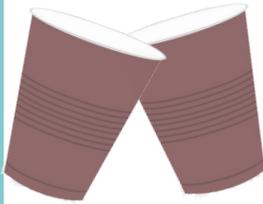


# WHAT IS THE SOCIAL HOST LAW?



***The primary purpose of the Social Host Law is to deter underage drinking parties or gatherings where adults knowingly allow minors to drink alcohol or alcoholic beverages, or use drugs, whether or not they provide the alcohol or drugs.***

- Law amended on 4-24-2018 to include drugs <https://ecode360.com/14943987>
- Definition - **Drug** - Any substance listed in Schedule I, II, III, and IV of New York State Public Health Law § 3306, including, but not limited to, marijuana, heroin, hydrocodone, oxycodone, fentanyl, anabolic steroids, and cocaine.

## Who can be charged?

- Anyone who is over the age of 18 and;
- Owns, rents, or otherwise controls a private residence; permanent, temporary or other dwelling unit of any kind, including yards and open areas adjacent to these locations, and;
- Knowingly allows the consumption of alcohol or use of drugs by any minor and/or;
- Fails to take reasonable corrective action upon learning of the consumption of alcohol or use of drugs by any minor.

## What is “Reasonable Corrective Action?”

- Making a prompt demand that the minor(s) stop drinking alcohol or using drugs or leave the premises; and
- If the minor refuses to comply with the request, the adult must promptly report the drug use or underage drinking to:
  - Local law enforcement; or
  - Any other person with greater degree of authority over the minor (e.g. the minors’ parents or guardians, etc.)

## What are the penalties?

- First offense: Any person who violates the law shall be guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.
- Second and subsequent offenses: Any person who violates the law shall be guilty of an unclassified misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, a term of imprisonment not to exceed one year, or both.



***Remember, New York State #COVID-19 Guidelines restrict social gatherings to no more than 10 people.***