

# PARTY PREVENTION & CONTROLLED PARTY DISPERSAL

Party prevention and controlled party dispersal is a law enforcement strategy that involves several measures to effectively prevent, identify, and safely disperse underage drinking parties. There are four necessary components to a successful party prevention and controlled party dispersal strategy.

- Party Prevention
- Party Identification
- Party Containment
- Party Dispersal

Law enforcement is involved in each component. Prevention coalitions can assist with Party Prevention, Party Identification, and Party Dispersal.

## Party Prevention

Party prevention requires educational components to equip adults in the community with the tools and information needed to host safe events for youth. The two educational components are Safe Party Education Campaigns and Media Advocacy.



### Safe Party Education Campaigns

- Educate parents/guardians on the basics of safe parties. Include tips such as asking when and where the party will be, and who will be invited. Let parents know they should designate a party area and use a single entry point.



### Media Advocacy

- Generate media support through public service announcements, press conferences, articles, editorials, opinion pieces, radio, television, and social media. Engage youth in media initiatives.

## Party Identification

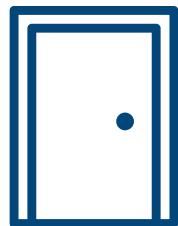
Identifying parties before they occur or escalate is an essential step. Methods of communicating known or suspected underage drinking parties to law enforcement may include:



- Hotlines or text-to-tip lines
- Party patrols
- Monitoring social media
- School resource officers

## Party Containment

Law enforcement would develop a comprehensive strategy to close parties and monitor exit avenues safely. Utilizing this strategy with fidelity would reduce the likelihood of impaired driving and repeated calls for service. Party containment is achieved by following this series of steps:



- Conduct a pre-operational briefing.
- Map the approach.
- Gain entry.
- Sweep the scene and control all entry and exit points.
- Process party attendees.

## Party Dispersal

The act of dispersing an underage party is the responsibility of enforcement. There are two methods of processing and dispersing: the 3-Station Model and the Stick With Me Model. However, volunteers can be a substantial resource for controlled party dispersal operations.

## Party Dispersal



### 3-Stations Model – Volunteer Role

- Station 1: Photographs with violator information, administrative information for reports, and ensure equipment readiness.
- Station 2: Fill out administrative information on citations/reports and collate the report for the officer.
- Station 3: Contact parents/guardians, manage the offender's transportation upon arrival, and assist with release procedures.



### Stick With Me Model – Volunteer Role

- Volunteers can assist in documenting and completing paperwork, taking photographs, and even writing citations. Law enforcement officers will need to sign off on any citations; however, volunteers can start the paperwork to save officers' time. Volunteers can also greatly assist in arranging for the release of attendees by calling parents and securing safe transportation home.

## Deterrence Theory

**Deterrence of a behavior can be achieved when there is a perception that punishment is:**

- Swift
- Certain
- Severe

**Party prevention and controlled party dispersal serve as deterrents when implemented following best practices.**

- Educates youth, parents, and the community about the dangers of underage drinking.
- Reduces alcohol-related consequences.
- Ensures the safety of youth and the public.
- Holds violators of laws and ordinances accountable.
- Strengthens community norms against tolerating underage drinking parties.

## Best Practices

- 1. Support from individuals or agencies responsible for leading enforcement efforts has been secured.**
- 2. The support of adjudicators or prosecutors has been secured.**
- 3. Based on data, enforcement efforts are targeted to locations, time of day, and year.**
- 4. Enforcement agencies have agreed to supply enforcement data to the coalition or provider as evidenced by a memorandum of understanding or subcontract.**
- 5. Training is provided to non-law enforcement operatives who are part of the enforcement effort.**
- 6. Sanctions for violations have been administered.**
- 7. The community has been notified at least once that controlled party dispersal operations will be conducted, and of the consequences of being out of compliance with the law.**
- 8. Information about the controlled party dispersal operations results has been publicized within the community (including where to report underage drinking parties), at least once per fiscal year.**