

LICENSING, REGULATION AND ALCOHOL STRATEGY

Guide to Identifying Intoxication

Under sections 102 and 121 of the Northern Territory *Liquor Act*, it is an offence to sell or supply liquor to an intoxicated person. The onus is on the licensee and their employees to prove that the customer was not intoxicated at the time of sale.

Licensees or their employees must exclude or remove intoxicated persons from licensed premises.

Definition of Intoxication

“A state wherein there is, due to the effects of alcohol or drugs, a loss of self control or judgement which is more than of minor degree”

Justice Hulme NSW Supreme Court 2002

Here Are Some Examples Of Behavioural Signs Of Intoxication

- Spilling drinks and the inability to find one's mouth with glass
- Rambling conversation, loss of train of thought
- Annoying other customers and employees
- Swaying and/or dozing while sitting at bar or table
- Becoming loud , boisterous and making comments about others
- Crude behaviour
- Clumsy, un-co-ordinated
- Aggressive or belligerent
- Inappropriate sexual advances
- Change in gait – stumbling
- Becoming agitated or argumentative
- Becoming careless with money, buying rounds for strangers etc.
- Difficulty moving around objects. Bumping into or knocking over furniture
- Making irrational or nonsensical statements
- Inability to light a cigarette
- Falling down
- Glassy eyes, lack of eye focus, loss of eye contact

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- Letting cigarette burn in ashtray without smoking it
- Altered speech patterns, such as slurred speech
- Inability to pick up change from table/bar

If a person shows a combination of several of these signs, that is a strong indication that the person is intoxicated.