



PRESTON'S LAW

Family FAQ Quick Guide

Common questions families may have about Arizona's Preston's Law and safe student choices.

What is Preston's Law?	Arizona law includes a form of aggravated assault when an assault is directed at one person, results in physical injury, and the assailant is aided by two or more accomplices who aid in committing it. It is a Class 4 felony.
Do three people have to physically hit someone?	Not necessarily. The statute focuses on an assailant being aided by two or more accomplices. Whether someone is an accomplice depends on what the person actually did and the facts.
Does simply watching a fight violate Preston's Law?	The law does not say merely witnessing a fight automatically makes someone an accomplice. The key question is whether the person aided in committing the assault. School rules or other laws may still apply.
What about recording or sharing a fight?	Recording or sharing is not specifically identified as automatically making someone an accomplice. Facts matter. Students should not become an audience for violence and should give useful evidence to appropriate adults rather than circulate it.
What if a student plans, encourages, or helps?	Those actions can be significant because accomplice liability depends on aiding the offense. Students should not coordinate, encourage, hold, block, act as a lookout, or otherwise help violence happen.
Does someone have to be injured?	Yes. For this specific Preston's Law provision, the assault must result in physical injury.
Does Preston's Law apply only at school?	No. It amended Arizona's general aggravated-assault statute. NUSD teaches it because group violence, peer pressure, and digital coordination can involve young people both on and off campus.
What should my child do if they see a fight?	STOP → MOVE → TELL. Do not join or encourage it. Move away from danger and the crowd. Tell a teacher, administrator, parent, coach, or another trusted adult.
What if my child receives dangerous information?	SAVE → DON'T SHARE → REPORT. Preserve the original message or screenshot when safe. Do not repost or forward it to friends. Report it to a trusted adult.
Does every group fight become a felony case?	No. The law has specific elements, and legal decisions depend on the facts and evidence in an individual case. School discipline and a criminal investigation are also separate processes.

WHEN DANGER IS HAPPENING
STOP → MOVE → TELL

WHEN DANGEROUS INFORMATION APPEARS
SAVE → DON'T SHARE → REPORT

FAMILY REMINDER: Students do not have to decide whether a situation is serious enough. When safety may be at risk, report it and let the appropriate adults assess the facts.

Legal reference: A.R.S. § 13-1204(A)(12), (F). This quick guide is for family education and is not legal advice.

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