

Consumer Affairs Victoria

Liquor Licensing Factsheet

Seizing fake identification

December 2003

Drink spiking is not a new phenomenon, it has become a growing problem worldwide, and has come to be associated with the increase of drug assisted sexual assault.

Need more information?

Call Consumer Affairs Victoria Helpline on 1300 65 03 67.

As licensees are aware, the acceptable evidence of age documents for the purposes of gaining entry to, or purchasing liquor from, licensed premises are:

- a Victorian Government Proof-of-Age card
- a driver's licence or learners permit issued by VicRoads or a driver's licence from another
- an Australian or foreign passport, or
- a "Keypass" Proof-of-Age card.

The only defence that a licensee may mount to defend a charge that they have allowed a minor on licensed premises, otherwise than as provided for by the law, or supplied liquor to a minor, is that they can prove that they sighted an acceptable evidence of age document indicating that the person was of or over 18 years.



Date of Issue:
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So what do you do when you believe a youth is presenting fake ID?

Section 127 of the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998* provides that, except in respect of a drivers licence, a licensee or an employee may seize an evidence of age document if they are satisfied that:

- the person who produced the document is not the person to whom it was issued,
- the document contains fake or misleading information about the name or age of the person who produced the document, or
- the document has been forged or fraudulently altered.

The seized document must then be given to the Victoria Police for their investigation.

Licensees and bar staff can fully rely on section 127 to seize what they believe to be fake ID if satisfied as above.

It is important that fake ID is seized. Firstly it allows for police investigation and, secondly, it gets the message across to youth thinking of using fake ID that your premises will take firm action, rather than just simply turning them away at the door.

More information

Information on liquor licensing is available from:

**Consumer Affairs Victoria
Victorian Consumer &
Business Centre**

113 Exhibition Street
Melbourne 3000

Telephone: 1300 65 03 67

Website www.consumer.vic.gov.au

Important

It is important that fake ID is seized.



The information contained in this fact sheet is of a general nature only and should not be regarded as a substitute for a reference to the legislation or professional advice.
Authorised by the Victorian Government, 121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.
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