

# **Rural Investigation and Response to Underage Drinking**

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# U.D.E.R.T.

**U**nderage **D**rinking **E**nforcement  
**R**esponse **T**eam

- **UDERT was formed in 2005**
- **Office of Substance Abuse assistance**
- **Operations prior to UDERT and Knox S.O. commitment**
- **Since UDERT was formed**

# **Discussion Topics**

- 1. Effective protocols**
- 2. Creating a plan of action**
- 3. Implementing the plan**
- 4. Post action evaluation**
- 5. Party prevention**

# **Knox County Sheriff's Office Protocols**

- 1.Obtaining information**
- 2.Making Notification**
- 3.UDERT coordination and  
activation**
- 4.Post action Review**

# CONSTRUCTING EFFECTIVE OPERATING PROCEDURES

## Regional Communications/Dispatchers

- **Coordinate with communications supervisors and dispatchers with a proposed response and notification plan.**
- **Create a plan that will not hinder communications with their normal duties, but will be effective in gathering information and disseminating information to on-duty officers, supervisors or UDERT coordinators.**

# 2 scenarios for UDERT activation

**Citizen complaints**

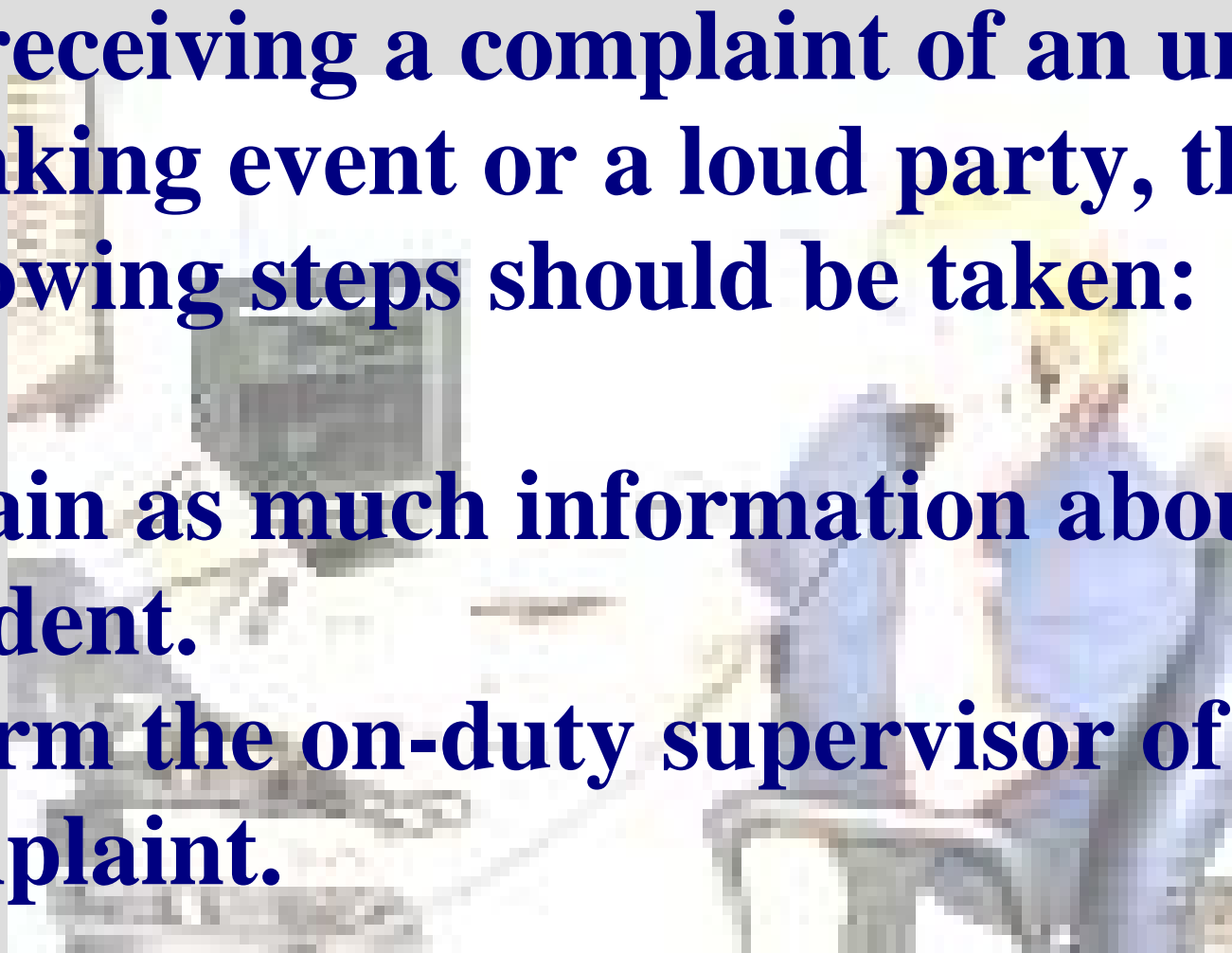
**Active Patrol**



# **Knox County Procedures for Underage Drinking Complaints**

**Upon receiving a complaint of an underage drinking event or a loud party, the following steps should be taken:**

- 1. Obtain as much information about the incident.**
- 2. Inform the on-duty supervisor of the complaint.**

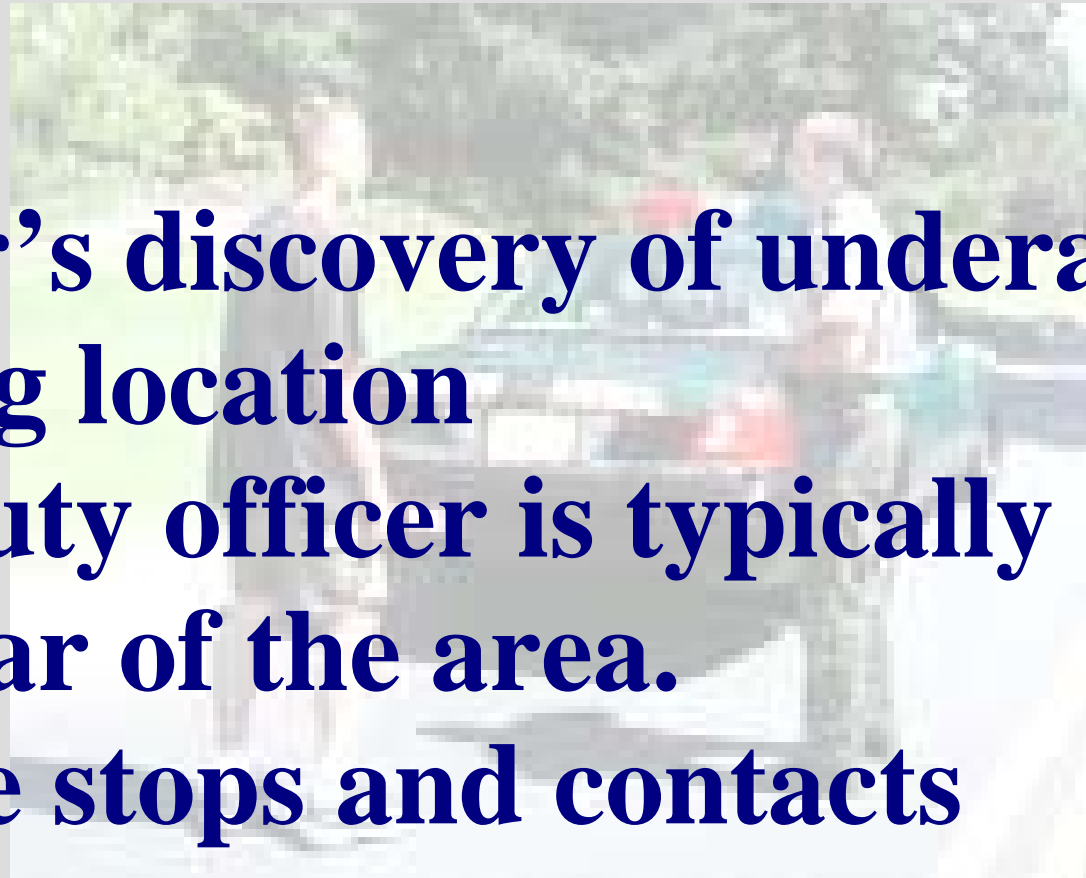


# **Knox County Procedures for Underage Drinking Complaints Continued**

**3. Contact UDERT coordinators to explain nature of complaint.**

**4. The UDERT coordinators organize the response**

# **PARTY PREVENTION AND PATROL PROCEDURES**



- **Officer's discovery of underage drinking location**
- **The duty officer is typically asked to stay clear of the area.**
- **Vehicle stops and contacts**

