



#1 Free Legal Website

FindLaw.com is the leading and largest online resource for legal information. For basic legal issues to more complex ones, you'll find thousands of helpful articles, a legal community to get answers to your specific questions, an attorney directory, blogs, news, DIY forms, and much more.

SCRAM Bracelets

Many jurisdictions have begun using SCRAM bracelets to monitor alcohol use following certain [DUI](#) convictions. SCRAM is short for Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring. SCRAM bracelets attach to a person's ankle and look for the presence of alcohol in sweat. SCRAM bracelet programs are a form of continuous alcohol monitoring with the benefit of not requiring frequent in-person check-ins to test for alcohol use.

Who Gets a SCRAM Bracelet?

In a growing number of states, judges may order or allow use of a SCRAM bracelet as a condition of parole, probation or early release of those convicted of driving under the influence. Most often, judges order SCRAM bracelets for repeat DUI offenders. For a long time, judges have ordered certain DUI offenders not to drink any alcohol, particularly those who have shown a severe problem with alcohol. Sometimes, a SCRAM bracelet is merely an option for the offender instead of in-person testing for example.

SCRAM bracelets, and any other technology for continuous monitoring of alcohol levels, allow easier enforcement of orders not to drink. They also don't require the frequent in-person alcohol tests which can become burdensome for everyone involved.

How SCRAM Bracelets Work

SCRAM bracelets detect even minute amounts of alcohol present in a person's sweat. Often, the person's alcohol levels are checked once per hour by the ankle bracelet. Through a SCRAM bracelet modem, or in some places through a periodic manual download, SCRAM bracelets report the measurements to a regional monitoring center. If the wearer's sweat contains alcohol, or if the person has tampered with the bracelet, the regional monitoring center will contact the appropriate court.

Who Pays for SCRAM Bracelets?

In general, the offender pays for SCRAM bracelet services. This can include the purchase of (or a deposit on) the bracelet itself, as well as monthly monitoring services. SCRAM bracelets are not cheap. In some places, the total cost per month can be hundreds of dollars. Offenders who can prove an inability to pay may have their fees covered.

SCRAM Bracelet Violations

Alcohol use by someone ordered not to drink can constitute a parole or probation violation, and may result in jail time. While SCRAM bracelet results have been accepted by many courts, they have also been successfully challenged. Some defendants have argued that SCRAM bracelets give some false positives. If the defendant can convince the court that the prosecution has not presented adequate evidence of drinking, the court may reject SCRAM bracelet results. Some defendants have countered with witness testimony that he or she was not drinking, as well as expert testimony that the SCRAM results show unlikely drinking behavior based on when alcohol was detected, how long it stayed in the person's sweat.

Challenging SCRAM bracelet violations, however, is an uphill battle. As with other implications of a drunk driving conviction, the ramifications of violation can be huge. An experienced [drunk driving attorney](#) can help you get the best possible in your case.

FINDLAW.COM EMPOWERS PEOPLE WITH TRUSTED, TIMELY AND INTELLIGENT LEGAL INFORMATION

BLOGS – FindLaw Blogs present timely news that has real-life implications, deliver important information and discuss law-related entertainment.

FINDLAW ANSWERS – A vibrant, interactive online community where everyday people can ask legal questions and get real-time answers from legal professionals and others with similar experiences.

NEWS & NEWSLETTERS – Updated throughout the day and night and covering a wide range of legal topics, FindLaw.com's News page presents current legal news, keeping people informed and educated.

FIND A LAWYER – An easy-to-search database of more than one million lawyers and law firms. It provides detailed information, enabling people to contact a qualified lawyer when they are ready.



DO-IT-YOURSELF FORMS & CONTRACTS – FindLaw.com provides accurate legal documents for common legal matters. Choose from a library of easy-to-use, low-cost, accurate legal forms for everyday legal issues.

FINDLAW VIDEO – On FindLaw.com, you'll find an online directory of more than 1,500 short videos dedicated exclusively to legal topics and attorney and law firm profiles.

Connect With Us

FindLaw.com has an entire social media team dedicated to providing our users with as many options as possible to join, participate in, and learn from the FindLaw community. Some of the social key channels are the following:



[FindLaw for Consumers on Facebook](#)

Making the law easy to access with interactive legal updates aimed at starting conversations, informing followers of their legal rights and providing a forum for questions and resources



[@FindLawConsumer on Twitter](#)

Tweeting interesting, entertaining and informative legal news everyday

HAVE A LEGAL QUESTION?
NEED TO FIND AN AFFORDABLE,
QUALIFIED ATTORNEY?

Protect yourself, your family or
your business with a legal plan
or form from LegalStreet

www.LEGALSTREET.com

Copyright © 2013 FindLaw, a Thomson Reuters business. All rights reserved. The information contained in this article is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. The use and distribution of this article is subject to the Creative Commons BY-NC-ND license, which can be viewed at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>. You must attribute the article by providing the title of the article, FindLaw copyright notice and link to the original work. You may not use the article for commercial purposes and you may not alter or transform this article in any way.

FindLaw[®]
A Thomson Reuters Business