



## **BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR GUIDE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS**

Being a good neighbor is simple. This basically means that you respect the rights of your neighbors like you would want them to respect yours.

If you are having a party or gathering, please keep your music and noise at a reasonable level and do so at a reasonable time. Some people in your neighborhood go to work early in the morning and thus go to sleep around 11:00 pm or so. Please clean up outside your house after a party or event. Use your common sense and remember that you are not living in the neighbor alone.

Below are several State Laws and City Ordinances that you should be aware of. Please read them and understand.

### **Title 18 - CRIMES AND OFFENSES**

#### **6308 - Purchase, consumption, possession or transportation of liquor or malt or brewed beverages.**

**(a) Offense defined.**--A person commits a summary offense if he, being less than 21 years of age, attempts to purchase, purchases, consumes, possesses or knowingly and intentionally transports any liquor or malt or brewed beverages, as defined in section 6310.6 (relating to definitions). For the purposes of this section, it shall not be a defense that the liquor or malt or brewed beverage was consumed in a jurisdiction other than the jurisdiction where the citation for underage drinking was issued.

**(b) Penalty.**--In addition to the penalty imposed pursuant to section 6310.4 (relating to restriction of operating privileges), a person convicted of violating subsection (a) may be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$500 for the second and each subsequent violation.

**(c) Preadjudication disposition.**--

(1) When a person is charged with violating subsection (a), the magisterial district judge may admit the offender to the adjudication alternative as authorized in 42 Pa.C.S. § 1520 (relating to adjudication alternative program) or any other preadjudication disposition if the offender has not previously received a preadjudication disposition for violating subsection (a).

(2) The use of a preadjudication disposition shall be considered a first or subsequent offense, whichever is applicable, for the purpose of further adjudication under this section or under section 6310.4.

**(d) Notification.**--The police department making an arrest for a suspected violation of subsection (a) shall so notify the parents or guardian of the minor charged .

## **Title 18 - CRIMES AND OFFENSES**

### **5505 - Public drunkenness and similar misconduct.**

A person is guilty of a summary offense if he appears in any public place manifestly under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance, as defined in the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, except those taken pursuant to the lawful order of a practitioner, as defined in The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, to the degree that he may endanger himself or other persons or property, or annoy persons in his vicinity.

# Title 18 - CRIMES AND OFFENSES

## 5503 - Disorderly conduct.

(a) **Offense defined.**--A person is guilty of disorderly conduct if, with intent to cause public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk thereof, he:

- (1) engages in fighting or threatening, or in violent or tumultuous behavior;
- (2) makes unreasonable noise;
- (3) uses obscene language, or makes an obscene gesture;

or

(4) creates a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act which serves no legitimate purpose of the actor.

(b) **Grading.**--An offense under this section is a misdemeanor of the third degree if the intent of the actor is to cause substantial harm or serious inconvenience, or if he persists in disorderly conduct after reasonable warning or request to desist. Otherwise disorderly conduct is a summary offense.

(c) **Definition.**--As used in this section the word "public" means affecting or likely to affect persons in a place to which the public or a substantial group has access; among the places included are highways, transport facilities, schools, prisons, apartment houses, places of business or amusement, any neighborhood, or any premises which are open to the public.

# Title 18 - CRIMES AND OFFENSES

## 6310.1 - Selling or furnishing liquor or malt or brewed beverages to minors.

(a) **Offense defined.**--Except as provided in subsection (b), a person commits a misdemeanor of the third degree if he intentionally and knowingly sells or intentionally and knowingly furnishes, or purchases with the intent to sell or furnish, any liquor or malt or brewed beverages to a person who is less than 21 years of age.

(b) **Exceptions.**--The provisions of this section shall not

apply to any religious service or ceremony which may be conducted in a private home or a place of worship where the amount of wine served does not exceed the amount reasonably, customarily and traditionally required as an integral part of the service or ceremony.

**(c) Minimum penalty.**--In addition to any other penalty imposed pursuant to this title or other statute, a person who is convicted of violating subsection (a) shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$1,000 for the first violation and a fine of \$2,500 for each subsequent violation. There shall be no authority in any court to impose on an offender any lesser sentence than the minimum sentence mandated by this subsection. No court shall have the authority to suspend any sentence as defined in this section. Nothing in this section shall prevent the sentencing court from imposing a sentence greater than the minimum sentence mandated in this subsection. In no case shall the sentence exceed the maximum sentence prescribed by law. (Mar. 25, 1988, P.L.262, No.31, eff. 60 days)

## **Title 18 - CRIMES AND OFFENSES**

### **6501 - Scattering rubbish.**

**(a) Offense defined.**--A person is guilty of an offense if he:

- (1) causes any waste paper, sweepings, ashes, household waste, glass, metal, refuse or rubbish, or any dangerous or detrimental substance to be deposited into or upon any road, street, highway, alley or railroad right-of-way, or upon the land of another or into the waters of this Commonwealth;
- (2) interferes with, scatters, or disturbs the contents of any receptacle containing ashes, garbage, household waste, or rubbish; or
- (3) is the owner or operator, or an agent of either, of a trash, garbage or debris collection vehicle, including private automobiles and small trucks, or any other type of vehicles used to collect or transport trash, garbage or debris, who knowingly causes to be deposited or deposits the vehicle's load or any part thereof upon any road, street, highway, alley or railroad right-of-way, or upon the land of

another or into the waters of this Commonwealth.

**(b) Penalty.--**

(1) A person who violates subsection (a)(1) or (2) is guilty of a summary offense for the first offense and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$300 or to imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

## **BETHLEHEM CITY ORDINANCES**

### **717.01 UNNECESSARY NOISE A NUISANCE**

(a) The making of unnecessary noise, while residing or occupying or present in or around a dwelling, building or other structure in the City by a person, animal, musical instrument, amplifying systems or otherwise, is declared to be a public nuisance. Prohibited conduct shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- (1) No person shall operate or allow to be operated a radio, stereo, boom box, tape and/or CD player or any other type of sound reproduction device in any area within the City at a sound level which is audible at a distance of greater than forty (40) feet from the location of any such sound reproduction device.
- (2) No person or animal shall be permitted to create any sound or noise which endangers or injures the safety or health of another person or animal, which annoys or disturbs a reasonable person of normal sensitivities, or which endangers or injures personal or real property or a property right or interest.
- (3) No person shall make unnecessary noise in the handling of ash, trash, garbage receptacles, either in loading or unloading, and whether full or empty.

### **705.04 DISORDERLY HOUSES.**

No person shall visit, occupy or frequent any house or building of any sort or description in the City, and behave therein in a loud, tumultuous or disorderly manner to the disturbance of the peaceable residents nearby.

### **723.02 PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to consume any alcoholic beverage or carry or possess any opened vessel containing any alcoholic beverage on

or about any public place, or in any automobile or other vehicle parked upon any public place within the City of Bethlehem.

(b) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic beverages at a function or activity for which a special occasion permit has been issued by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, or an appropriate permit issued by the City of Bethlehem, or in any dully licensed establishment whose Certificate of Occupancy and liquor license extends upon a sidewalk or other outdoor area.

**PENALTY.**

Any person who violates any provision of this Article shall be subject to the following penalties:

- (a) First violation - A fine of \$100.00, or thirty days imprisonment, or both;
- (b) Second violation - A fine of \$300.00, or sixty days imprisonment, or both;
- (c) Third and each subsequent violation - A fine of \$600.00, or ninety days imprisonment, or both;

Thank You for your Cooperation.

Mark DiLuzio  
Chief of Police

Laws &