# Quelling the Situation

## ***THE RESPONSE***



# **INTELLIGENCE GATHERING**

**Officer surveillance**

**Officer's Report**

**Surveillance equipment**

**Maps and aerial photographs**

# IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

## Officer Assignments



# IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN CONTINUED

*Assigned positions may include:*

- ✓ *Photographing and collecting evidence*
- ✓ *Issuing juvenile and adult summonses*
- ✓ *Containment and control*
- ✓ *Contacting parents and making arrangements for pick up and transportation*
- ✓ *Assignments will be determined by the number of officers available to respond.*

# **Suggested Approaches**

**Gravel Pits and Quarries**

**Private Residences**

# GRAVEL PITS AND QUARRIES

**Where are they?**

**Landowner permission**

**Predetermined entry routes  
and assigned duties.**

**Hazards and Safety**

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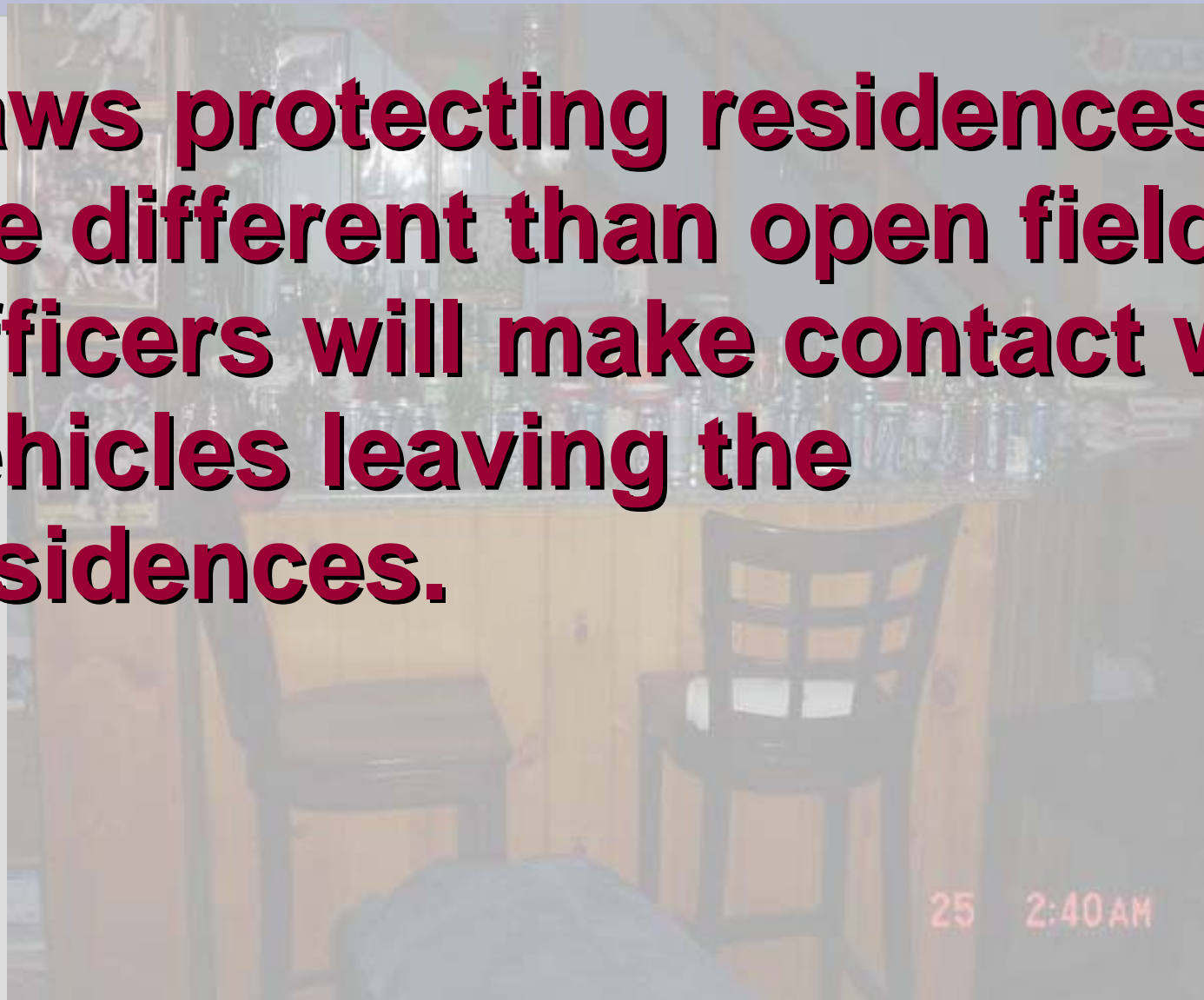
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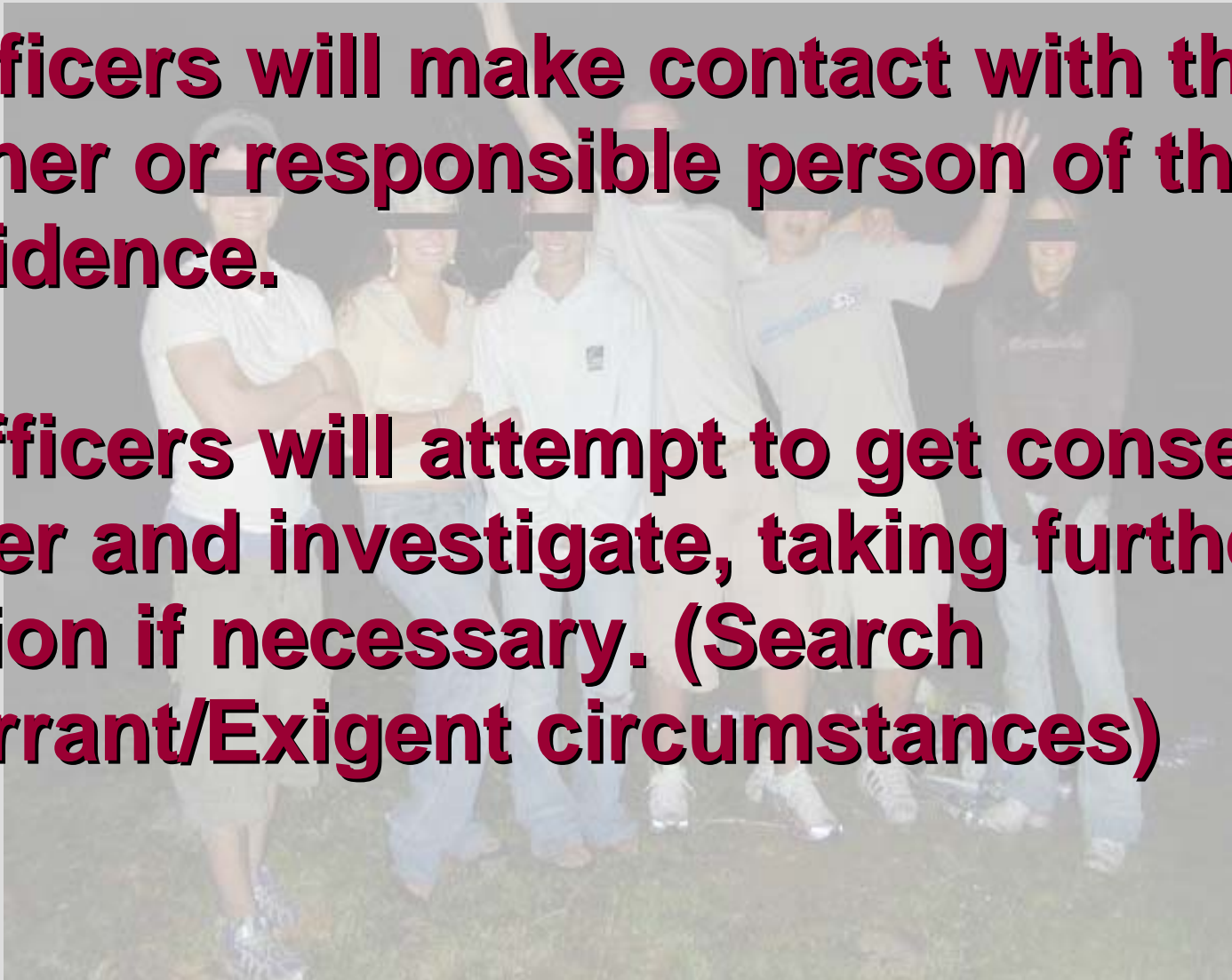
# PRIVATE RESIDENCE

