

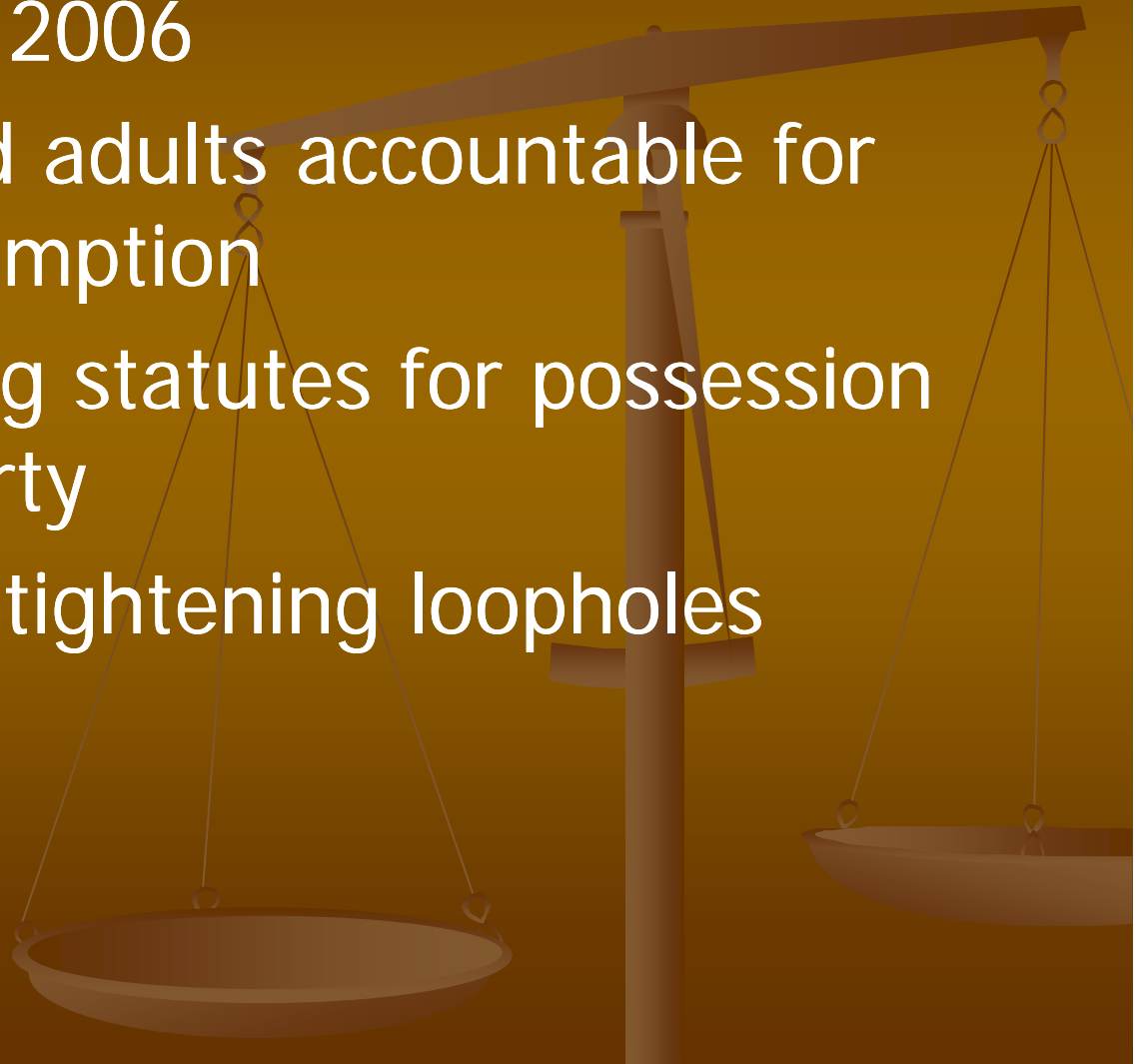


Alternative Sentencing for Underage Drinkers: One Community's Story

The Governor's Prevention Partnership
Hartford Community Court
Hartford, CT

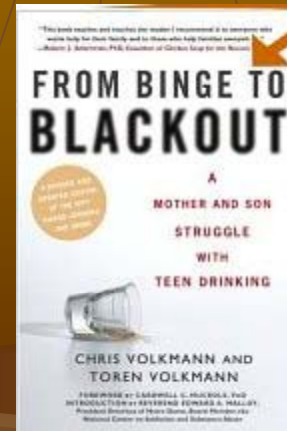
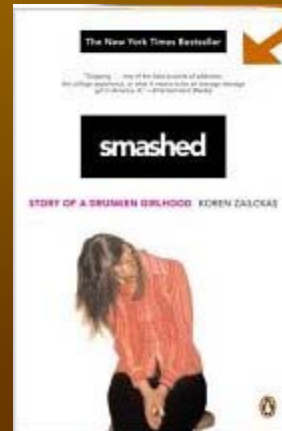
Connecticut's Social Host Law

- Incorporated in 2006
- Holds youth and adults accountable for underage consumption
- Changed existing statutes for possession on public property
- Future work on tightening loopholes



