

LEGISLATIVE #

100271

Gainesville Police Department

Inter-Office Communication

Chief Tony R. Jones

To: Chief Tony R. Jones, via chain of command **Date:** 6-20-12
From: Lt. Brian J. Helmersen #055
Subject: Public Safety Committee Referral on Underage Drinking

This communication is in response to a Public Safety Committee referral from May 2011 regarding underage drinking. City wide results from May 1st, 2011 to May 31st, 2012 for charges of alcohol possession by persons under 21 total amount was approximately 368. The total amount for the same time frame from the previous year was approximately 444.

These numbers and the large deviation can be greatly influenced by many factors to include, prevention programs, officer discretion, other charges being filed in lieu of, the abilities of the officers to be proactive, involvement of parents, or lack thereof, etc... These numbers are also influenced by the trends of the under 21 population based peer pressure, public education on the negativity of alcohol consumption and the venues offered.

Therefore, it is very difficult to make any definitive statements as to whether other restrictions or limitations would have a significant influence on these numbers.