one year and a misdemeanor criminal record.

#### Is this a problem in Anne Arundel County?

Yes, in Anne Arundel County, 83.3% of underage youth reported obtaining alcohol socially by giving someone money to buy it, receiving it as a gift, or taking it from a store or relative (Maryland Young Adult Survey on Alcohol, 2016). Youth that drink alcohol risk emotional or physical trauma, injury, health problems or death. Enter “Prevention and Education” in the search bar of [aahealth.org](http://aahealth.org) for information about underage drinking and binge drinking.

#### What can I do?



Properly store and monitor any alcohol in your home. Do not purchase or provide alcohol to individuals under 21. Be aware of the legal and health consequences of providing alcohol to individuals under 21.

Spread the word about this law.  
When you hear about an underage drinking party in Anne Arundel County, call the confidential Tipline.

Educate others or arrange for a presentation on this law and its application.

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**443-390-TIPS (8477)**

It is illegal to knowingly give alcohol to an underage person.   It is illegal to possess alcohol if you are under 21.



[www.preventsubstanceabuse.org](http://www.preventsubstanceabuse.org)

If you or people you know are seeking treatment, call the Anne Arundel County Treatment Referral Line at **410-222-0117**.

If you think you see someone overdosing, call 911.



**WES ADAMS**  
STATE'S ATTORNEY  
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY