

Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center

Monthly Resource Alert

February 2006



11710 Beltsville Drive ■ Suite 300 ■ Calverton, MD 20705 ■ Toll Free 877-335-1287

Please visit www.udetc.org for the latest information on underage drinking enforcement, prevention, and reduction.

The 7th Annual National Leadership Conference

The 7th Annual National Leadership Conference: *Charting the Course: Promoting Innovation through Action* is fast approaching. This year's conference will be on August 24-26 in Baltimore, MD. This year's conference promises to be the best yet! Go to www.udetc.org to register or book your hotel room. Rooms will go fast, so do not delay! Early bird deadline for discounted registration is Friday, July 14. Call for Presentations will be coming out soon, so be on the lookout for that!

National Liquor Law Enforcement Association Conference

The 20th Annual Conference *Two Decades of Progress and Innovation in Liquor Law Enforcement* will once again be held in conjunction with the 7th Annual National Leadership Conference on August 24-26 in Baltimore, MD. Call for Workshops has gone out and submissions must be made online by Wednesday, March 15. Please log onto www.nllea.org/conference/workshop.htm to submit a workshop. For more information on the conference, visit: www.nllea.org/Conferences.htm.

Minimum Prices for Alcohol: A Potential Strategy

Setting a minimum price for alcohol may be an effective strategy in reducing drinking. A study conducted at PIRE's Prevention Resource Center indicates that as taxes increase on alcohol and prices rise as a result, people tend to drink less alcohol. For more information on Prevention Resource Center's study, go to: www.pire.org/newsroom/ALCOHOLPRICE.pdf.

Commentary on Lowering the Drinking Age

Dr. Robert Voas, an expert in the field of DUI research, issued a commentary about lowering the drinking age in the United States. He cites the often-used arguments for lowering the drinking age of "If I can go to war, I can drink" and "teaching" youth responsible drinking habits. Those interested in viewing the entire commentary can visit: www.csmonitor.com/2006/0112/p09s01-coop.html

Alcohol Advertising and Its Influence

A landmark and long-awaited study was released that indicates that youth who viewed more alcohol advertisements on average consumed more alcohol. The study also provides valuable information on how alcohol advertising has shifted to cable television. There also was little improvement shown in the overexposure of underage youth to alcohol ads. More information about this study can be found at CAMY's website: <http://camy.org/research/tv1205/>.

National Audio Call: A Global Look at Youth Drinking March 23, 2006 from 3-4:15pm

There is a commonly held perception among Americans that youth in the US drink more frequently and experience more alcohol-related problems than do their counterparts in other parts of the world. This audio call will discuss the facts about youth drinking patterns from around the world. To register for this and other National Seminars visit: www.udetc.org/Registration.asp.

Success Story: Missouri

It is certainly time to celebrate in Missouri! The State's improved Minor in Possession (MIP) law, which now includes possession by consumption and visible intoxication became effective on August 28, 2005. Under the new law, youth, ages 16-20 years old, who plead guilty to or are convicted of MIP, will have their driver's license suspended for 30 days for the 1st offense, 90 days for the 2nd offense and revoked for a year for the 3rd or any subsequent MIP offense.

To print a hard-copy of this month's Resource Alert visit: www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlert/ResourceAlert0206.pdf

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Office of Juvenile Justice for Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) or the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDETTC) and are solely of the author/source.

Did U Know...?

Did you know that all UDETTC publications can be found on the web at www.udetc.org/Publications.htm ? Feel free to download and copy the documents as needed.

Helpful Website Information

The UDETTC website is currently undergoing an overhaul. The website is still up and running, but be on the lookout for an even more up-to-date site that will debut in Spring 2006!



National Electronic Seminars Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The OJJDP Audio-TELECONFERENCE Series

January 19, 2006 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time

Underage Drinking in College: Dry Vs. Wet Campuses:

Alcohol is a major problem on university campuses and often turns up as a factor in cases of vandalism, physical and sexual assault, and poor academic performance. A "dry campus," by definition prohibits alcohol at any university-owned property, as well as at any school-sponsored event, be it off-campus or on-campus. A conventional counter-argument to a dry campus policy has been that if alcohol is banned on campus, then students will increase off-campus consumption. The audio call will address research on Dry and Wet campuses and environmental strategies used to address their challenges and accomplishments.

February 23, 2006 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time

How to Effectively Defend the Minimum Legal Drinking Age (MLDA) :

Recent articles have discussed the question "should the current legal drinking age (21) be changed?" In order to be able to defend the need to maintain the age limit and to revisit the reasons behind the minimum legal drinking age, adult allies working to prevent and reduce underage drinking should be able to effectively defend their position. There is viable research available that can be used to defend the age of 21 as the minimum legal drinking age and to be able to solidify the stance on underage drinking on the State and local levels. This call will share the recent research and identify successful results which effectively defend the MLDA.

March 23, 2006 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time

A Global Look at Youth Drinking:

There is a commonly held perception among Americans that youth in the U.S. drink more frequently and experience more alcohol-related problems than do their counterparts in other parts of the world. This perception is often utilized as argument for changes in U.S. alcohol policies and prevention initiatives, including elimination of the minimum drinking age laws and development of programs that teach "responsible" drinking. Presenters will provide data and discuss whether youth in other parts of the world drink less and experience fewer problems than their American counterparts.



For audio-conference registration information, please visit 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

How to Effectively Defend the Minimum Legal Drinking Age (MLDA)

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DATE

Thursday, February 23, 2006

TIME

3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time

PRESENTER

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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 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

February 2006

www.udetc.org

Missouri's New Minor in Possession "Possession by Consumption" Law Passes!

It is certainly time to celebrate in Missouri! Missouri's new Minor in Possession (MIP) "possession by consumption" law became effective on August 28, 2005. The new MIP "possession by consumption" law expands the old MIP law's definition of "possession" to include "consumption" of alcohol and being "visibly intoxicated." Under the new law, minors (16 to 20 years old) who plead guilty to or are convicted of MIP will have their driver's license suspended for 30 days for the first offense and 90 days for the second offense. For a third offense or subsequent offense, their driver's license will be revoked for a year.

Several aspects contributed to passage of this law:

- First was the grassroots effort of local community prevention coalitions that worked on the passage of local and county ordinances. Communities worked under the umbrella of the Northland Coalition (Clay, Platte, and Ray Counties – Kansas City north area), Youth With Vision and the Missouri Youth/Adult Alliance to Reduce Underage Drinking to change social norms of acceptance through a social marketing campaign. After passage, the results were made public and elected officials were advised of those local accomplishments.

- Second was a joint resolution in 2004 to create a bipartisan Joint Senate/House Interim Committee, which was chaired by Senator Gibbons. That study committee convened a series of public hearings across the State during the second half of 2004. Many of the local efforts were recommended during those public hearings.
- Third was the bill's passage as a result of those recommendations. The lead underage drinking bill ultimately became the new MIP law. It was Senator Gibbons, President Pro Tem (Senate Leader) of the Missouri State Senate, who championed the issue and moved the bill through both the Senate and the House to be signed into law.

Perseverance and the work of prevention coalitions can and do have a major influence on social policies. Community activists have significant influence over the decisions of their elected officials. Addressing policy at the lowest levels, partnered with social marketing, is often the easiest path for change.

For further information contact: Vicky Ward, Tri-County Mental Health Services at (816) 468-0400 or vickyw@tri-countymhs.org

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