

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD

A Comparison of the Combined-Use of Alcohol & Energy Drinks to Alcohol-Only on High-Risk Drinking and Driving Behaviors

The combined-use of alcohol and energy drinks is an emerging public health issue. Researchers examined differences in drinking and driving behaviors among combined-users and participants who consumed alcohol-only. Researchers found that combined-users were more likely to drive after drinking, drive while knowingly drunk, and participate in other high-risk behaviors such as heavy drinking that increase the potential for injury. The study authors recommend that public policy makers and health professionals focus prevention efforts on reducing high-risk combined-use behavior. To learn more, visit: <http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/10826084.2014.935948>
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INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO REDUCING UNDERAGE DRINKING IN STATES

“North Carolina Has an Underage Drinking Problem”

Almost twice as many middle and high school students compared to parents think that underage drinking is a serious issue, according to a survey commissioned by the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission. “North Carolina has an underage drinking problem,” ABC Chairman Jim Gardner said on Wednesday. “What’s worse: Our state’s children think underage drinking is a much bigger problem than their parents do.”

The ABC’s new campaign, called *Talk It Out*, focuses on parents and middle school-aged students, Gardner said. To learn more, visit: <http://wunc.org/post/north-carolina-has-underage-drinking-problem>

Fake IDs Could Spell Major Trouble

It’s no secret that many students at The University of Texas at Austin use fake IDs to obtain alcohol or gain entrance to Sixth Street clubs, but the risk might not be worth the reward. For most students, college is a time of growth. With parents no longer calling the shots, most incoming undergrads look forward to their newfound independence. With this freedom, however, come tough choices regarding drinking underage, partying, and obtaining a fake ID.

Both the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and the Austin Police Department say that the use of fake identification by minors is rising in popularity. Students at The University of Texas at Austin claim to mainly use their cards to either purchase alcohol or gain entry into downtown clubs on Sixth Street. According to The National Center for Biotechnology Information, out of a cross-sectional examination of fake ID use in 272 college students, 46 percent reported having used a fake ID to buy alcohol. Minors caught with a fake ID will be charged with a Class C misdemeanor. To learn more, visit: http://www.readthehorn.com/lifestyle/austin/102004/fake_ids_could_spell_major_trouble

WINTER EDITION OF UDETC JUDICIAL eNEWS NOW AVAILABLE

The Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDET) is pleased to bring you the winter edition of its Judicial eNews. Judicial eNews is a resource that provides short summaries and references to current research findings and other helpful information geared toward the judiciary and the underage drinking laws community.

To read the newsletter in its entirety, visit: http://www.udetc.org/Judicial_E_News/Judicial_E_News_Winter_14.html.

LEGAL CASE

“What Is the Meaning of ‘Otherwise Make Available?’”

On October 29, 2014, the Court of Appeals of Oregon rendered their opinion in the matter of *State v. James, 266 Or App 660 (2014)*. Defendant Paula Camille James appealed her conviction of three counts of furnishing alcohol to persons under 21 years of age, in violation of ORS 471.410(2), and one count of endangering the welfare of a minor, in violation of ORS 163.575. She assigned error to the trial court’s denial of her motion for a judgment of acquittal on the furnishing counts, contending that the court’s denial of the motion rested on an erroneous interpretation of ORS 471.410(2), and the evidence at trial was insufficient to support her convictions under a correct interpretation of the statute.

James, a tenant in a building owned by another, had a party at which three persons under age 21 consumed alcohol. With respect to the furnishing counts, the information alleged that the defendant “did unlawfully make available alcoholic liquor” to three different minors: H, LC, and R. The state’s theory at trial was that the alcohol that the defendant “did unlawfully make available” was vodka that those three minors consumed after finding it in the kitchen of the house where defendant was a tenant. James was convicted of these offenses.

Should James’ conviction be upheld or reversed? Was having alcohol at her premise sufficient to satisfy the Oregon statute in question? To read this interesting case, visit:

<http://www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/January2015case.pdf>

To print a copy of this month’s *Resource Alert*, visit: www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert0115.pdf.



Visit www.udetc.org for the latest information on underage drinking.