- **Laws protecting residences are different than open fields**
- **Officers will make contact with vehicles leaving the residences.**



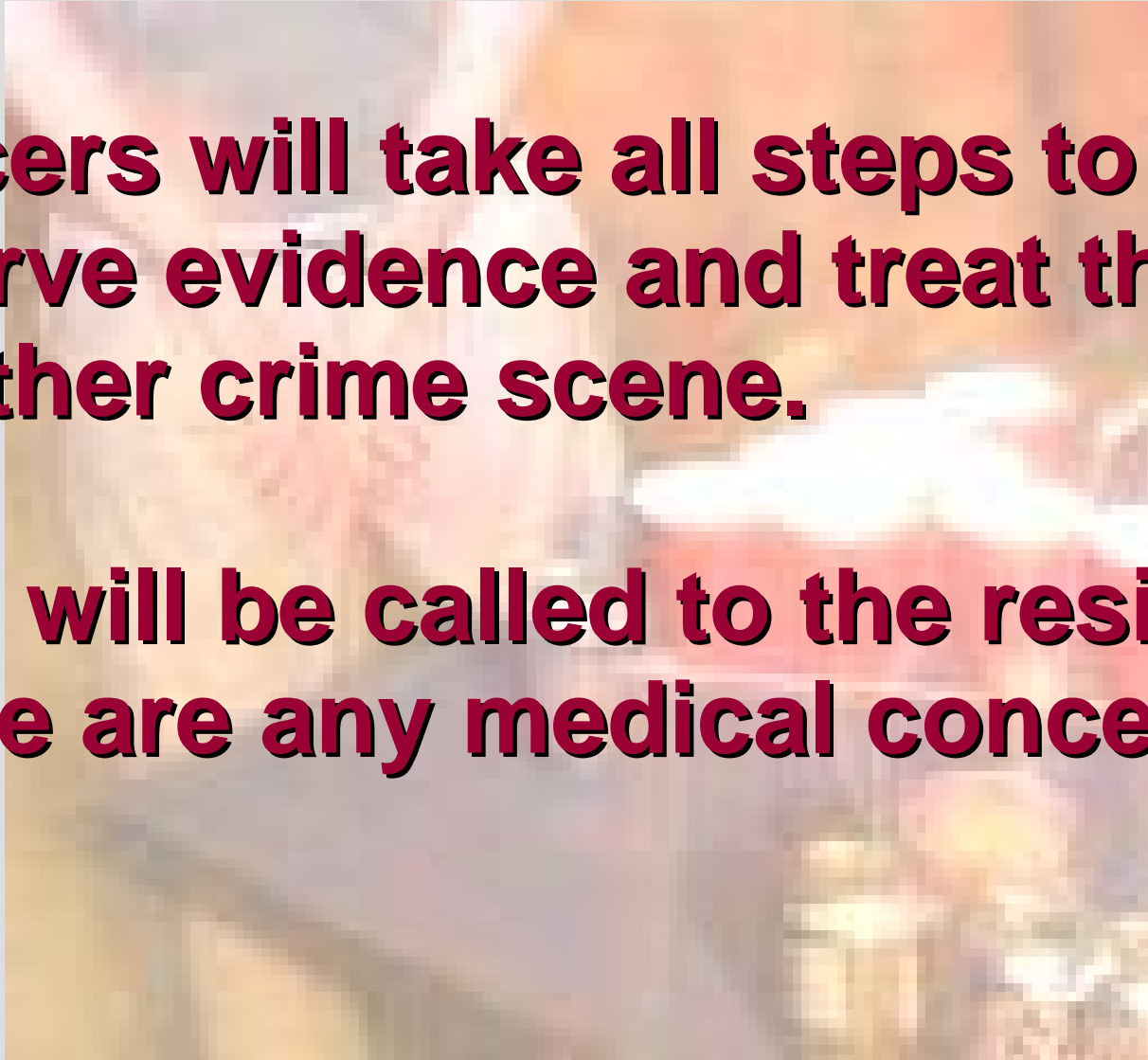
# PRIVATE RESIDENCE CONTINUED

- **Officers will make contact with the owner or responsible person of the residence.**
- **Officers will attempt to get consent to enter and investigate, taking further action if necessary. (Search Warrant/Exigent circumstances)**



