

LAWS FOR JUVENILES

WITH A LIST OF LOCAL RESOURCES

From the

CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

“Service with Compassion and Integrity”

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IF YOU ARE UNDER 18, YOU SHOULD KNOW THE CURFEW LAW

HENNEPIN COUNTY CURFEW TIMES

(Minnesota Juvenile Code 260B.007, 16a)

(Hennepin County Ordinance No. 16, Sub. 3 A, B, or C)

A. **Under 12** - Home by 9:00 P.M.
Friday & Saturdays - Home by 10:00 P.M.

B. **Age 12-14** - Home by 10:00 P.M.
Friday & Saturday - Home by 11:00 P.M.

C. **Age 15-17** - Home by 11:00 P.M.
Friday & Saturdays - Home by Midnight

In order to keep young people out of trouble and out of danger, police in all cities enforce the curfew laws.

If you are in a public place or business after the above hours without a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, the police may give you a ticket. A public place includes schools, streets, parks, movie theaters, restaurants, bowling alleys, a car that is in a public place, etc.

If you get a ticket from the police because you are out past curfew, you may have to pay a fine of \$50 or do one day of "Sentence to Serve," which is community service work scheduled by the Juvenile Court. The fine remains the same regardless of how many citations you may receive. There is no mandatory court appearance.

Parents must insist that you are home by curfew time because it is against the law for them to allow you to be out past curfew. If they let you stay out past curfew, a complaint could be issued against them. The complaint would be a misdemeanor (minor crime) that is punishable by up to 90 days in jail and up to a \$1000 fine {**H.C.O. 16 (3D)**}.

Business employees will ask you to leave at curfew time because it is against the law (a misdemeanor) for a business establishment to allow kids to remain in their buildings during curfew hours {**H.C.O. 16 (3E)**}.

KIDS TAKE NOTE! YOU MUST ATTEND SCHOOL

The Crystal Police officers are enforcing truancy laws because they see the importance of education for all youth. Education leads to happier and more responsible citizens. Police also enforce the truancy laws in order to support parents. We know that parents value education and want what is best for their children's future. The following laws apply to truancy:

- ⇒ Children must attend school until they reach the age of 18 years or graduate (*Minnesota Statute 120A.22, Subd. 5*). **Students 16 or 17 years of age cannot legally drop out of school without the permission of their parents** (*Minnesota Statute 120A.22, Subd.*). Beginning with the 2014-2015 school years, only 17 year olds will be able to legally drop out with parents' permission.
- ⇒ A child who is truant may be taken into custody by police (*Minnesota Statute 260C.143, Subd. 4*).
- ⇒ A juvenile who misses seven days of school or seven class periods on seven different days can be charged as a Habitual Truant under the CHIPS (Children in Need of Protection or Services) Court (*Minnesota Statute 260C.007, Subd. 14*).
- ⇒ Under *Minnesota Statute 120A.22, Subd. 1*, it is the responsibility of parents or guardians to assure that their children acquire knowledge and skills that are essential for effective citizenship.
- ⇒ A parent who contributes to a child's truancy from school may be charged with a misdemeanor under *Minnesota Statute 260C.335* that is punishable by up to 90 days in jail and/or a \$700 fine.
- ⇒ A child is "educationally neglected" if the child is absent from school due to the failure of the parent to get the child to school (*Minnesota Statute 260C.163, Subd. 11*).

When police pick up a child who is truant, the child will likely be transported to school. The child's parents will be called.

Business owners are encouraged to call 911 and report youth that appear to be under 16 years of age and who are in their establishments during the day.

A youth who is suspended from school should not be out on the streets during the school hours. They are to be at home while under school suspension.

Anyone wishing further information about truancy or educational neglect may contact Susan Carstens, Juvenile Specialist, Crystal Police Department at 763-531-1023.

RUNAWAY LAWS

(M.S. 260C.007, Subd. 28)
(As of July 2010)

An unmarried child who is under the age of 18 years and who is absent from the home of a parent or other lawful placement without the consent of the parent, guardian, or lawful custodian is considered a “runaway youth.” In other words, anytime youth leave home without permission from their parents or fail to return home at the time specified by their parents, their behavior fits the legal definition of a runaway youth.

Once a parent has filed a runaway report with police, the name of their runaway child is entered into a national computer. That means police in every state can check the computer to see if a youth is a runaway. If police officers determine that a youth is a runaway, they will take the youth into custody until they can locate a parent.

