

## February 2005 Resource Alert

It's official! The Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center will host the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program's 6<sup>th</sup> National Leadership Conference in Tucson, Arizona, from August 18-20, 2005. Pre-conference activities will take place on Wednesday, August 17. Look for the Call for Presentations and registration information on our website, [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org), later this month.

Recently added to our website are updated national costs of underage drinking as well as State-specific fact sheets that detail the costs of underage drinking. The costs are categorized by subject such as youth violence, youth traffic crashes, and youth injury. The State fact sheets also provide data on youth consumption rates for each State. To access the costs of underage drinking page, click on <http://www.udetc.org/UnderageDrinkingCosts.asp>

A new study reports that increasing law enforcement focusing on underage alcohol purchases and limiting the number of places selling alcohol are the most effective ways to prevent underage drinking, binge drinking, and drunk driving. Researchers looked at data from the Oregon Healthy Teens survey on youth alcohol behaviors and concluded that self-reported youth alcohol use was higher in communities where it was easier for young people to get alcohol. The study will be in the March 2005 issue of *Preventive Medicine*. You can read it at [www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00917435).

According to a report released by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), more than 4 million persons aged 16 to 20 drove under the influence of either alcohol or drugs in the past year. This is 21 percent of the U.S. youth in that age group. SAMHSA extracted the data from 2 years (2002 and 2003) of the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. The study reports that only 4 percent of persons aged 16 to 20 who reported driving under the influence were arrested and booked for DUI in the year preceding the survey. The report is available on the web at [www.oas.samhsa.gov](http://www.oas.samhsa.gov).

For those of you wanting to stay on top of news stories related to underage drinking, check out America's Partners to Prevent Underage Drinking. Their news webpage adds to the growing list of Internet sites that track underage drinking stories and may be useful in your work.. Click on <http://www.beawarenow.org/news/> to view the latest news.

This month's Success Stories are from Pennsylvania and Wyoming. Determined to end the high crime and injury

rates related to college underage and binge drinking in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, local police instituted a series of ongoing operations. Local elected officials also adopted or strengthened several ordinances. Consequently, residents have experienced improvements in the public health and safety. In Wyoming, the base commander at F.E. Warren Air Force Base instituted new policy and programs to stop underage and hazardous drinking among base troops. The changes have produced reductions in the incidence of several alcohol-related problems.

The Center continues its audio-teleconference series with an adaptation of one of the most impressive presentations at last's year's National Leadership Conference: *Reducing Underage Drinking Among Middle and High School Athletes*. Student athletes are often at higher risk of substance use than nonathletes. Presenters from Nevada and New York will discuss how to implement successful policies and programs to prevent underage drinking among athletes and discuss how these changes affect student behaviors. The role of parents and other athletic program stakeholders will be highlighted. To find out more about this month's audio-teleconference and to register, visit [www.udetc.org/registration.asp](http://www.udetc.org/registration.asp).

Two new topics have been added to the audio-teleconference series. The topic for May is **Party Prevention and Controlled Party Dispersal: Enforcement and Community Volunteers Working Together**. This call will feature new information detailing how to train and incorporate community volunteers to assist with law enforcement operations. In June, the Center will host a **Campaign Matters: Using Media to Maximize Success**, an adaptation of another highly rated session at the last National Leadership Conference. To register for these and other audio-teleconference, visit [www.udetc.org/registration.asp](http://www.udetc.org/registration.asp).

Visit [www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlert0205.pdf](http://www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlert0205.pdf) to print hard copies of this month's Resource Alert.

### ***New Electronic Resource Alerts!!***

*UDETC is proud to announce that we offer our monthly Resource Alert via e-mail! If you would like to receive our Resource Alert electronically, send an e-mail with "E-mail Subscription" in the subject heading to [udetc@pire.org](mailto:udetc@pire.org). Please be sure to include your name, organization, address, telephone number, and, of course, e-mail address.*



# National Electronic Seminars Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The OJJDP Audio-TELECONFERENCE Series

**February 17, 2005 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## **Reducing Underage Drinking Among Middle and High School Athletes**

Student athletes are often at higher risk of substance use than non-athletes. In response, States have committed resources to address and reduce alcohol and drug use by student athletes. Presenters will discuss how to implement successful programs, and how these programs affect student behaviors. The role of parents and other athletic program stakeholders will be highlighted.

**March 24, 2005 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## **Addressing Underage Drinking Problems on College Campuses: Using Research to Guide Practice**

Underage and high risk drinking behavior on college campuses and in college communities can have a variety of negative effects on individuals and quality of life. The Prevention Research Center (PRC) in Berkeley, California has conducted a wide range of research relevant to the prevention of problem drinking behavior in college communities. This audio-teleconference will feature information from PRC on strategies for preventing underage and high risk drinking among college students as well as information from individuals in college communities who have worked to implement the prevention strategies discussed.

