

Penalties for Acts of Graffiti

- According to the Los Angeles Municipal Code, any person, who commits an act of graffiti visible from a public street, alley, including a public freeway, shall be liable in a civil action brought by the City Attorney in an amount not exceeding \$1,000.00. **(LAMC 14 49.85).**
- All penalties collected shall be used solely to fund the graffiti reward program and City graffiti abatement programs. **(LAMC 14 49.86).**
- According to the California Penal Code, any person who maliciously defaces real or personal property with etching cream or paint is guilty of vandalism, which is punishable by a fine, imprisonment, or both. Perpetrators can be sentenced to state prison or county jail for up to one year, and can be fined up to \$50,000 depending on the cost of the damage. **(CPC Sec. 594-625c 594 (b)(1)).**
- Juveniles who commit acts of vandalism can be sentenced to do hundreds of hours of community service painting out graffiti.

Rewards

- The City of Los Angeles may pay a reward of up to \$1,000 for information resulting in the identification, apprehension, and conviction, or a final adjudication of a person or persons whose acts of graffiti-related vandalism have damaged or destroyed public or private property in the City of Los Angeles. **(LAMC 19.129.2).** Rewards are usually contingent upon the witness being willing to testify, and are usually paid only if the perpetrator is convicted. For an application for reward, call CD-13 or visit <http://www.lacity.org/bpw/ocs/>

Property Owner's Responsibility

- The exterior of all buildings and fences must be free of graffiti. Property owners and/or managers are responsible for removing graffiti from property. **(LAMC 918104.15).**

Spray Cans to Minors

- California law prohibits any person, firm, or corporation, except a parent or legal guardian, to sell or give or in any way furnish to a minor under the age of 18, any etching cream or aerosol container of paint that is capable of defacing property. **(CPC Sec. 594-625c 594.1. (a)(1)).**