Police in Minnesota may release runaway youth to their parents, to another suitable adult, or to an unlocked shelter care facility. (*Other states may have different rules about holding and releasing runaway youth.*)

CRYSTAL POLICE OFFICERS NO LONGER ISSUE CITATIONS: Hennepin County resources are no longer available to process citations for youth at the juvenile court level. All reports of runaway youth are assigned to the Crystal Police Juvenile Specialist Susan Carstens who will contact parents to talk about resources available. She may be reached at 763-531-1023 or e-mail susan.carstens@crystalmn.gov.

It is illegal to help a youth runaway away. Any person who encourages, causes, or helps a child to run from home is guilty of a gross misdemeanor (M.S. 260C.425). An adult who commits a gross misdemeanor could receive up to a \$3000 fine and up to a year in jail.

A runaway or his or her parents who want help may contact the following resources:

*YMCA’s POINT NW Program for Runaway & Homeless Youth - 2304 Jackson St. NE, Minneapolis, 55418; Phone 763-493-3052. This is a 24-hour crisis and information message line. Messages are responded to M – F, 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, with trained counselors who can arrange to meet with you and your child to attempt to resolve the runaway concerns.

*Bridge for Runaway & Homeless Youth - 2200 Emerson Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55405; Phone 763-377-8800; Website www.bridgeforyouth.org; E-mail info@bridgeforyouth.org. This is a 24-hour hotline, 24-hour walk-in counseling and an emergency shelter for youth. Youth may stay three to five days at the bridge where they will talk with counselors. Parents will be contacted and a family reunification meeting will be scheduled if appropriate. On-going family counseling is available whether or not a youth stays at the Bridge.

*Community Mediation Program, Inc.- 9220 Bass Lake Road, Suite 270, New Hope, MN 55428; Phone 763-561-0033 Website www.mediationprogram.com or email staff@mediationprogram.com. A trained mediator will meet with parents and the runaway youth in a neutral and safe setting to attempt to arrive at a solution to the differences that led to the runaway behavior.

*La Oportunidad, Inc. for Latino (Spanish Speaking) - 2700 E. Lake St, Suite 3200, Minneapolis, MN 55406; Phone 612-872-6165; Website www.oportunidad.org. Children, youth, and parenting programs available to help Latino individuals and families create a strong peaceful community.

*Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) -720 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407; Phone 612-746-3500; Website www.clues.org. Family, mental health, chemical health, and economic advancement services are available.

EMANCIPATION

(Definition: To release from parental care and responsibility.)

People under 18 years of age often ask, “May I legally live on my own and be free from the control of my parents?” Parents sometimes wonder if they can sign a paper that will make their child an adult in the eyes of the law thereby relieving them of the legal responsibility for a child whom is beyond their control.

There is no legal emancipation procedure in the state of Minnesota except marriage. Juveniles must reach the age of 18 years to be legally on their own and released from parental care and responsibility.

However, in Minnesota, many older youth live on their own with permission from their parents and in most cases, no one intervenes to prevent it. Parents will likely be called if the child appears at a hospital and is in need of medical care or and if the child is taken into custody by police for a law violation.

There is a provision in the Minnesota Statutes that addresses emancipation. It provides that if a youth is under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile CHIPS (Children in Need of Protection or Services) Court and if the court believes that the child has sufficient maturity and judgment and that it is in the best interests of the child, the court may order a child 16 years old or older to be allowed to live independently, either alone or with others as approved by the court under supervision the court considers appropriate. However, before this can happen, the county board, after consultation with the court, must specifically authorized this plan for a child (*M.S. 260C.201, Subd. 1, 4*). However, this provision does not necessarily relieve parents of complete responsibility for their child but the child may have to be accountable to the court for their actions.

Juveniles 16 or 17 years of age may marry with the consent of their parents, guardian, or the court when the marriage license application has been approved by the judge of the juvenile court of the county in which the person lives (*M.S. 517.02*).

For further information, contact Susan Carstens, Juvenile Specialist at the Crystal Police Department; Phone 763-531-1023

ALCOHOL LAWS

(Minnesota Juvenile Code 260B.007, Subd. 16 – 17)
(Minnesota Statute 340A.503)

Consumption or Possession of Alcohol by a Minor.

