

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>East Haven Police Department</b></p> 	<b>Type of Directive:</b> <b>Policies &amp; Procedures</b>		<b>No. 429.2</b>
	<b>Subject/Title:</b>  <b>Underage Drinking</b>	<b>Issue Date:</b> <b>July 29, 2014</b>	
		<b>Effective Date:</b> <b>September 1, 2014</b>	
	<b>Issuing Authority:</b> <b>Honorable Board of Police Commissioners</b>	<b>Review Date:</b> <b>Annually</b>	
<b>References/Attachments: N/A</b>		<b>Rescinds:</b> <b>429.1</b>	<b>Amends:</b> <b>N/A</b>

## I. PURPOSE

- A. The purpose of this directive is to set forth the policies and procedures of the East Haven Police Department regarding underage drinking in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut.

## II. POLICY

- A. It is the policy of the East Haven Police Department to protect the health and safety of young people and the community by fairly and equitably enforcing the laws governing underage drinking, in accordance with the laws of the State of Connecticut.

## III. PROCEDURES

- A. Officers shall enforce the laws against underage drinking with the same professionalism and respect for rights as they do in enforcing all other laws.
- B. Possession of alcohol by a person under the age of 21 in a public or private place is prohibited by law unless a minor child is accompanied by parent or legal guardian who has given their permission to such minor child.
- C. If any person, regardless of age, provides alcohol to a minor who is not their child they can be charged with the crime of Providing Alcohol to a Minor.
1. The host of a party who does not provide alcohol to a minor can be charged with hosting the party or failure to halt the party where alcohol is present. However, to be charged with such a crime the host must have had knowledge that the underage drinking was taking place.

D. If an officer does locate alcohol and there are minors present, the officer must be able to articulate that a minor was in possession of alcohol not merely present. Police Officers in Connecticut can make an arrest of someone only based on the totality of circumstances they know at the time rises to the level of probable cause that a crime has been committed.

1. The level of probable cause required to make an arrest is the same as for all offenses.