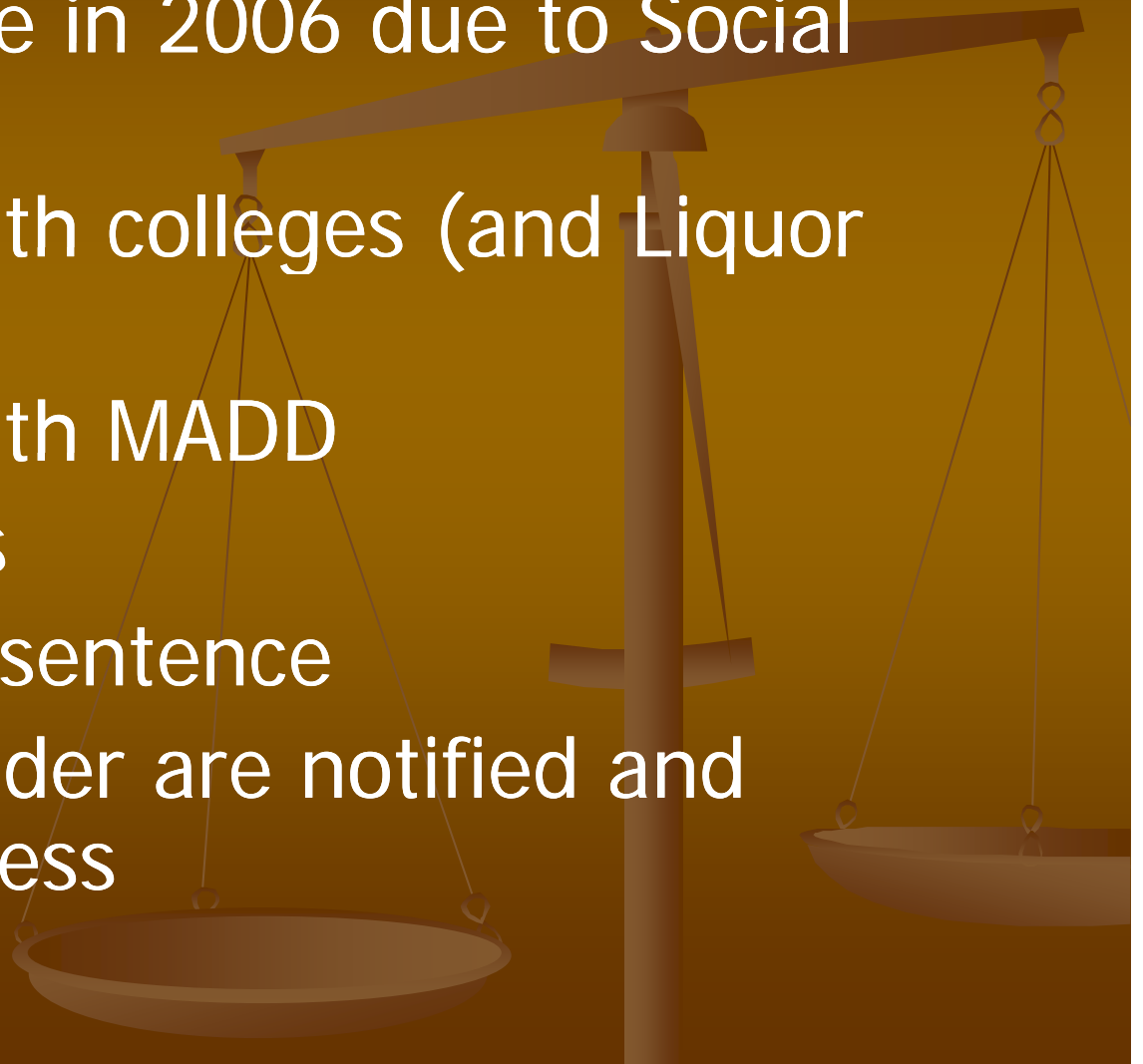
Program Background

- Developed in 2006 after arrest of 26 minors in Hartford
- Created by Judge E. Curtissa R. Cofield and Chris Pleasanton
- Enforcement and educational components



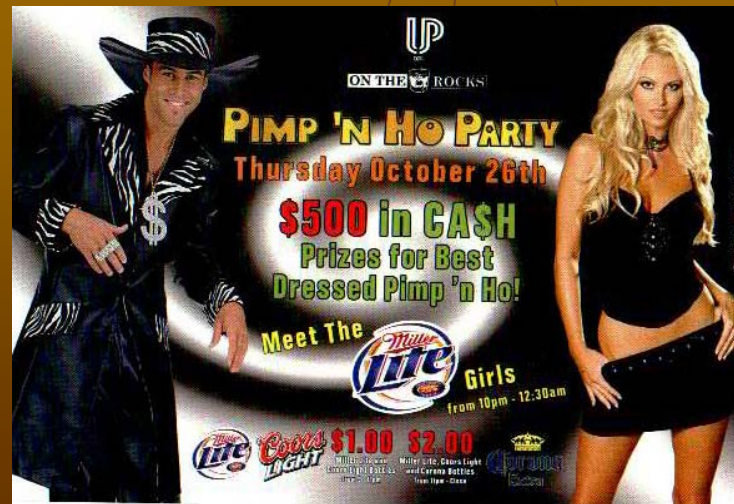
Program Highlights

- Caseload change in 2006 due to Social Host Law
- Collaboration with colleges (and Liquor Control)
- Collaboration with MADD
- Referral process
- Components of sentence
- Parents of offender are notified and involved in process