It is against the law for anyone under the age of **21 years** to purchase, consume, possess, or misrepresent their age in order to purchase alcoholic beverages. The first and second citations issued by police may result in either attendance at a health education seminar, a \$100 fine, or two days of “Sentence to Serve,” which is a community service work program run by the County. A third and subsequent alcohol violation will require a mandatory court appearance. If you have had previous law violations of any type, the consequences may be greater.

Persons under 21 years of age may consume alcoholic beverages in the household of their parents or guardians with the consent of their parent or guardian (*Subd. 1a, {2}*).

It is unlawful for any business selling liquor to permit any person under the age of 21 to drink alcoholic beverages in their establishment (*Subd. 1a {1}*). **This is a misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a \$700 fine.**

Sale of Alcoholic Beverages to a Minor.

It is unlawful for *any* person (this includes minors) to sell, barter, furnish, or give alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years of age (*Subd. 2, {1}*). **This is a Gross Misdemeanor that for an adult is punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$3,000 fine (M.S. 340A.702).** A minor would be processed through Juvenile Court.

School Notification:

When a student has contact with police due to an alcohol offense, police must notify the student’s school of the contact (*M.S. 121A.28*).

TOBACCO LAWS

(Minnesota Juvenile Code 260B.007, Subd. 16)

(Minnesota Statute 609.685)

It is against the law for anyone under the age of **18 years** to purchase, possess, or use tobacco products. If the youth is not diverted and police issue a citation to Juvenile Court, a first-time offender generally has the option of paying a \$50 fine, attending a four-hour seminar on health, or doing one day of “Sentence to Serve (STS),” which is a community service work program run by the County. If a youth has prior law violations, the consequences may be greater.

ON SCHOOL PROPERTY: If the violation occurred on school property, the fine is \$100 or two days of STS.

DRIVER’S LICENSE: As of August 1, 1997, youth who commit a second tobacco offense may lose their driver’s license or be unable to apply for a driver’s license for up to a year (*M.S. 260B.235, Subd. 5b*). Youth who use their driver’s license, permit, or Minnesota I. D. to purchase or attempt to purchase tobacco may lose the license for 90 days (*M.S. 171.171, 3*).

A person who lends a driver’s license to another who then tries to buy tobacco may lose their license for 90 days (*M.S. 171.171, 4*).

The law does **not** allow parents to give their children permission to use tobacco products. It is a misdemeanor punishable by up to a \$700 fine and 90 days in jail for anyone to furnish tobacco to a person under the age of 18 years (*M.S. 609.685, Subd. 2*). However, an Indian may furnish tobacco to an Indian under the age of 18 years if the tobacco is furnished as part of a traditional Indian spiritual or cultural ceremony (*M.S. 609.685, Subd. 5*).

Sale of Tobacco to Children.

It is unlawful to sell tobacco to a person under the age of 18 years. **This is a Misdemeanor punishable by up to 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine (*M.S. 609.685, Subd. 1a*).**

MARIJUANA LAWS

(Minnesota Statute 152.027)

It is against the law for anyone to sell, purchase, use, or possess marijuana. Possession or sale of a small amount (42.5 grams or less) is considered a petty misdemeanor.

It is a misdemeanor to possess more than 1.4 grams of marijuana in a motor vehicle.

It is against the law to possess drug paraphernalia if the paraphernalia has been used and has residue on it from illegal drugs.

A person under 18 years of age who receives a citation for any of the above offenses may have to pay a \$100 fine, attend a health class, or do one day of “Sentence to Serve (STS),” which is community service work supervised by the county.

School Notification:

When a student has contact with police due to a drug offense, police must notify the student’s school of the contact (*M.S. 121A.28*).

HELPFUL RESOURCES

COUNSELING:

The YMCA'S POINT N.W. at (763) 493-3052 serves runaway and homeless youth in the 15 suburban communities of Northwest Hennepin County. Counselors are available to come to your home to meet with you and your family or to see youth at school or other location. If your child has run from home or is threatening to do so, or if you wish assistance with a conflict between you and your child, you may wish to contact a POINT NW counselor. The services are FREE.

Northwest YMCA Youth Outreach Workers at (763) 535-4800 offer FREE counseling and activities for youth and their families. They have a summer mini-bike program and special groups for kids. They are available to come to your home, school, or other place that is convenient for you. **North Community YMCA at (612) 588-9484** also has youth workers for those living in north Minneapolis.

