

ALCOHOL PRIORITY GROUP

March 28, 2008

1:00-2:30

Attending: Carol Seager
Diana Robertson
Isabelle Odegi
Jenny McKee
Heidi Garcia
Chris Stoppel
Schuyler Bailey
Leslie Rhoton
Mindy Rendon

Guest Speaker: Officer Trent McKinley, Neighborhood Resource Officer (NR),
Lawrence Police Department
(Jen Brinkerhoff, Director of Prevention, DCCCA was unable to attend.)

Carol introduced Officer Trent McKinley of the Lawrence Police Department, and the committee then introduced themselves to Officer McKinley. Mr. McKinley has been with the Lawrence Police Department for about 17 1/2 years. As of January 2007 Mr. McKinley has been assigned to the Neighborhood Resource Officers Division. He addresses specific concerns having to do with neighborhood problems which are part of the community services division which encompasses school resource officers, a training unit, and some of the administrative functions within the police department. The NRO has become more proactive in public outreach such as crime prevention. The NRO has also taken on major tasks like The Last Call project and the Summer Safety Initiative. The NRO went out in the summer time for 6 weekends and dealt with violations that had to do with alcohol, drugs, and violence in primarily the downtown area, but they did branch out a little bit further than that. The NRO is a part of a team of officers within the community services division who sometimes do specialized tasks. In terms of specialized tasks, the NRO is limited along with everyone else these days in terms of budget to do such things. Due to budget limitations, the school resource officers were reallocated to work on the Summer Safety Initiative, using about 50% of their time on alcohol violations. The NRO has looked at ways to come up with money to go out and do specialized reporting. They received a \$3,000 grant through the Kansas Department of Transportation specifically targeting alcohol violations. There have been a lot of neighborhood concerns, many of which were generated by the Oread Neighborhood. They had complained a lot about the flow of alcohol and chaos that occurred on football game days, so in response to that, the LPD tried to figure out how they could manage game days. Officer McKinley explained game days tax the department's resources to the extent every officer is working, including supervisory staff. The officers are usually out

on bikes, on foot, and driving prison transport vans because there are not enough police cars for the entire force. Aside from neighborhood problems, there are traffic problems as well. There is a lull while the game is going on which the officers use for meal breaks and catch up on paperwork, but he stressed the police force is completely overwhelmed on game days. In an effort to address the shortage, the LPD has brought other officers in to help during these times. The Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) officers as well as officers from the KU Police Department pair up with the Lawrence Police Department to do specific alcoholic enforcement. They tried this on September 22, 2007. He thinks a lot of people noticed there were a large number of officers doing alcohol enforcement that day. It was a direct result of the task force. The \$3,000 grant paid for overtime for the Lawrence Police Department. None of the grant factored in for the ABC agents. They were just told they were going to be here and figured out funding on their own as KU probably did as well. During the one game, the officers took enforcement action and issued citations to 84 minors in possession. That was a huge impact. Officer McKinley stated he did not remember a single day in his history where the force has been able to make that kind of impact. There were 33 tickets given for consuming in public. Those tickets may or may not have been minors. That was not broken out separately. If it is a minor, they could possibly receive two citations; one for the MIP category and one for the “consuming in public”. A lot of the “consuming in public” violations were adults who were walking down the middle of the street carrying alcohol.

Carol Seager asked what is “consuming as public”? What behaviors are they engaging in or what is causing you to cite them? Officer McKinley stated it is unlawful to be on a public property/city street with an open container of alcohol.

Also on September 22, 2007, there were the following citations:

- 7 hosting violations
- 15 unlawful use of driver’s licenses
- 2 furnishing minors
- 1 open saloon=selling alcohol without a license
- 2 urinating in public
- 1 alluding arrest
- 2 obstructing official duty

This one day’s enforcement, although it cost about \$2,800, made a huge impact. When the statistics were brought to the city and the Oread Neighborhood, it was clear people were not just going to have a “pass” on that day.

