
CHILDREN UNDER 17 YEARS OF AGE

- Considered a minor
- Under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court; the court's purpose is to help young people through applied guidance and control
- Depending on the offense and past delinquency record, police and prosecutors make a determination whether to petition the court or apply diversion, allowing the juvenile to be placed in counseling and community service programs (usually through Youth Assistance)
- Livonia Police will notify parents when their child is arrested

17 YEARS OR OLDER

- Considered an adult
- Juvenile procedures do not apply
- The Police Department may notify parents when a 17-year-old child is arrested

JUVENILES MAY BE TREATED AS ADULTS

- Juveniles as young as 14 years of age may be tried as an adult and given an adult sentence for serious crimes like:
 - Murder
 - Arson
 - Attempted murder
 - Crimes that inflict serious injury
 - Possession of narcotics (650 grams or more)

CURFEW (SEC. 9.80)

- 11 years of age and under: 10:00PM–6:00AM
- 12-16 years of age: 12 midnight–6:00AM
- Minors are not allowed on public streets or in public places such as parks during curfew hours
- Exceptions include:
 - When the minor is accompanied by a parent or other family member who is at least 18 years of age
 - An emergency errand
 - In the course of employment
- The minor can be petitioned to juvenile court for violating curfew

EXPLOSIVES AND FIREARMS

- It is unlawful to manufacture, possess, provide or detonate any type of homemade or acquired explosive device or make a threat to do so
- It is unlawful to discharge any firearm, air rifle, air pistol or bow and arrow in the city except when lawfully acting in defense of persons or property
- Anyone under 18 may not possess fireworks (8.52.021)

FALSE IDENTIFICATION

- A person under 21 years of age using, altering or providing false identification for use in purchasing alcoholic beverages is guilty of a misdemeanor
- Possessing an altered driver's license is a misdemeanor
- Driver's license will be suspended

ALCOHOL

- It is unlawful for anyone under 21 years of age to purchase, possess or consume alcohol. Even if alcohol is detected on the breath, the minor can be in violation
- It is unlawful to provide alcohol to a minor, and a person may be sued for the resulting actions of the minor
- Zero tolerance for drivers under 21 years of age; the blood alcohol content (BAC) cannot exceed .02%

ALCOHOL OR DRUGS AT SOCIAL GATHERINGS

- It is unlawful to host or allow a social gathering where illegal drugs are present or alcohol is in use by anyone under 21 years of age
- Parents may face criminal and civil liability, even if not present
- City ordinance allows officers to enforce excessive noise and disorderly behavior violations

**If you have any questions, please call the
Livonia Police Department
734-466-2470**

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CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE

- It is unlawful to possess, in any shape or form, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, heroin, etc. or any prescription drug not prescribed by a licensed physician
- Added penalties apply if the offense occurs within 500 feet of a school or park
- Vehicles and property may be forfeited
- Minors may face driver's license suspension even if a vehicle is not involved

INCORRIGILITY/TRUANCY

- Minors must obey parents/guardians and follow house rules
- Minors must attend school

LOITERING

- Remaining in an area with no obvious reason so as to obstruct free and uninterrupted flow of the public (including skateboarding)
- May not be where alcohol is sold by the glass, at dance halls, betting parlors or pool halls without adult accompaniment (Sec. 9.82)

MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

- Intentionally damaging public or private property belonging to another
- Anyone under 18 may not possess spray paint (Sec. 9.89)
- Throwing objects at vehicles or dwellings is prohibited

MOPEDS

- Driver must be 15 years of age and possess a valid moped or automobile driver's license
- The driver must have a valid registration sticker and possess the registration form
- No passengers are allowed, even if there is a passenger seat
- Moped riders under 19 years of age must wear a Department of Transportation (DOT) approved helmet
- The driver may only operate the moped in the street and must obey all traffic laws
- Motor driven scooters are considered mopeds for enforcement purposes

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY ORDINANCE IN LIVONIA

The City of Livonia, Code Section 9.85, which was approved by the City Council in 1994, requires the parent or guardian of a child 17 years of age or younger to exercise “reasonable control” to prevent the child from committing a crime or any other delinquent act that would bring the child under the jurisdiction of the Wayne County Circuit Court-Family Division.

The exercise of “reasonable control” includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- To keep drugs out of the home and out of the possession of the minor, except those drugs duly prescribed by a licensed physician or other authorized medical professional;
- To keep firearms out of the possession of the minor, except those used for hunting in accordance with local ordinance and state law and with the knowledge and supervision of a parent;
- To know the curfew ordinance of the city of Livonia (Chapter 9.80) and to require the minor to observe the curfew ordinance;
- To require the minor to attend regular school sessions and to prevent the minor from being absent from school without parental or school permission;
- To prevent the minor from maliciously or willfully damaging, defacing or destroying real or personal property belonging to others, including that belonging to the city of Livonia;
- To prevent the minor from engaging in theft of property or keeping in his or her possession property known to be stolen. (Ord. 2240 § 2 (part), 1994)

A parent or guardian who violates this section of the City Code is responsible for a misdemeanor with fines not to exceed \$500.00 or 90 days in jail, or both in the discretion of the court.

There are enforceable consequences for every illegal act.

“Kids will be kids,” “This is the first time it ever happened,” or “I didn’t know it was against the law” will not be considered defense by legal authorities.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Raising a child in today’s world is difficult. Children may experience various emotional and behavioral problems as they grow.

It is important to intervene early when problems are most easily solved. Some resources to consider are school counselors and social workers, clergy, community counseling services, the school Student Assistance program, and self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Alanon, and Families Anonymous.

OTHER COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Growth Works 734-455-4095
Livonia Youth Assistance 734-466-2670
16th District Court 734-466-2500
Wayne County Family Division..... 313-833-5600
Neighborhood Service Organization 313-224-7000

Runaway Shelter & Transitional Living
10-17 year olds 248-547-2260
16-20 year olds 248-399-9795

Wayne County Family Center 734-721-0590
Victims of Abuse..... 888-453-5900
First Step 734-459-5900
Child Protective Services..... 800-716-2234

Livonia Police Department
Non-Emergency 734-466-2470



Livonia Save Our Youth Task Force

www.saveouryouthtaskforce.org
14278 Henry Ruff • Livonia, MI 48154
734-293-4243

The Livonia Save Our Youth Task Force is a grass roots effort to educate and empower the community in addressing the issues that affect the health and safety of our young people with a focus on alcohol and other drugs.

We would like to thank the Royal Oak Prevention Coalition for their support and contributions to this brochure.



Dear Parents and Youth,

It is important that parents and youth be aware of the consequences connected with violations of the law. This brochure provides you with information regarding law violations that often bring young people into contact with the police and court system.

There are consequences for violations of the law. Your child’s age determines whether the juvenile court or local and county criminal courts have jurisdiction.

We urge you to take a few moments to become familiar with the information included here.

The Livonia Save Our Youth Task Force and the Livonia Police Department are striving to create a safe, substance abuse-free environment within which our youth may achieve their maximum potential. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can assist you or your family in any way.

Livonia Police Department

15050 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 466-2470

Livonia Youth Assistance

33000 Civic Center Drive
Livonia, MI 48154
(734) 466-2670