

Underage Alcohol Offenses

Fake ID and Possession of Alcohol (MIP) – If you or someone you know is using a fake ID or just hoping they won't check, the penalties can be harsh. There is a violation of the state statute, 60-7B-1, when a person under 21 buys, attempts to buy, or possesses an alcoholic beverage. The first offense results in a fine up to \$1,000 and 30 hours of community service related to reducing the incidence of DWI. The penalties get harsher with subsequent offenses. There are students here with this conviction on their record and it can have serious consequences.

If you get sick or injured because you are under the influence of alcohol, some medical insurance plans will refuse to cover the expense. This was recently approved by the appellate courts of New Mexico in 2016-NMCA-037, where the plan for employees of NM Tech excluded coverage in that situation. It may be difficult to find out if your insurance has such an exclusion.