



For Immediate Release, May 22, 2014

**WICHITA, KAN. – Notes re: legal ramifications/personal costs of underage drinking**

1) Underage drinking violates many laws

- a) Minor in Possession (MIP) or Minor in Consumption (MIC)—K.S.A. 41-727  
\$200 fine plus court costs, punishable by up to 30 days in jail  
Suspension of driving privileges (30 days for 1<sup>st</sup>, 90 days for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1 year for 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- b) Furnishing Alcohol to Minors—K.S.A. 21-5607\*  
\$200 fine plus court costs, punishable by up to 6 months in jail
- c) “Hosting” underage drinking—K.S.A. 21-5608\*  
\$1,000 fine plus court costs, punishable by up to 1 year in jail

\*It is important to note these laws don’t just prohibit intentional distribution of alcohol to minors. They expressly prohibit reckless acts. In the case of “social hosting,” recklessly allowing one’s home or land to be used in a manner that results in underage drinking is prohibited.

2) Underage drinking poses other risks to young people

<http://www.kansasfamily.com/programs/ksleadership/kansas-underage-drinking-documents/>.

- a) 47% of Kansas 12<sup>th</sup> graders have reported drinking alcohol at least once in the last 30 days.
- b) 15% of Kansas 10<sup>th</sup> graders have reported bingeing on alcohol at least once in the last 30 days.
- c) 24% of Kansas high school students, at least once in the last 30 days, say they have ridden with a driver who had been drinking.
- d) Fewer than 50% of Kansas youth say their parents have talked with them even once in the last year about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.
- e) 67-the number of fatal crashes in Kansas in 2012 that involved drivers between the ages of 15 and 20. 1 in 4 was cited as alcohol-impaired.

3) Additional consequences for underage drinking and driving

- a) .02—the legal limit for keeping your driving privileges for those under age 21.\*
- b) There is no distinction between adults and juveniles for DUI prosecutions.  
Potential jail times are different. But the court process, mandatory fines, and other costs associated with a DUI charge are the same no matter how old the person is.

\*While .08 remains the legal limit to be charged with a DUI, your driving privileges can be suspended for 30 days on a 1<sup>st</sup> offense and for 1 year on a 2<sup>nd</sup> offense if your blood alcohol content is .02 or higher while under the age of 21.

4) The “cost” of a DUI

a) mandatory fines:

1<sup>st</sup> offense: \$750

2<sup>nd</sup> offense: \$1,250

3<sup>rd</sup> offense: \$1,750

4<sup>th</sup> offense: \$2,500

b) cost of a private attorney: can range from \$500 to \$5,000 (or more)

c) substance abuse evaluation and treatment: \$150 for the evaluation; treatment costs vary

d) lost work while serving 48 hours in jail or performing 100 hours of community service

e) possible court-ordered house arrest: approximately \$10-15/day

f) ignition interlock device: roughly \$150 to install with additional monthly expense

g) increased auto insurance rates

h) stigma of a DUI conviction when applying for professional trades or other employment

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