



# State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

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## Broome County STOP-DWI Program

Jason T. Garnar, County Executive · Christopher H. Marion, Coordinator

Dear Parents:

Prom and graduation are very special events in your children's life and are a cause for celebration with friends and family alike. However, we hear too often that these celebrations result in tragedy when children decided to drive after they have been drinking.

Broome County STOP-DWI has partnered with your school district to encourage you to help your child make the right decisions to ensure that these milestones are safe and enjoyable. It is illegal, unsafe and unhealthy for anyone under age 21 to drink alcohol. We also encourage parents to refrain from hosting prom and graduation parties with alcohol and from purchasing alcoholic beverages for minors.

Parents who give alcohol to their children's friends under any circumstances, even in their own homes, are breaking the law. Parents who knowingly allow a person under 21 to remain at their residence while consuming or possessing alcohol are criminally liable.

Parents may also be civilly liable if they give or knowingly allow consumption of alcohol in their home by a minor who, in turn, hurts himself or someone else or damages property of another person.

Parents can protect themselves and their teens by following these guidelines:

- Talk with your children about the dangers of underage drinking.
- Refuse to supply alcohol or allow drinking at your home.
- Make sure no one brings alcohol to your home.
- Be present and visible if your children have a party at your home.

Please keep these suggestions in mind as your children celebrate prom and graduation time and feel free to visit our website, [www.bcstopdwi.com](http://www.bcstopdwi.com) or look us up on Facebook for more information. Working together, we can avoid any senseless tragedies and all enjoy a safe and joyous prom and graduation season.

Sincerely,

*Chris Marion*

CHRIS MARION

Broome County STOP-DWI Coordinator