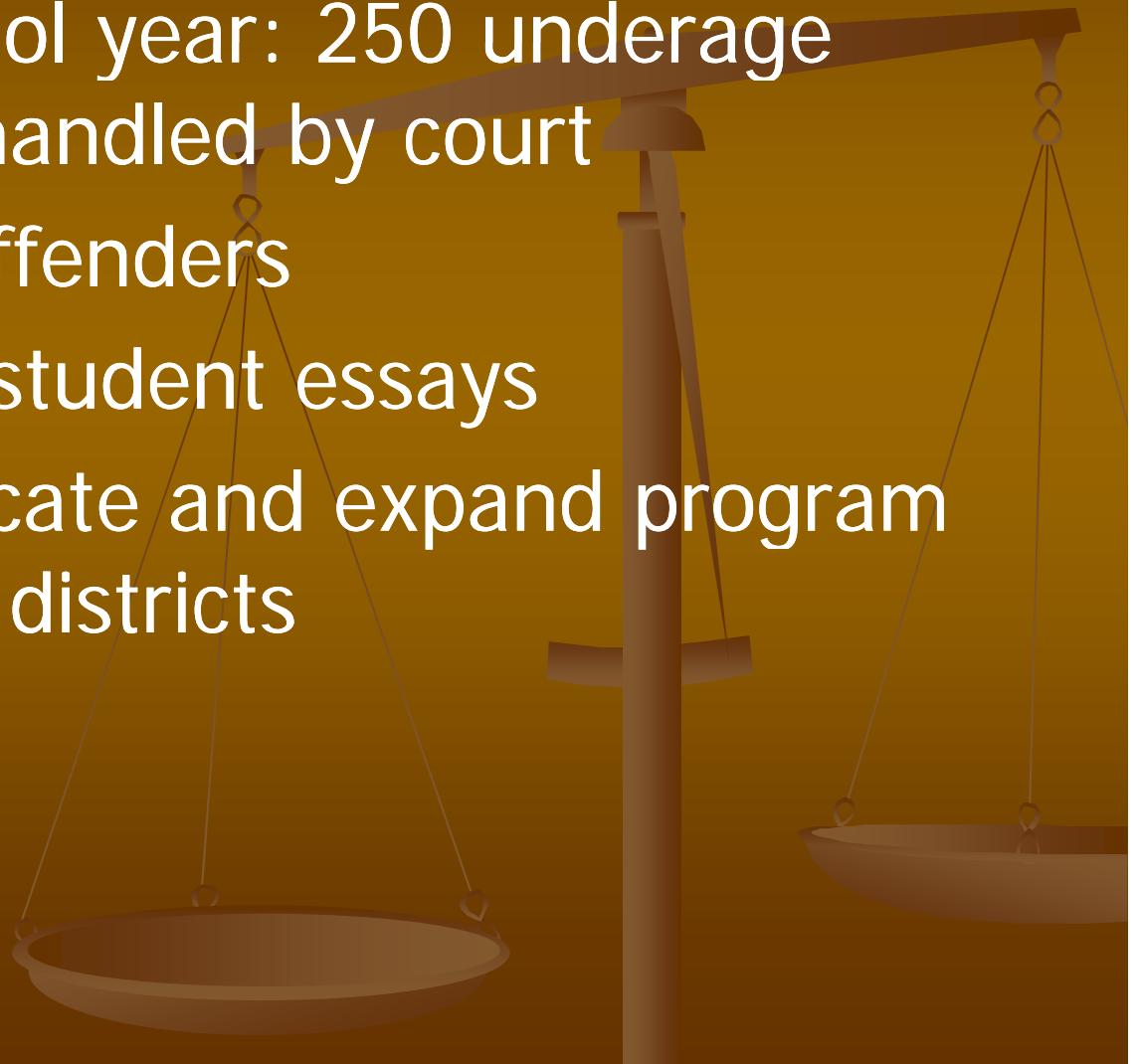
Sample Case - Temptations

- 115 violators
- Collaborative effort among University of Hartford, Trinity College, Liquor Control, and Hartford Police Department



