



Deerfield Police Department

850 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, Illinois 60015-3206

(847) 945-8636 FAX - (847) 945-5080

John J. Sliozis
Chief of Police

May 8, 2008

Dear Parents,

Proms and graduations are two important and exciting rites of passage for our young people. It's a time to celebrate achievements, reflect on the past and take the first steps into adulthood. Unfortunately, many teenagers believe the deadly mix of alcohol and driving is also a rite of passage.

As proms and graduations approach, the Deerfield Police Department would like to remind everyone that in Illinois drivers less than 21 years of age are subject to zero tolerance laws, which make it illegal for those under the age of 21 to drive after having consumed any amount of alcohol. A violation of zero tolerance laws may result in license revocation, significant fines, and extended community service. The Deerfield Police Department also reminds parents and businesses that they may be held criminally and civilly liable for any incidents that result from making alcoholic beverages available to anyone under the age of 21. The possession of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21 is prohibited.

According to the National Transportation Safety Board, 33 percent of fatalities among 15 to 20 year-olds are a result of motor vehicle crashes, of which at least 35 percent are alcohol related. During the spring prom and graduation season, young people are more likely to fall victim to vehicle crashes, especially those involving alcohol.

The Deerfield Police Department wants all students to enjoy themselves and return home safely during this significant time in their lives. No parent wants to be awakened by a late night call or visit by a law enforcement officer. Underage drinking isn't a rite of passage. It's a deadly choice. We ask that everyone be extra diligent when it comes to alcohol. We also encourage all parents to make the tough decisions that will ensure the safety and security of our children.

Sincerely,

John J. Sliozis
Chief of Police