

# Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center

## Monthly Resource Alert

### April 2008



11720 Beltsville Drive ■ Suite 900 ■ Calverton, MD 20705 ■ Toll Free 877-335-1287

Please visit our enhanced website at [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org) for the latest information on underage drinking.

#### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National Leadership Conference

##### Law Enforcement Partner Award Nominations Open!

The Law Enforcement Partner of the Year Award Nominations are still open! At the National Leadership Conference, awards will be presented to a law enforcement agency and a sworn law enforcement officer/agent whose commitment to reducing underage drinking at the local or state level has resulted in notable accomplishments in several areas. More detailed information and requirements including the nomination form, can be found at the following link:<http://www.udetc.org/documents/NLC2008/LEPartnerAward.doc>. The awardees will be honored at a special luncheon at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual National Leadership Conference, held in Nashville, Tennessee at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center, on August 22, 2008. Please don't delay in getting your nominations to your Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) State Coordinator. The deadline for submission is May 1, 2008!

##### New Research Links Teen Alcohol Use with Suicide

Pre-teens who drink alcohol are substantially more likely to be involved in violent behavior as adolescents and young adults, according to new research from Georgia State University's Institute of Public Health, which appears in the February issue of the journal *Pediatrics*. A link between underage drinking and risky behavior has always been suspected, but newer findings show conclusively that those who begin drinking at such a young age are three times more likely than non-drinking peers to attempt suicide. The study outlines that suicide is the third leading cause of death among teens and young adults 15 to 24 years of age. Those who begin drinking before 13 also are more likely to be victims of dating and peer violence. It was suggested by the researchers that evidence-based strategies, such as enforcing minimum legal drinking age laws and increasing excise taxes on alcohol, are available but not fully implemented to prevent and reduce alcohol use among minors. Increased support of these strategies will be necessary to prevent alcohol abuse and the many health problems associated with its use among young people. More on this study can be found at the following link: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/cgi/qca?qca=121%2F2%2F297&submit.x=57&submit.y=8>

#### Success Story: Chaska City Council Passes Social Host Laws with a Positive Ripple Effect

In September of 2007, the city of Chaska passed the first ordinance in Minnesota that holds "party" hosts criminally liable for underage drinking on their properties - even if they don't provide the alcohol. Chaska's social host law carries with it possible penalties of up to 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. Because of their success, other communities in the State are using Chaska's ordinance as a template for their own efforts - many with successful results of their own. This success story reflects how the new ordinance has been a useful tool for the police and motivation for other communities.

#### April National Electronic Seminar:

##### Prosecutors: Their Role, Limitations and Challenges

Date: Thursday, April 17, 2008

Time: 3:00-4:15 p.m. EDT

Speakers: David J. Wallace, Esquire; Brett L. Johnson, Esquire and Sgt. Corey MacDonald, Esquire

The justice system is one component in a comprehensive effort to reduce underage drinking and DUI. Prosecutors play a crucial role within the system in the administration of justice, and rules concerning the performance of their important responsibilities. Generally a prosecutor's responsibilities include determining appropriate charges, discussions with defense counsel, preparing witnesses for court, examination, and cross-examination of witnesses and presenting arguments respecting conviction and sentence.

What role does the prosecutor have in addressing the harms that are part of underage alcohol problems? How can a prosecutor assume a leadership role within their community on the complex issues? Our panel of experienced prosecutors will discuss these issues and listeners will be provided a valuable insight into the world of the prosecutor. Participants will be able to ask questions of our panelists to help them establish strategies and build relationships with prosecutors from their own community. Visit [www.udetc.org/audioconfregistration.asp](http://www.udetc.org/audioconfregistration.asp) to register.

To print a hard-copy of this month's Resource Alert visit: [www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert0408.pdf](http://www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert0408.pdf)

#### Did you Know....?

That MADD has a new social host ordinance website. Each state's most current information can be found there. The site link is here: <http://www3.madd.org/socialhost/index.aspx>

*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 (UDETC) and are solely of the author/source.*

# 2008 Law Enforcement Partner of the Year Award



*UDETC's Law Enforcement Partner of the Year Awards* will be presented to a law enforcement agency and a sworn law enforcement officer/agent whose commitment to reducing underage drinking at the local community or state level has resulted in notable accomplishments in at least three of the areas listed below.

