

Social Host Ordinance



Mesa Police Department
October 16, 2014



Underage Drinking



- Underage drinking is a public health risk and a behavior detrimental to the health and safety of youth. The focus of the Social Host Ordinance is not primarily about penalizing but to bring awareness and accountability to social hosts.

Community Norm Survey - 2013

- ∞ The Mesa Prevention Alliance distributed a survey to 854 Mesa residents 18 and older.
 - ∞ 94% of participants surveyed reported they were concerned with underage drinking.
 - ∞ 80% agreed that there should be a law that holds adults responsible for hosting parties where youth are drinking.

Arizona Youth Survey - 2012

- ❧ 48% of Mesa youth surveyed have reported drinking in their lifetime (8th, 10th and 12th graders).
- ❧ 20% of high school seniors reported that a parent or guardian provided them with alcohol. This is an increase of 5% from 2010.
- ❧ 18% reported that a family member 21 and older provided them with alcohol.

Current Enforcement



- ❧ Utilize State Statutes Title 4 and Title 13
 - ❧ Must show “known or should have known”
- ❧ Proposed Social Hosts Ordinance
 - ❧ Strict Liability
 - ❧ 1st Offense = Civil Penalty, \$250 fine, or may be waived if violator attends a 4 hour Alcohol & Drug Awareness Class
 - ❧ 2nd Offense within 36 months = Civil Penalty, \$1,000 fine
 - ❧ 3rd Offense within 36 months = Criminal, Class 1 misdemeanor

Alternatives



- ∞ Enhance training and awareness to officers
- ∞ Emphasize enforcement in “Daily Missions”
- ∞ Monitor arrests and enforcement activities through regular CompStat meetings
- ∞ Partner with Mesa Public Schools to enhance underage drinking and illegal drug use prevention

Concurrence



☞ Mesa Police Department

☞ Mesa Prevention Alliance

QUESTIONS?