Carol Seager asked Officer McKinley what resources are available to tap into to make the level of presence available at other games due to the fact the city is hurting right now budget/funding wise. Officer McKinley said they are looking for federal and state grants and at what other agencies are doing. He says they have people helping them locate grants as well. They also do re-tasking with their school resource officers. Officer McKinley said they are trying to think of all possibilities but with budget and finding people sometimes is very hard to do.

Carol stated the APG is looking at what other institutions are doing as well as what is happening at KU. There are some schools and communities who have formed “lay teams” to be in communities around special event times where they think alcohol abuse may be more prevalent. They are not officers or in any kind of authority. In some cases they are other students. Carol asked Officers McKinley if there was any sort of position which could be occupied on game days that could reduce the use of alcohol that would not be provided by licensed officers. Officer McKinley stated it may be possible to do something comparable to the high school in which staff members recognize students who are an and can let the student know when something is inappropriate, but they cannot participate in enforcing violations. He stated it is not a matter of identifying the violation but the matter of being able to react to that. He said in talking about safety, Coach Williams came out and made some announcements to the student body regarding victory celebrations and the appropriate way to celebrate without destroying. Schuyler Bailey stated Coach Mangino did the same thing for the Orange Bowl celebration (i.e. “celebrate responsibly). Coach Self will be issuing a message as well in the coming week. Officer McKinley stated he thinks messaging has an impact. Officer McKinley stated he has not seen enough plans involving “lay teams” to answer the question. Carol stated also “party patrols” are happening at some schools when there is anticipated alcohol consumption. The “party patrol” is used to take positive action after the party or an individual had gone too far. Officer McKinley stated videotaping things has been a deterrent. The LPD has done taping when they have been challenged by groups of people and it tends to change peoples ideas. He stated “party patrols” may work on affiliated properties such as fraternities and sororities as they are “off campus” but would not probably work at apartment complexes. Schuyler stated involving the IFC president/vice president is often a good deterrent.

Officer McKinley stated the State of Kansas came out with a new law, 2136.10 Unlawfully Hosting Minors Consuming Alcoholic Liquor/Cereal Malt Beverage, which is gaining use. The jest of it is unlawfully hosting minors consuming alcohol or cereal malt beverage is intentionally permitting at a person’s residence, building structure or room which is rented by them or an invitee of such person’s child in a manner which the minor is in possession or consumption of alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverage. If an individual is cited with this, there is a mandatory minimum fine of \$1000. It is a Class A person misdemeanor which is a pretty high-level misdemeanor in the severity rankings. The court can sentence the offender to community service work as part of their probation and that sort of thing. The individual can also be sentenced to serve time in public service and in an alcohol treatment facility. The hosting law has recently been converted over to a city ordinance. The ordinance mirrors the state statute, but now the LPD can walk up and write a person a ticket for that whereas the state statutes requires an arrest or write an affidavit to send it to the DA’s office to try to get a charge. Now the police are able to simply walk up and issue a hosting violation citation to someone. It bears the same weight if they are convicted. It has been very positive. Officer McKinley explained how the team is able to give someone a hosting violation.

Keg registration is a good tool, although it is not used a lot of the time, because it is a straight line connecting them to who bought the keg. A lot of the hosting violations have moved through the court system, and they have successfully done so.

Schuyler asked Officer McKinley how far out the team goes. Officer McKinley stated the team goes to Indiana and Missouri from the 9th to 12th block. He stated they are doing a lot of patrol on foot. After the September 22 game ended and the officers started to split up, the teams were still intact, and so they went to 14th and Ohio. It was chaotic, so they started going into the bars and things like that and also hitting the house parties along Ohio Street and Louisiana Street. He stated it was much easier to walk into the masses as a large group as opposed to one officer going into a party while the other officer parks the car. He states it is difficult because they usually get calls about parties and large groups of people during the peak times for problems in bars downtown, motor vehicle accidents, people that have been drinking, etc. It is tough resource wise.