The Bridge for Runaway Youth, 2200 Emerson Ave. S., Minneapolis – (612) 377-8800
The Family Partnership (counseling services), 6900 78th Ave. N., Brooklyn Park – (763) 560-4412
Hennepin County Family and Children's Mental Health Program, Minneapolis - intake phone number 612-596-9438.
Suicide Prevention Hotline – (612) 347-2222
Crisis Connection - 24-Hour Crisis Intervention – (612) 379-6363
Chicanos Latinos Unidos En Servicios (CLUES) – 2700 Lake St, Minneapolis, MN 55406 – (612) 871-0200
African American Family Services – 2616 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55408 - (612)-871-7878
Hmong American Partnership – 1121 N. Glenwood Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55405 – 612-377-6482
Kinship of Greater Minneapolis Mentoring Program – 3210 Oliver Ave. N., Minneapolis – 612-588-4655
Hennepin County's Front Door Services, Information and Referral – 612-348-4111

SERVICES FOR VICTIMS:

Rape and Sexual Assault Center – (612) 825-4357
Sexual Violence Center – (612) 871-5111
Domestic Abuse Project, Inc. Minneapolis - (612) 874-7063
Domestic Assault Intervention Project serving Crystal, Golden Valley, and Plymouth – (763) 545-7080
Domestic Abuse Services Center, Hennepin County Government Center – (612) 348-5073
Home Free Battered Women's Shelter – (763) 559-4945
Citizens Council Crime Victim Services – (612) 340-5400
Hennepin County Child Protection – (612) 348-3552

SUPPORT GROUPS:

Alcoholics Anonymous – (952) 922-0880
Alateen - (meetings in New Hope on Tuesdays, 6:30 P.M.) – (952) 920-3961
The Family Partnership Support Group for Parents of at Risk Teens - call (763) 560-4412
Tree House holds Parent Support Groups and Youth Groups and offers individual and family counseling in New Hope - (763) 533-9667 or Brooklyn Park – (763) 560-2334
Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, and Transgender Youth Support Groups at the Teen Annex Clinic - (763) 533-1316 and support services at District 202 Drop In Center, 1601 Nicollet Ave. S. in Minneapolis - (612) 871-5559

ADVOCACY AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES:

CHADD (for families affected by Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) – (952) 922-5761
PACER (Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights) at (612) 827-2966
Disabilities Law Project – (612) 334-5758
Learning Disabilities Association – (952) 922-8374
Learning Disabilities of Minnesota – (651) 222-2696
La Oportunidad, Inc. – 2700 East Lake Street, Minneapolis - (612) 872-6165

SUPPORT SERVICES FOR YOUTH: Big Brothers/ Sisters of Greater Minneapolis – (612) 333-5437

HEALTH SERVICES FOR YOUTH: Annex Youth Health Clinic, 4915 42nd Ave. N., (763) 533-1316

MEDIATION: Community Mediation Services, Inc. – (763) 561-0033

STOP TOBACCO USE: Mpls. Heart Institute at 612-863-1658, MPAAT tobacco help line at 1-877-270-STOP, or the cancer unit at No. Memorial Medical Center at 763-520-5200, or your health plan.

URINE TESTS FOR DRUGS: MN Monitoring, 2300 Nevada Ave. N., Golden Valley, 763-253-5401.

FIRST CALL FOR HELP: Directory of Community Services in a nine county region – Call 211 or 651-291-0211.

READING LIST FOR PARENTS

Get out of my life, but first could you drive me and Cheryl to the mall? A parent's guide to the new teenager by Anthony Wolf (Noonday Press, 1991).

*****Helicopters, Drill Sergeants, and Consultants: Parenting Styles and the Messages They send***, an audio CD by Jim Fay, (Love and Logic Institute, 1996, call 1-800-338-4065 or website www.loveandlogic.com).

Parenting Teens with Love and Logic by Foster Cline, M.D. and Jim Fay (Pinon, 1992, Love and Logic Institute, Inc. at 1-800-338-4065 or website www.loveandlogic.com).

Why Do They Act That Way? A Survival Guide to the Adolescent Brain for You and Your Teen, by David Walsh, PH.D. (Free Press, Simon and Schuster, Inc. 2004; website www.simonsays.com).

Yes, Your Teen Is Crazy! Loving Your Kid Without Losing Your Mind, by Michael J. Bradley (another book about brain development).

**** This CD has been the most popular among parents who have found it to have very practical suggestions that are concrete enough to implement.**