# PRIVATE RESIDENCE CONTINUED

- **Officers will take all steps to preserve evidence and treat this as any other crime scene.**
- **EMS will be called to the residence if there are any medical concerns.**

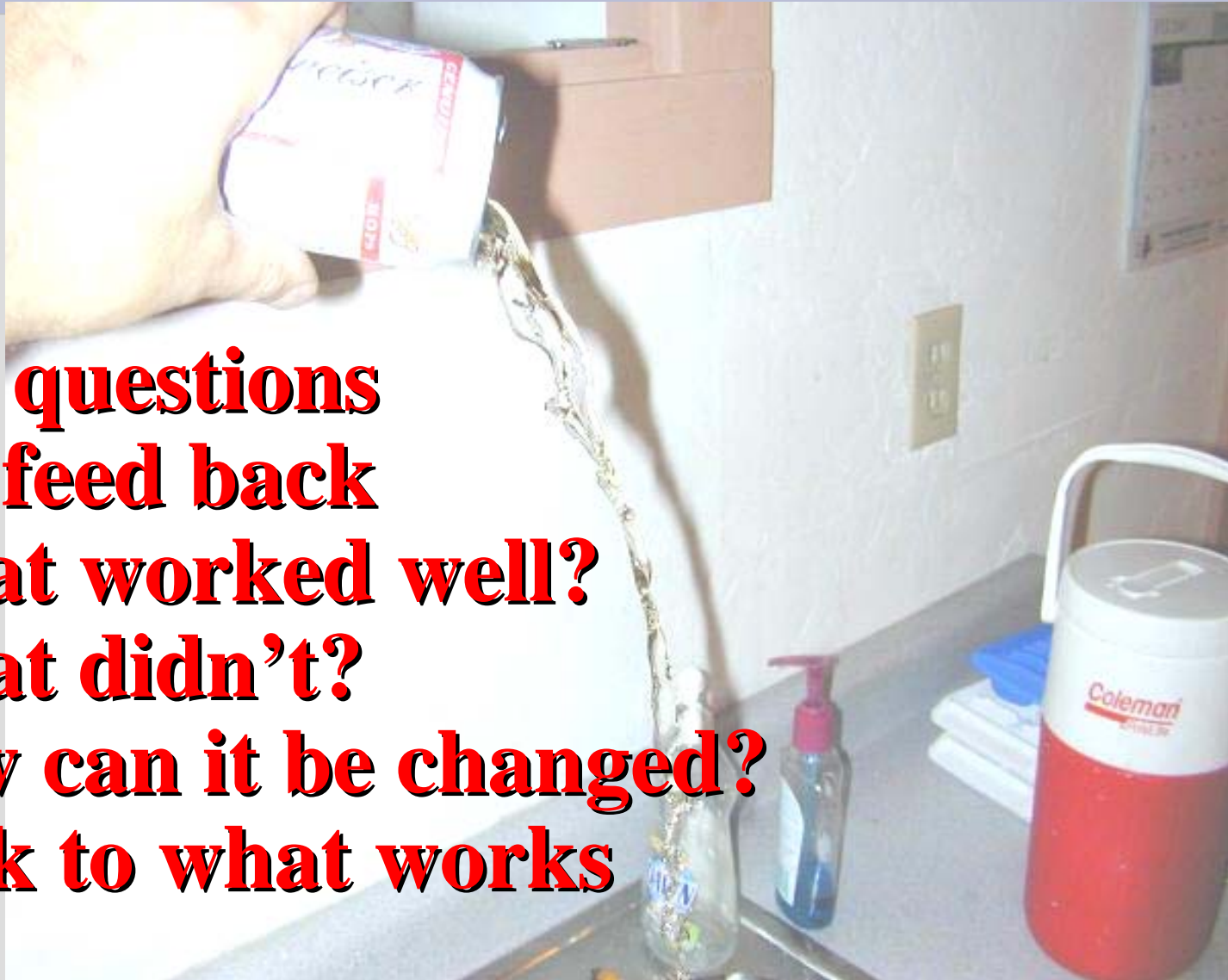


# **Things to think about**

- Supervisors and underage drinking coordinators should encourage patrol officers to check known party locations throughout their shifts.**
- Patrol officers should also be trained and encouraged to conduct thorough investigations of underage drinking violations during traffic stops. They should be encouraged to ask questions about where the minors were coming from, heading to and where they obtained their liquor.**

