What are the Punishments for Misdemeanors in Arizona?

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Misdemeanors are less severe than <u>felonies</u>, but a person can still serve jail time if convicted of certain misdemeanors. There are three levels of misdemeanors; the most severe misdemeanor is a class 1, while the least severe is a class 3. The maximum punishments for each misdemeanor class is listed below according to the Arizona criminal code under section <u>A.R.S. § 13-707</u>.

- 1. For a class 1 misdemeanor, six months.
- 2. For a class 2 misdemeanor, four months.
- 3. For a class 3 misdemeanor, thirty days.

Fines often accompany a misdemeanor conviction, and can vary depending on the nature of the crime and if it's a first offense. Listed below is the maximum fine that can be imposed for each misdemeanor class.

A.R.S. § 13-802

- 1. A sentence to pay a fine for a **class 1 misdemeanor** shall be a sentence to pay an amount, fixed by the court, **not more than \$2,500**.
- 2. A sentence to pay a fine for a **class 2 misdemeanor** shall be a sentence to pay an amount, fixed by the court, **not more than \$750.00**.
- 3. A sentence to pay a fine for a **class 3 misdemeanor** shall be a sentence to pay an amount, fixed by the court, **not more than \$500.00.**
- 4. A sentence to pay a fine for a **petty offense** shall be a sentence to pay an amount, fixed by the court, of **not more than \$300.00**.

A term of probation can also be included in a misdemeanor conviction.

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