

Narcan/naloxone laws

- You are legally allowed to carry Narcan/naloxone in the state of Virginia.
- If you are with someone who you think is experiencing an overdose, they may need emergency services:
 - They may need more doses of Narcan/naloxone than you have
 - They may have another medical problem (Narcan/naloxone only works on opioids)
- If police show up to the site of an overdose, you and the person who is experiencing an overdose might be arrested. You may have what's called an 'affirmative defense' to prosecution if you call 911 for an overdose. This means when you go to court, your charges may be dismissed because you were helping someone who was experiencing an overdose.
 - The charges that can be dismissed under this law are:
 1. Simple possession
 2. Intoxication in public
 3. Illegal possession/consumption of alcoholOther charges will not be dismissed under this law.
 - **To use the affirmative defense, you must:**
 1. Remain with the person who is experiencing an overdose.
 2. Identify yourself to police officers as the person who called 911.
 3. Cooperate with any criminal investigation related to the overdose. This may mean giving up your dealer.
- A person who overdoses does not have legal protection. It is up to the officers if they will or will not arrest them.