# POST ACTION EVALUATION

- **Ask questions**
- **Get feed back**
- **What worked well?**
- **What didn't?**
- **How can it be changed?**
- **Stick to what works**



# PARTY PREVENTION

- **Implement aggressive patrol techniques and target specific areas**
  - **Visibility and public awareness**
  - **Communicating aggressive measures being taken to minors**
- 

# PARTY PREVENTION CONTINUED

- Uphold a “zero tolerance” policy
- Use media to get the message out
- Use information to prevent scheduled parties
- Interception of liquor transportation

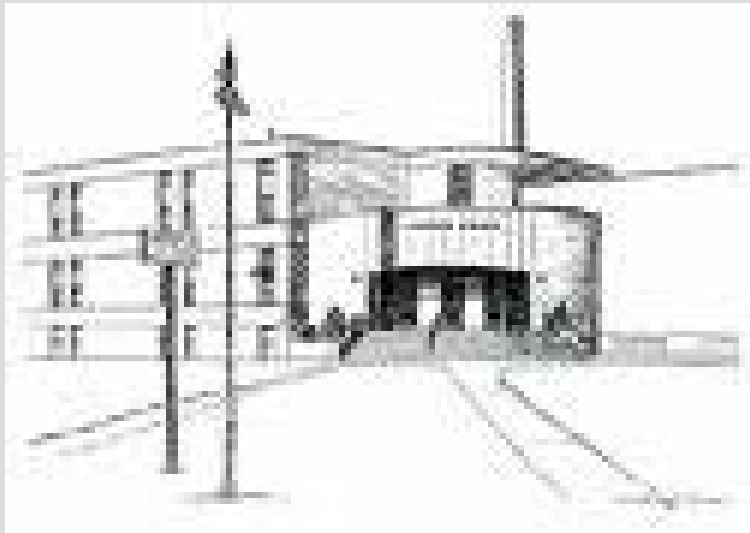


# SHARING INFORMATION

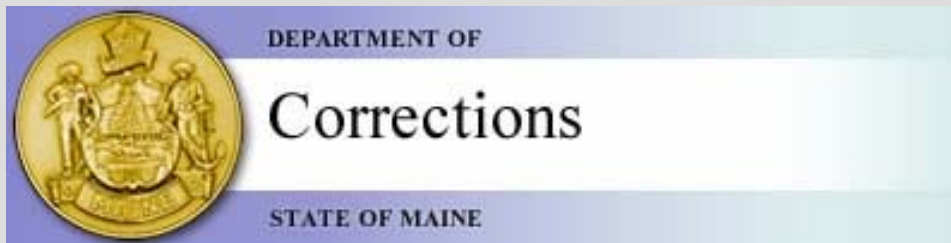


- Intelligence sharing with other L.E. Agencies
- Local schools
- Land owners
- Businesses and contractors
- Citizens
- Documentation

# COMMUNITY AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



- **Initiate contact with school officials and SRO**
- **Probation officers**
- **Convenience store owners**
- **Teen shelters & youth organizations**
- **Work in conjunction with probation and alternative sentencing programs**



# COMMUNITY AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUED



- Coordinate with fairs and festivals
- Coordinate with town offices for planned events
- Offer services and build a rapport

# **MEDIA ADVANTAGE**

- **Build rapport with local media personnel**
- **Initiate information sharing**
- **Report all underage drinking incidents and successful enforcement results**

# **MEDIA ADVANTAGE CONTINUED**

- **Inform media of continued commitment to enforcing underage drinking**
- **Announce planned enforcement activities or increased patrols around holidays, school vacations and graduations or proms**

# Re-cap



- **Protocols**
- **Creating a Plan for Action**
- **Implementing a plan**
- **Post action evaluations**
- **Party prevention**

**QUESTIONS?**



# Thank You

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