- ✓ Measurable reductions in alcohol availability to youth
- ✓ Innovative implemented programs
- ✓ Training for law enforcement, community or merchants
- ✓ Recognition by peers, local community and/or media

Nominations for this award must be forwarded by the EUDL State Coordinator and include the approval of the chief executive officer of the agency with which the law enforcement officer is affiliated or the community/state executive officer (or their designee) in the case of an agency nomination.

Supporting documentation should include the following:



1. Records supporting measurable reductions produced by the program or agency's efforts;
2. Copies of media coverage of the agency program or individual officer/agent;
3. Letters of recommendation from other law enforcement agencies, citizens, community leaders or the agency itself;
4. Any other documentation you believe that would support the nomination.
5. Use a separate nomination form for each nominee. Multiple nominees on a single form will not be considered.

***Note:*** *EUDL state coordinators and persons who are employees of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation in any capacity are ineligible to be nominated for this award.*

**Submission Deadline is May 1, 2008**



**A Center in Support of OJJDP's  
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program**

*2008 Law Enforcement Partner of the Year  
Award Nomination Form*

This nomination form is for an <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Agency
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**1. Name and Address of nominated Law Enforcement Officer or Agency for 2008:**

\_\_\_\_\_

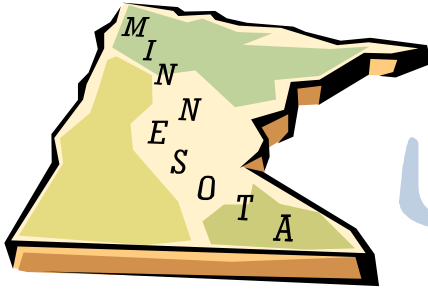
**2. Please use this area to describe why you believe the individual or agency named above is deserving of this award.**

**3. Below, please list any supporting documentation and be sure to forward it electronically, by fax to (301) 755-2799, or by postal mail (see the bottom of this form for address).**

_____	_____
<b>EUDL State Coordinator Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Law Enforcement Chief Executive Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

***Note:** If you choose to submit this nomination electronically, the nomination will not be considered by the review committee until UDETC receives notification from the EUDL State Coordinator and the Law Enforcement Chief Executive that they are supportive of the nomination.*

**Mail Your Nomination To:**  
Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center  
C/O Jessica Gibson  
11720 Beltsville Dr, Suite 900  
Calverton, MD 20705-3102



# Success Stories

Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Program

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

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

April 2008

## Chaska city council passes social host laws with a positive ripple effect

In September of 2007, the city of Chaska passed the first ordinance in Minnesota that holds "party" hosts criminally liable for underage drinking on their properties - even if they don't provide the alcohol. Chaska now joins dozens of municipalities in at least 20 other States that have social host ordinances. The Chaska City Council's unanimous decision came after more than a year and a half of advocacy by Chaska City Police Chief Scott Knight. Knight, who has also been working with Carver County Sheriff Bud Olson to pass a county ordinance, increased his efforts after Sean Humphrey, 19, froze to death in Chaska after a night of heavy drinking at a party. The new city law, similar to the county proposal, makes it a misdemeanor for a property owner or host to knowingly allow underage drinking. The passage is a victory. In some rural parts of the county, throwing a graduation party where minors drink is considered acceptable according to Carver County Commissioner Randy Maluchnik. Although residents in his district - which includes the cities of Carver, Victoria and Chaska - have generally supported the ordinance, residents in some other commissioners' districts have not, he said. Chaska's ordinance does provide exceptions. For example, it "does not apply to conduct solely between an underage person and his or her parents while present in the parents' household;" and it does not apply to legally protected religious observances. A main concern heard was that a parent out of town during the party would be held liable. That concern was addressed in that the law's language protects those adults as it states that the person must "knowingly" provide the venue. Parents are therefore not culpable in that example."