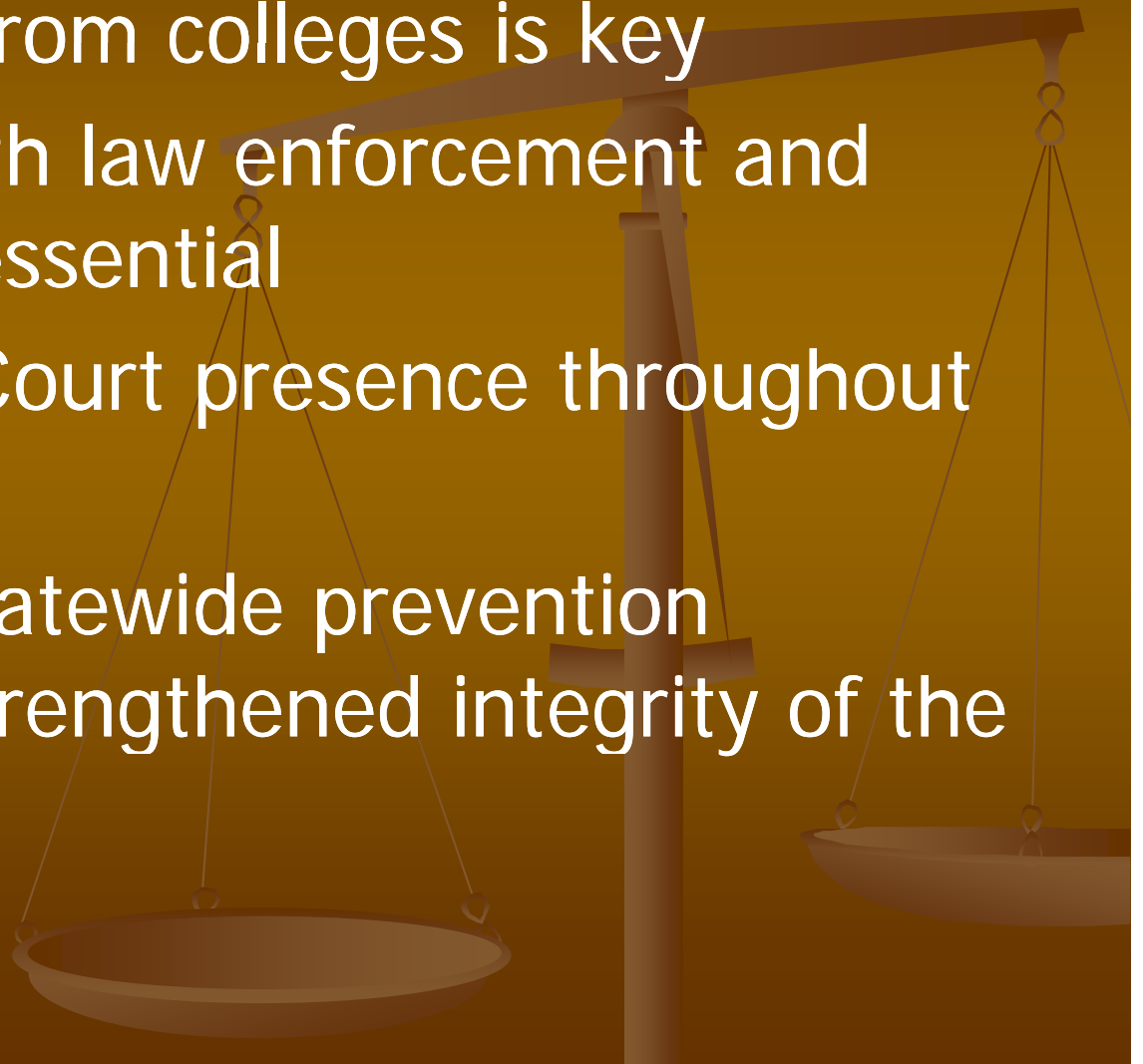
Success Stories

- 2006-2007 school year: 250 underage drinking cases handled by court
- Only 3 repeat offenders
- Feedback from student essays
- Looking to replicate and expand program in other judicial districts



Lessons Learned

- Getting buy-in from colleges is key
- Partnerships with law enforcement and Liquor Control essential
- Importance of Court presence throughout the community
- Working with statewide prevention organizations strengthened integrity of the program



Youth Under 18

- Juvenile Review Board
- Youthful Offender Status
- Community Service and Education Components
- Parent Involvement
- Limits of Social Host Law



Incorporating Treatment and Education

- Statistics on college-age alcohol use
- Best Practices
- Alcohol Screening
- Educational component
- Access to treatment resources



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