Officer McKinley explained another grant through the Kansas Department of Transportation in which the neighborhood and school resource officers coupled up with individuals called Under Age Cooperating Individuals (UCIs) who are 18-19 years of age. The officers asked them to go into any place that sold alcohol and try to buy beer. They used their own IDs. There were some interesting statistics in that the first month there was a pretty significant failure. They went into 20 establishments and 8 establishments sold to someone underage. Some clerks were looking at IDs and passing them back. Sometimes the clerk thought the computer was messed up, some people trying to do math to figure it out, some mistakenly mixed up cigarette and alcohol age. He stated nobody is doing the math. He did state in the worst of months with compliance, there were 12/20 that passed, but eight went ahead and sold. In February, 37 compliance checks resulted in 7 or 19% retailers went ahead and sold while the rest declined. He said that was a significant increase in compliance from February to January. In January there was a calling tree and the clerks were calling other stores and giving tag numbers of cars the teams were using. Officer McKinley stated the city was well aware they were doing this activity as it was in the media and he another officer went to each establishment handing out a flier stating they were doing enforcement paid for by a grant and that there were no tricks. With all of this, there were still establishments that failed. This grant goes into March.

They recently received another grant through KDOT \$10,000, and are doing more alcohol enforcement by going into bars and restaurants and doing bar checks. They are also targeting house parties and other things that are not on their regular checking routines. Officers are encouraged to walk through bars and stop and ask patrons for IDs. If there is a citation given, they are to forward it on to the ABC and the licensee can be fined for the violation. The teams are made up of 4 or 5 officers and going to house parties which is surprising to some as they are used to only 1 or 2 officers. This grant goes through May of 2008.

Officer McKinley asked the committee to please review the article Jen Brinkerhoff forwarded to the group as he had only seen the document a few minutes before coming and could not present on it..

Officer McKinley touched briefly on KU data versus LPD data. He spoke about the difference between municipal and district court and which violations fall under each in terms of substances. He stated officers can now issue citations for possession of marijuana instead of having to go through the DAs office.

Officer McKinley stated there is more alcohol during football games as opposed to basketball games. Whether it is due to tailgating, weather, relaxed parking regulations, football game days are chaotic, and during tailgating there is more alcohol being openly consumed. There are increased numbers at bars during basketball games and house parties but not one huge party like with football. Also due to the success of the football team this past year there is increased attendance at establishments at both football and basketball games. Downtown picks up during those games.

In reference to the hosting laws, he stated it is too early to tell if it is changing behaviors. For the end of 2007, early 2008, they have written a total of 8 hosting violations, so they still need some more time to see if there will be change. Information has been put in the media regarding this law to try and get information out.

Officer McKinley responded to a question which had been asked regarding the relationship between KUPD and LPD. He stated they have a good relationship, but they are different entities. They operate differently through different directives from different sources. They work together on various events. LPD is aware of what is happening on campus as well KUPD is aware of what is happening off-campus. There is less formality in working together than there was in the past which has resulted in great working relationships. About 6-7 years ago both forces implemented the same radio system so they are able to work together better instead of in the past where they could hear something was going on but could not communicate with each other. The KU and LPD craft operations plans together. They have cross representation within the community.

The committee had asked Officer McKinley what was happening in the high schools, and he stated the high schools as well as junior highs all have school resource officers. They are not just security guards but are in the classrooms teaching classes about all different topics. Students build a relationship with the resource officer and feel comfortable talking to them.

Diana Robertson asked what can KU do to address alcohol issues, and Officer McKinley stated they have found fliers to be effective in getting information out to party houses containing information regarding the laws and other information related to alcohol, noise, etc. He would like for fliers to be a part of New Student Orientation to inform people of

not only alcohol laws but the noise violations and other violations that get students in trouble. He wants all students to be fully aware of the law. He used the example of getting called to a house party. The first time officers are at the house there is a warning and names are taken and put into a log in the computer. The second time they are called there is a ticket and possibility of jail if there is no cooperation. The fliers can be used to educate students about the law.

Carol suggested partnering with the Lawrence Police Department on grants and Officer McKinley said that would be great. Schuyler suggested upgrading information given at New Student Orientation. He stated KUPD co-presents with Watkins at every NSO session.