Chaska's social host law carries with it possible penalties of up to 90 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine. This success story reflects how the new ordinance

has been a useful tool for the police. Because of their persistence other communities in the State are using Chaska's ordinance as a template for their own efforts - many with successful results. For example, Mankato passed its social host ordinance in November 2007, Fairfax adopted theirs in December 2007, Waseca recently passed one in March 2008; and Prior Lake and Blue Earth County are now considering one. To date, a total of nine municipalities across the State have instituted social host ordinances. Chaska's Police Department Chief Knight has noted that the social host ordinance has turned out to be a "very effective" and "very easy to implement tool" for his department; he said "our officers saw a void in the lack of tools to prevent underage drinking". Knight now believes they have covered that gap and are starting to see results in the community.

Sources:

- Chief Knight; Chaska PD
- Robyn Weisman, Minnesota Institute of Public Health (MIPH)
- [www.startribune.com/west](http://www.startribune.com/west)

Contact information:

Mr. Gordy Pehrson, Coordinator  
 Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of  
 Traffic Safety  
 Phone: (651) 201-7072

Chief Scott M. Knight  
 Chaska Police Department  
 Phone: (952) 448-4200  
 SKnight@chaskamn.com

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# Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

## AUDIO CONFERENCE

### TOPIC

#### ***Prosecutors: Their Role, Limitations and Challenges***

The justice system is one component in a comprehensive effort to reduce underage drinking and DUI. Prosecutors play a crucial role within the system in the administration of justice, and rules concerning the performance of their important responsibilities. What role does the prosecutor hold in addressing the harms that are part of underage alcohol problems? How can a prosecutor assume a leadership role within their community on the complex issues? Our panel of experienced prosecutors will discuss these issues and listeners will be provided a valuable insight into the world of the prosecutor. Participants will be able to ask questions of our panelists to help them establish strategies and how to build relationships with prosecutors from their own community.



### DATE

**April 17, 2008**

### TIME

**3:00–4:15 p.m. EST**

### WEB ENHANCED

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

### PRESENTERS

#### **Presenter 1:**

**David J. Wallace, Esq.**, Director, National Center for DWI Courts at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals [dwallace@nadcp.org](mailto:dwallace@nadcp.org)

#### **Presenter 2:**

**Brett L. Johnson, Esq.**, County Attorney, Sweetwater County, Green River, WY [johnsonb@sweet.wy.us](mailto:johnsonb@sweet.wy.us)

#### **Presenter 3:**

**Sgt. Corey MacDonald, Esq.**, Departmental Prosecutor, Portsmouth New Hampshire Police Department [macdonaldc@pd.cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:macdonaldc@pd.cityofportsmouth.com)

### 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.**



# National Electronic Seminars Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The OJJDP Audio-TELECONFERENCE Series

**April 17, 2008 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## ***Prosecutors: Their Role, Limitations and Challenges***

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**May 22, 2008 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## ***"Rite" of What? Alcohol Enforcement Successes of "Busting the Binge" in College Environments***

Underage and hazardous drinking on/off college campuses are often viewed as normal "rites of passage," yet present serious public health and safety issues. Learn how local enforcement agencies can partner with campus and community leaders to change community norms, and adapt traditional enforcement strategies to successfully "bust the binge."



**June 19, 2008 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**

## ***On-Premise Enforcement and Retailer Training Opportunities***

When people think of underage alcohol problems they often think about the role of the licensed retailer and most frequently the convenience store or liquor store. The on-premise retail licensees make up nearly half of all the licensed businesses throughout the country. Depending on the laws of each jurisdiction people under the age of 21 may be lawfully allowed inside these businesses to socialize, but not consume alcohol. Retailer promotions and popular music make the on premise licensee a popular destination for those under the age of 21.

How does law enforcement police the on-premise licensee? What role does the licensee assume in responsibility for underage alcohol problems in a community? What initiatives are available to the on-premise retailer to assist them in responsible sales, service, and safety to their customers and the community? Our panel will discuss the role of the retailer in this process, what tools are being used by law enforcement to improve safety and what makes up a retailer training program that can demonstrate measurable success. Listeners will gain information on innovative law enforcement strategies in the community and hear how one community created a very successful training program for retailers.

**For audio-conference 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*