



Serving Intoxicated Persons

What Is The Law?

Minnesota State Statute 340A.502 states that no person may sell, give, furnish, or in any way procure for another alcoholic beverages for the use of an obviously intoxicated person. Violation of this statute is a gross misdemeanor.

Minneapolis City Ordinance 360.60 states that no person shall sell or serve any beer or liquor to any intoxicated person, nor permit any intoxicated person to remain on the licensed premises. Violation of this ordinance is a misdemeanor.

Civil or criminal action could be taken against your business for violating this.

What Are Signs of Alcohol Intoxication?

A person who is intoxicated will show some or all of these signs:



- faulty judgment
- lowered inhibitions
- slowed reactions
- poor coordination
- physical incapacitation
- causing a disturbance
- dangerous to self or others

If you or your employees observe persons who appear to be intoxicated, it is against the law to provide them any more alcoholic beverages or to even allow them to be on the premises.

Suggestions for Your Business

- Develop and implement a plan to address obviously intoxicated persons.
- Establish drink limits.
- Offer non-alcoholic beverage and/or food.
- Have a designated driver or alternative transportation program.
- Ask patron's friends to take them home.
- Call a taxi.
- Call the police if the person is not being cooperative.
- Stop someone obviously intoxicated from entering your establishment upon arrival.

To sum up, if you observe an obviously intoxicated person, DO NOT serve or sell him or her any more alcoholic beverages. Keep in mind that the law allows people to be served to the point they are intoxicated. It doesn't allow them to be served once they are in that condition. The term "over service" doesn't really fit. It really is "service to an intoxicated person."

What Happens If You Are in Violation?

- 1. Expect a letter, telephone call, or visit from a License Inspector describing the complaint or violation.
- 2. Take this notice seriously. Call your inspector for information or solutions.
- 3. Failure to comply with violation orders may result in citations, fines, suspensions, and revocation of your license to operate.

Questions? Give us a call: 612-673-3000 or 311

For more information in other languages: Yog xav paub tshaj nos ntxiv, hu 612-673-2800. Macluumaad heeri ah, kala soo xiriir 612-673-3500. Para mas información llame al 612-673-2700.