

Town Police Header

***Parents and Police:
A Community Partnership Consent to Search Residence Form***

Authorized from _____ to _____

I/we, _____, of _____ (Town),

New Hampshire being the owner(s) or renter(s) of said address, give permission to members of the (local PD) to enter our residence, and any outbuildings, to conduct a visual search of the premises while we are away and/or absent from our residence if the (local PD) has reason to believe that underage persons have gathered for the purpose of consuming alcoholic beverages. This authorization is granted for the sole purpose of allowing the (local PD) to make a visual search for alcoholic beverages.

Permission to conduct a visual search is granted for the dates listed above unless otherwise noted on this form. I/we, the undersigned, give written permission to the (local PD), voluntarily and without threats or promises of any kind, hereby releases and indemnifies the (local town) and the (local PD) from any and all claim whatsoever that may arise in connection with this consent to search. It is also understood that the (local pd) may not be able to respond to our home while addressing other calls for service during the timeframe of this consent.

Chief of Police

Homeowner/Renter Signature Phone

Homeowner/Renter Signature Phone

Emergency Contact Person

Phone number

Guidelines for Authorized Search

1. If reasonable suspicion or probable cause exists to believe that underage persons, less than 21 years of age, have gathered to consume alcoholic beverages at a residence, the officer in charge shall be requested to respond to the scene immediately.
2. Officers shall determine whether or not a parent or legal guardian is in the home before utilizing the Parents Consent to Search. If none is present in the home Officers shall request to speak with the person/host in charge of the residence.
3. If the door is opened and Officers visually observe illegal possession of alcohol or consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons, they may enter the residence to investigate.
4. The person in charge of the residence will be notified that a properly signed Consent to Search has been authorized permitting the local PD to conduct a visual search for alcoholic beverages. A request to enter and search shall be made.
5. Once inside the home, only a visual search will be conducted in those areas likely to have been occupied by underage persons. Alcoholic beverages believed to be used for under age drinking in the immediate area of the gathering shall be seized and the names and ages of those present shall be documented. Parents of any persons under the age of 18 involved shall be notified. Violations of law shall be handled accordingly with either an arrest or a complaint report forwarded to the Juvenile System if the juvenile meets the criteria.
6. If consent to enter is denied (door remains closed), headquarters shall be notified to verify a Parents Consent To Search Form has been authorized. The information supplied on the consent form must be verified for accurateness, i.e. signature, date, address, name, etc. and the period for which authorization is granted. If available, the emergency contact person shall be called to respond to the home.
7. Force of any kind shall not be used to enter the residence for the sole purpose of searching a residence for the presence of the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Negotiation shall be the preferred response for gaining entry and attempts to notify family members shall be made to assist in gaining entry. If entry can not be gained, the officer may seek other options, i.e., posting of officer at scene, continuous monitoring by patrols, notification to the family.