

Westport Police Department Zero Tolerance Policy for Minors with Alcohol

Chief Alfred R. Fiore of the Westport Police Department wants the community to know that his department has a **zero tolerance policy for minors with alcohol**. All incidents involving youths under 21 years of age with alcohol will be vigorously investigated and enforcement action will be taken.

The public is reminded that Connecticut General Statute 30-89(b) makes it illegal for a minor to possess alcohol, **in or out of a motor vehicle**, and any conviction under this statute will result in a fine and suspension of the minor's operator's license for 150 days.

The public is further reminded that for youths under 21 years of age a blood alcohol level of .02 (two-hundredths of one percent) or more of alcohol, by weight, constitutes D.W.I. (driving while intoxicated). This is compared to a blood alcohol level of .08 for person's age 21 and older.

Whenever Westport Police Officers investigate an incident involving minors with alcohol, the parents of all youths involved will be notified, even if an arrest is not made.

The entire community shares the responsibility to keep alcohol out of the hands of minors. If parents and the police work together we should be able to reduce the number of negative results too often associated with underage drinking.