Carol thanked Officer McKinley for coming to the meeting.

Compare grids for Prevention and Environmental Change—identify potential recommendations for KU:

The committee looked at the matrices and started interpreting the information contained within them to determine what sort of things to consider for final recommendations to the university in the final report from the Alcohol Priority Group.

Interpreting the matrix:

Italicized font=information gathered by two sub-groups who investigated what is happening at KU (policies & practices/rules & regulations)

Regular font=information gathered from peer institutions or best practices search

Carol explained to the group that they would be looking at two categories Prevention and Environmental Change. Isabelle Odegi, Assistant to Diana Robertson, entered the information as Carol wrote it on big Post-Its as the group brainstormed.

PREVENTION

Prevention/Individual

- mandatory broad-based assessment of all incoming students with follow-up for high risks individuals
- door hangers=KU & city
- off campus new students, fraternities, apartments—increase messages prior to events
- information on KU website (make alcohol policy prominent)
- re-enforcement
- increase messaging prior to events
- peer educator group to address exclusively the assessments initially
- role modeling and multiple messaging

Prevention/Groups

- prevention & providing (i.e. Safe Spring Break)

Prevention/Institution

- regularly and consistently provide alcohol-free alternatives, more options on campus during evenings and weekends
- enhance celebrations approach
- increase alcohol-free tailgating locations
- eliminate mixed messages
- send seasonal messages i.e. fall, fall break, holidays when alcohol use increases
- UDK advertising=limit
- website

Prevention/Community

- working more with elementary, junior high, and high school
- coalition between university and community

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Environmental change/Individual

- market “cool not to drink” message/individualize messaging (i.e. age, international student, law student)—one message does not fit all groups
- multiple messages
- role models
- address alcohol during orientation and encourage students to ask their parents, provide materials for students/parents—discuss before coming to college

Environmental change/Group

- messages/information to parents, alums, sports patrons, fans
- how we message, make message modern, hitting the kids where they live, something besides brochures, other way students can relate i.e. technology respected
- clear definition of group policies i.e. Greek life and elsewhere
- non-alcoholic events during certain periods i.e. from the first day of classes to Fall Break (university policy)
- alcohol free events i.e. 3 Bs—no beer, no bars, no boys, pool parties (sorority week)
- do not link group/organization with alcohol i.e. Accounting Club cannot have alcohol event to start year—establish other patterns first

Environmental change/Institution

- increase Friday classes
- eliminate/change stop date—do not have 4 or 5 day weekend
- extend hours at campus facilities, activities on evenings and weekends i.e. Anschutz-very popular with students
- top level administrative support
- make full-time position/office-AOL
- put money behind it and make long-term commitment (5-6 years to change memory/habit)
- long haul
- alcohol & tailgate

- not a dry-campus
- UDK and chalking restrictions—central approval with standards for all events where alcohol is served
- get away from message of dry campus

Environmental Change/Community

- provost or chancellor convened community coalition—top level between university and community
- promote changing perception of Lawrence as a drinking destination
- meet more with KLBA to see what trends are in community, state, institutions
- partner with other universities
- institution university involvement and legislative action by either initiating and/or supporting various initiatives which help curb underage drinking
- institutions work with community to try and limit the proximity of vendors selling alcohol to campus, “halo effect”, keep infringement on edges of campus, zoning regulations
- supporting new regulation for hosting minors

Discussion of future meetings:

Carol asked the committee if they would be willing to extend the meeting time by 30 minutes to allow 2 hours for the two remaining scheduled meetings, and the group agreed to do this. Therefore the two remaining meetings will be from 1:00-3:00.

- Future meetings:**
- April 11, 1:00-3:00
Burge Union, McCook, #308
Guest Speaker: Dave Ruhlen, DCCCA, Director of Outpatient Services
 - April 25, 1:00-3:00
Burge Union, Relays room #301
Guest Speaker: Jon Schlitt, Sales & Marketing Director, UDK