

Sent: Friday, May 01, 2009 9:55 AM
Subject: Smart Party Tips from Student Legal Services

This weekend marks the end of another semester, and a chance to relax with friends. Here are a few tips, courtesy of Student Legal Services, to help keep your weekend safe and fun, and your criminal record clean!

Remember the university, city officials, and police are not out to spoil your night. They are just interested in protecting the community and keeping everyone safe.

1. Notify Your Neighbors

Let them know how they can contact you if there are any disturbances.

2. Respect Your Neighbor's Rights

The more consideration and respect you show to your neighbors, the more consideration and respect you will receive from them. Remember your neighbors also want to relax and enjoy their weekend.

3. The Police Will Be Present

Don't panic, listen to the police instead of challenging them -- if they visit your party be courteous and obey their orders, including orders to disperse.

Stay calm and cooperate -- if you do not, you increase your chances of receiving a citation or getting arrested. Provide your name and SS#, but otherwise remember to exercise your right to remain silent.

Respect the officer's authority -- however much you disagree, just do whatever the police tell you to do. If you have complaints regarding police procedure or conduct, do not aggravate the situation with aggressive or boisterous behavior. Instead, take notes and contact Student Legal Services or the Office of the Dean of Students.

4. Know the Warning Signs of Alcohol Poisoning

Watch your friends and immediately get assistance from medical professionals if they need help.

5. Don't Break the Law

Police will be strictly enforcing the laws regarding underage drinking, open containers with alcohol, public drunkenness and noise violation.

Student Legal Services is a non-profit, on campus law firm created by Kent State University and Undergraduate Student Senate. The purpose is to help students understand and resolve the legal issues they may face while enrolled at the university. For more information about your legal rights or if you need representation, call 330-672-9550 or visit the SLS Web site at <http://dept.kent.edu/SLS/>.