CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS
RISK MANAGEMENT

SAFETY MATTERS

RISK MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE **NOV. 27, 2024**

- TIE ONE ON FOR SAFETY®
- Travel Safety
- Holiday Gathering Tips

RESPONSIBLE AND SAFE HOLIDAY GATHERINGS

OBJECTIVE MADD's (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) Red Ribbon Campaign "TIE ONE ON FOR SAFETY®" encourages us all to participate in safe holiday gatherings. While school district and community college holiday parties may not involve alcohol, an accident or tragedy that occurs outside of work will certainly have an impact at the worksite in many ways. Below are recommended practices for a responsible and safe gathering this holiday season.

Every holiday season, from November 1 through January 1, MADD asks you to display a MADD ribbon in a visible location to remind everyone to always designate a non-drinking driver. That message is especially important when holiday travel, parties, and family gatherings put more people on the roads.

- As guests RSVP, confirm that they have a plan for a safe way home via a non-drinking designated driver — such as a friend, rideshare service like Uber or Lyft, or public transportation.

CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS RISK MANAGEMENT

- Plan activities like party games or door prizes that do not involve alcohol. Incorporate a theme and consider those guests who do not drink alcohol.
- Provide other beverage options (i.e., sodas, non-alcoholic ciders, hot cocoa, or coffee). Make the other options entertaining! Create a hot cocoa bar, set up a custom coffee bar, or build your own ice cream soda option. Drinking at parties is not required to have a good time, and being creative with non-alcoholic options can be fun and festive!
- Provide plenty of food to keep your guests from drinking on an empty stomach.
- Create a themed "mocktail" for a fun alternative for your non-drinking designated drivers and others who prefer not to drink alcohol.
- Never serve alcohol to someone under 21 and never ask anyone under 21 to serve alcohol at parties.
- Remember that only time sobers a person up, which means you may need to offer the sofa or guest room to guests who should stay put for the night.
- As the thoughtful and responsible host that you are, make sure the safety of your guests is a priority when planning your event.

RESOURCES

MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving)

REFERENCES

MADD

This California Schools JPA fact sheet is not intended to be exhaustive. The discussion and best practices suggested herein should not be regarded as legal advice. Readers should pursue legal counsel or contact their insurance providers to gain more exhaustive advice.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN TIE ONE ON FOR SAFETY®?

You can help by tying one on for safety this holiday season—display a MADD red ribbon, magnet, or decal on your vehicle.

And remember:

- Put safety before the party: plan ahead and always designate a non-drinking driver.
- Never ride with someone who is impaired.
- Choose to be the non-drinking designated driver
- Host parties that include mocktails and other non-alcoholic beverages and provide alternate transportation or accommodations for guests who choose to drink.
- Together, we can put an end to this 100% preventable crime and make this holiday season safer for our loved ones on the roadways.