



Drug Free Marion County Can Help You Find Out About Alcohol Violations in Your Neighborhood

A new database recently compiled by Drug Free Marion County can provide you with information about which businesses in your neighborhood have been cited for alcohol-related violations by the Indiana State Excise Police in the last three years.

DFMC can generate reports that show you violations by Indianapolis-area restaurants, bars, grocery/convenience/drug stores and package liquor stores. Information can be sorted by violation type, business cited, the zip code of cited businesses and more.

“Through this database, we hope to provide a means for Marion County residents and business owners to track those establishments in their neighborhoods or work areas that have received alcohol-related violations,” says Nancy Beals, project coordinator for DFMC. “In turn, we encourage those citizens to use that knowledge to open discussions with owners of the cited business, urging them to comply with State alcohol laws. And we also hope that citizens who are concerned about an establishment’s violation record will share those concerns with their local Alcohol Control Board.”

During the time period of January 2007 through October 2009, Analysis by Drug Free Marion County shows that the State Excise Police issued 453 alcohol violations to businesses in 34 of Marion County’s 40 zip codes. Six types of violations were issued most frequently across all zip codes: acting without permit, examination of permit by employer/display, minors in tavern, scope of permit, public nuisance and sales to minors.

Overall, 49 percent of alcohol-related violations involved permit issues, while 22 percent involved allowing minors into bars or package stores, selling alcohol to minors or general public-nuisance infractions.

Why should you be concerned about alcohol violations in your area?

“A high number of permit violations – clerks and servers operating without a valid serving permit, retailers and owners not properly examining server permits, or venues selling alcohol outside of their allotted permit type – is concerning,” says Nancy Beals prevention project coordinator for DFMC. “Licensure is required for a reason. With licensure comes training to ensure that clerks, servers, employers and retailers have the knowledge they need to uphold Indiana’s alcoholic-beverage consumer laws. These laws in turn help to prevent consumption of alcohol by underage and intoxicated individuals.”

The remaining three types of most-cited alcohol violations also can negatively impact your neighborhood, Beals adds.

“When sales to minors and public-nuisance violations occur at a business, they negatively impact the surrounding neighborhood or commercial area as well as foster an environment conducive to crime, underage consumption, binge drinking and other high-risk behaviors.”

Ten of Marion County’s 40 zip codes accounted for 64 percent of all alcohol violations during the report period:

Zip Code	2007 Violations	2008 Violations	2009 Violations (through 10/09)	TOTAL
46227	15	13	17	45
46222	14	9	14	37
46268	13	13	8	34
46250	10	9	9	28
46225	16	6	5	27
46203	9	7	10	26
46220	7	0	18	25
46240	15	2	7	24
46201	5	14	4	23
46241	6	11	3	20
Most active zip code areas for the 3 yr time span				64%

Drug Free Marion County compiled its alcohol violations database using information found in online reports provided by the Indiana State Excise Police, <http://www.in.gov/atc/ise/2385.htm>. Anyone interested in generating a specific type of report from this database should contact Drug Free Marion County at 317-254-2815.

Drug Free Marion County – a not-for-profit organization – plans, promotes, implements and coordinates community efforts to prevent and reduce the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs among youth and adults

Drug Free Marion County is located at 2506 Willowbrook Parkway, Suite 100 in Indianapolis. Visit our Web Site at www.drugfreemarioncounty.org.