

Good Samaritan Law

What's PPMD

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Presenters

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PPMD's information, resources, and trainings can be made available in languages other than English, including sign language, upon request. Please contact us regarding your translation and interpretation needs.

Our Mission

Our mission is to empower families as advocates and partners in improving education and health outcomes for ALL children with disabilities, special healthcare needs and those impacted by behavioral health challenges.



Who is PPMD?

- Maryland's Special Education, Health, & Behavioral Health Information Center
- Established in 1990
- Governed by parents
- Our team is fully made up of parents and family members of children with disabilities, special healthcare, and behavioral health needs



Our Services

- One-on-one assistance to families
- Family peer support for
 - Disabilities
 - Special Healthcare Needs
 - Substance Use
 - Mental Health
 - Problem Gambling
- Resource sharing
- Topical trainings
- Leadership trainings
- Military outreach



We help families...

- Better understand their children's disabilities, education, healthcare & behavioral health needs
- Communicate more effectively with teams
- Understand their rights and responsibilities under special education law
- Understand their rights and benefits in behavioral and healthcare systems
- Obtain services for their loved ones
- Resolve disagreements with the school or other agencies
- Connect with other community resources



Good Samaritan law



What is Good Sam law?

Good Samaritan laws provide legal protection from liability for individuals who voluntarily offer assistance to those in an emergency.



MPT Good Samaritan 2025



Who does it protect?

Good Samaritan Law in Maryland

This law protects these individuals from arrest and prosecution for certain crimes:

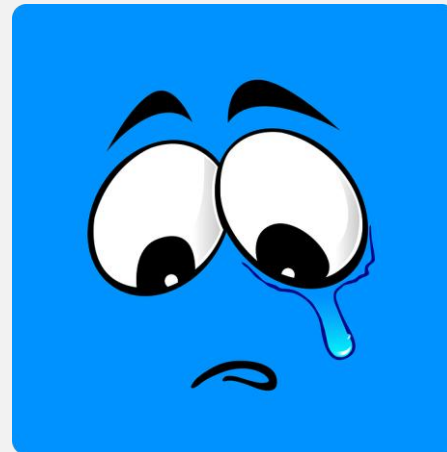
- Individuals assisting in an emergency overdose situation
- Individuals who are experiencing an overdose

The law *does not* protect people witnessing the medical emergency if they're not helping

Good Samaritan law

In plain
terms....

People are being left alone to die
because others are afraid to call for
help.



Who is protected?

This law applies to any person or business who seeks, calls, provides, or assists with providing medical assistance to someone who has taken or used alcohol or drugs.

Examples of Protection:

If you call 911 for someone experiencing an overdose, you cannot be arrested or prosecuted for possession of:

- * **ANY controlled dangerous substance** (heroin, fentanyl, cocaine, methamphetamine, etc.)
- * Drug paraphernalia
- * Alcohol (if underage)

Important: The law protects you regardless of which substance is involved - whether it's heroin, fentanyl, cocaine, pills, or any other controlled substance found at the scene.

You are Protected From 6 Misdemeanors

The law protects persons from criminal arrest, charge or prosecution for these misdemeanors, because of seeking medical assistance:

1. Possessing or giving someone a controlled dangerous substance
2. Possessing with the intent to use drug paraphernalia
3. Controlled drug paraphernalia
4. Underage possession of alcohol
5. Obtaining alcohol for underage drinking
6. Furnishing for or allowing underage drinking

ALSO: Can't violate probation/parole for these specific charges when helping in overdose

The law does NOT apply.....

The Good Samaritan Law is a Maryland State law, does not apply to federal crimes, drug felonies or other crimes not listed within the 6 misdemeanors listed in the previous slide. For instance:

- Quantity of drug found at the scene could be large enough for distribution
- Illegal weapon at the scene
- Someone has an outstanding warrant
- Immigration status
- University regulations





Any Questions



Please tell us how we did today!



Scan the QR code with your phone or [click here](#).

THANK YOU!

For more information, or if you have questions, contact us!

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