

A Message from Your Police Department



With the end of the school year quickly approaching the CHS seniors will soon be graduating. This will bring to the community many graduation parties and celebrations. Underage drinking increases during celebratory times such as prom and graduation.



Some Facts

- Parents who give alcohol to their teen's friends under any circumstances, even in their own homes, are breaking the law.
- Parents who knowingly allow a person under 21 to remain in their home or on their property while consuming or possessing alcoholic beverages can be prosecuted.
- Adults (non-parents/non-guardians) can be prosecuted for serving or purchasing alcohol for minors, which carries a penalty of up to a \$1,000 fine and up to 6-months in jail.

Suggestions When Hosting

- Send invitations and try to avoid the "open party" situation.
- Don't send e-mail invitations. They can be forwarded to a large number of people quickly and you lose control of who has the information.
- Put your phone number on the invitation and welcome calls from parents.
- Set rules ahead of time such as no alcohol, tobacco or other drugs.
- Set a start and end time for the party.
- Avoid allowing underage attendees to leave and return to the party.
- Provide plenty of food and non-alcoholic beverages.
- Let your neighbors know in advance there will be a party and that you will be there to supervise.
- Familiarize yourself with your community's noise ordinance.
- Limit the party access to a certain area of the house/property.
- Have a plan for dealing with vehicles. Include parking information on your party invitation.
- Secure all forms of alcohol.
- Make regular visits to all party areas while being sensitive to your graduates need for independence.
- Invite other parents to help chaperone if there is a large number of teenagers expected.

If You're Away or Out of Town

- Set and communicate rules and standards to be followed in your absence.
- Do not allow underage youth to have unsupervised parties or gatherings.
- Remind them of their responsibilities and the consequences of their actions.
- Have a relative or responsible adult stay at your home during your absence, have your teenager stay with a responsible adult or ask a neighbor to watch the house and stop in while you are gone.

A Message from Your Police Department cont...

If Your Teen Attends A Party Elsewhere:

- Discuss the graduation events and parties with your teen and with other parents.
- Be sure to know the exact location or address of the party and the phone number of those hosting the party.
- Ensure that an adult will be home and that there will be no alcohol or other drugs allowed.
- Know who your child is attending the party with and obtain all necessary cell phone numbers.
- Establish clear guidelines and curfews.
- Talk to your teen about the serious dangers and consequences of underage drinking and driving.
- Plan for transportation beforehand. Assure your teen that you, a relative or an adult friend can be called at any time if a ride is needed... **NO QUESTIONS ASKED!**
- Be awake when your teen gets home. This will give you the opportunity to talk with them and be involved.
- Remind your child that you are there for them always with...**NO QUESTIONS ASKED!**

Respectfully;
Chief Sturgill

The Cuyahoga Heights Police Department
would like to congratulate the Class of 2023.
Please have a SAFE and HAPPY
Graduation season!!!
We wish you all the best for a successful
future!