**April 21, 2005 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## **What You Should Know About Alcohol Beverage Types**

Alcohol is the substance most abused by young Americans. Alcohol use also plays a significant role in all three of the leading causes of death for adolescents: unintentional injury, homicide, and suicide. While there is a plethora of studies on drug-specific use by youth, little information is available regarding specific alcoholic beverage consumption patterns or the extent to which youth are using readily available household items to get drunk. This audio-teleconference will share information on this important topic.

**May 26, 2005 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## **Party Prevention and Controlled Party Dispersal: Enforcement and Community Volunteers Working Together**

This audio-teleconference will focus on underage drinking in party settings. It will provide step by step information about how to prevent parties as well as how to break-up such parties in a manner that is safe and that can lead to changes in community norms about underage drinking parties. The audio-teleconference will also share specific information about how community volunteers can be incorporated into this work so that operations proceed efficiently and without liability.

**June 23rd 2005 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## **Campaign Matters: Using Media to Maximize Success**

This audio-call will focus on initiating or enhancing underage drinking prevention efforts by developing campaigns that lead to sustainable changes in the way a community views and responds to underage drinking. Presenters will provide an overview of how core components of a campaign fit together with examples of and solutions to common pitfalls. Participants will develop a solid understanding of the importance of developing campaign timelines and media advocacy plans.



For audio-teleconference registration information, please visit [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org)

All programs provide opportunities for presentation, discussion and sharing information. Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials will be mailed to registrants two weeks before the audio conference.

**To register for any of these free electronic seminars by phone, call toll-free 1-877-335-1287 extension 230**



# Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

## AUDIO CONFERENCE

### TOPIC

#### Reducing Underage Drinking Among Middle and High School Athletes

Student athletes are often at higher risk of substance use than non-athletes. In response, States have committed resources to address and reduce alcohol and drug use by student athletes. Presenters will discuss how to implement successful programs, and how these programs affect student behaviors. The role of parents and other athletic program stakeholders will be highlighted.

### DATE

Thursday, February 17, 2005

### TIME

3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time

### PRESENTER

**John Underwood**  
American Athletic Institute  
Chestertown, NY  
e-mail: [jundie@frontiernet.net](mailto:jundie@frontiernet.net)

**Eddie Bonine**  
Washoe County School District  
Reno, Nevada  
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### WEB ENHANCED

*Internet users will be able to log on to our conference web page to view presentation slides and interact with other participants.*

### REGISTER

Please register by using one of our automated options:

- **To register on our website**, please visit [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org) and complete the online registration form, or
- **To register by phone**, please call our toll-free number, 1-877-335-1287, extension 230, and follow the prompts.

**Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials for the audio conference will be mailed one (1) week before the call.**



# Success Stories

Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Program

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

[www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org)

February 2005

## Comprehensive Enforcement and Alcohol Measures Address Underage and Hazardous Drinking in College Town

Between 1987 and 2001, 15 college-aged students died in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania from alcohol-related causes such as acute alcohol poisoning and accidental injuries. Most victims had blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels higher than .20. Moreover, a majority of the crime and public disorder to which police responded in Bloomsburg involved alcohol use.

The Town of Bloomsburg, population 12,365, is home to Bloomsburg University. Approximately 8,000 students arrive in the town each fall for resumption of classes. After their arrival, 66 percent of calls for service were university related according to police. The cause of the majority of calls was hazardous and/or underage drinking.

In 2001 and under the leadership of Chief Leo Sokoloski and Patrolman Leonard Rogutski, the Bloomsburg Police Department created a comprehensive alcohol enforcement plan to end alcohol-related crime, disorder, and death. After receiving comprehensive alcohol enforcement training, police began active enforcement of all alcohol laws, including law prohibiting public drunkenness, selling or furnishing to minors, and driving under the influence.

The police department also implemented a zero tolerance policy for alcohol-related offenses that prohibits plea-bargaining for alcohol-related offenses. Prosecutors also supported the agency's decision not to plea-bargain alcohol-related offenses such as DUI to lesser offense.

To address the many off-campus parties and alcohol-related crime, the municipal government developed or revised ordinances, as follows:

- An Open Container Ordinance was expanded to include private property because most large gatherings occurred on private property.
- An Excessive Noise and Disruptive Conduct Ordinance targets large late-night parties. Violators jeopardize their ability to rent or lease after repeated violations.
- A Disorderly Gathering Ordinance enables the town government to recover costs associated with

responding to numerous calls for service to the same address.

- A Large Outdoor Social Gatherings Ordinance sets a limit on attendance and requires party hosts to obtain a permit to serve alcohol. To obtain the permit, a security plan must be submitted and approved in advance by police.
- A Liquor License Transfer ordinance now requires a hearing before the Town Council and a Council vote to approve or deny the request.
- The Town's Code Enforcement established ordinances requiring hardwired and interconnected smoke detectors in off-campus student housing. Eight students perished in off-campus housing fires before 2001.
- Code enforcement officials required off-campus student housing to be inspected on a regular basis. Local courts worked together with code enforcement to set fines for disconnecting smoke alarms at a minimum of \$1,000.

The police department, local government, and the university also developed a task force called the Bloomsburg Initiative. The Bloomsburg Initiative is composed of representatives from local governments, university students and faculty, local schools, the legal system, and liquor establishments. The Initiative was developed to educate, prevent, deter, and provide alternatives to alcohol use and abuse and prevent problems associated with binge drinking. Police attend forums, workshops, and dormitory meetings on campus to discuss problems with alcohol use and other safety issues.

The Bloomsburg Police Department has successfully managed alcohol enforcement and education pieces to make a difference in Bloomsburg. Police do not expect to realize reductions in arrests until a full cycle of university students come to realize that police vigilance will be forever ongoing. The town has experienced many positive effects as a result of the police department's efforts, and the public safety of all residents in the Town of Bloomsburg has been improved.

**For further information contact: Chief Leo Sokoloski, Bloomsburg Police Department at (570) 784-4155 x 168**



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February 2005

## F.E. Warren Air Force Base Tackles Underage and Hazardous Drinking

When Col. Evan Hoapili assumed command of F.E. Warren Air Force Base in August 2003, he quickly discovered that alcohol consumption was a big problem. Concerned by the number of alcohol-related incidents involving base troops, Col. Hoapili ordered his staff to tackle the issue. Based upon their review of the research on reducing heavy drinking in a young adult population (including the recommendations of National Research Council and Institute of Medicine's report, *Reducing Underage Drinking: A Collective Responsibility*) and a study of alcohol and behavior norms at the base, Col. Hoapili launched a comprehensive, community-based campaign.

He worked closely with community leaders outside the base as well, inviting them to be part of the solution to the problem. He sent a letter to Wyoming and Colorado bars and liquor stores that were within "partying proximity" to the base, thanking establishment owners for their "diligence and continued support" in not serving airmen aged 20 and younger. He also stated that should he learn that alcohol was sold by an establishment to any base personnel younger than age 21, that establishment would become "off limits" to all base personnel. Establishment owners whose businesses depend heavily on patronage by base personnel took the warning seriously.

In spring 2004, the base then launched a marketing and education campaign to spread a sobering message: *Irresponsible drinking threatens the base's preparedness and will jeopardize careers.* The campaign and its catch phrase for safe drinking — "0-0-1-3" — are drilled into everyone at Warren Air Force Base, as are the dangers of not heeding the message. Repeat offenders risk their health, public discipline, demotion, and even discharge. The numbers stand for four limits on alcohol: zero underage drinking, zero drunken-driving arrests, one drink per hour, and no more than three drinks per night for those who do drink. The two zeroes, Hoapili has said, are self-explanatory: They are the law. The "1-3," he noted, are based on health and safety research.

Warren Air Force Base has also instituted alcohol screening and education, as well as treatment for abusers. In addition, new off-duty alternatives are being offered to underage troops. Their options for entertainment range from pizza parties and midnight basketball-and-music sessions (known as "Hip-Hop Hoops") to paintball, movie and cartoon fests, club nights with DJs, and group outings off base. Service members younger than age 30 are the main target of the program because binge drinking is a particular problem among these young adults who make up approximately two-thirds of the Warren's 3,500 uniformed personnel.

The innovative approach at Warren Air Force Base has produced such dramatic changes that Pentagon officials have taken note. In the final three months of 2004, incidents involving alcohol declined 74 percent from the start of the year. This includes decreases in driving violations, public drunkenness, domestic violence, sexual assault, thefts, and other infractions. The base also reported 81 percent fewer cases of underage drinking and 45 percent fewer drunk-driving arrests.

Hoapili's boss, Gen. Lance Lord, had him brief the rest of his group's commanders on "0-0-1-3" at a leadership conference last fall. He also discussed the program with Gen. John Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff. It is also likely to be discussed at an upcoming conference in which senior Air Force brass will discuss readiness and personnel issues. From there, the program potentially could be expanded to include the entire military branch.

The changes at Warren Air Force Base are timely. A military-wide survey of substance use and abuse released last spring noted a rise in heavy drinking among younger ranks aged 18 to 25. Once again, the military is leading the way by providing to all of us an example of how to prevent and address underage and hazardous drinking in a comprehensive manner.

**For further information contact: Sharon Guerny at 1-800-535-4006 or [sguern@state.wy.us](mailto:sguern@state.wy.us) or Captain Alan Ogle at [Alan.Ogle@warren.af.mil](mailto:Alan.Ogle@warren.af.mil)**

**Source: USA Today, January 25, 2005, "Air Force Abuzz Over Moderation" by Patrick O'Driscoll.**