



*Office of the Chief of Police
201 W. Sheridan Bldg. C
San Antonio, TX 78204 -1429
(210) 208 - 8191 Office
(210) 208 - 8192 Fax*

MEMORANDUM

TO: Sgt. Benito Pena
Department of Public Safety

FROM: D. F. Adams, Chief of Police
Department of Public Safety

DATE: March 17th, 2008

SUBJECT: **COMMENDATION / COMMUNITY SERVICE INITIATIVE**

The San Antonio College Ranger dated March 7th, 2008 and WOAI TV and WOAI's website on March 11th & 12th, 2008 reported that the Alamo Community Colleges Department of Public Safety in partnership with the San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the San Antonio Police Department, Circles of San Antonio Community Coalition, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Rape Crisis Center and Peer Educators counseling at San Antonio College held a Spring Break Safety seminar at San Antonio and Palo Alto Colleges respectively with the goal of raising the safety awareness of our students during spring break. The event was also held at Northwest Vista College on Thursday March 13th and at St. Philips College on Friday March 14th, 2007.

You are to be commended for taking the initiative in conceiving the idea for the Spring Break Safety seminar and for **"making it happen"** through networking with the various partners who supplied personnel and resources and the campuses who agreed to host the event. Your initiative and hard work resulted in an estimated two thousand (2000) students receiving safety information just prior to Spring Break.

As provided for in DPS Operations Manual 502/02 Achievement Awards Section .59 Certificate of Civic Achievement which is to be presented to Officers of the Department who bring favorable recognition to the Department through their involvement in civic affairs while acting in the capacity as an Officer and representative of the Alamo Community College Department of Public Safety it is my honor and pleasure to award you the Department's Certificate of Civic Achievement Award Bar.

Keep up the good work.

Local groups raise awareness for safety during spring break

By: Will Underhill

Posted: 3/7/08

The district department of public safety teamed up with other community organizations to educate students on the potential dangers of spring break Tuesday in the Fiesta Room of Loftin.

"The police department organized this event to give students information before spring break which will hopefully save a life or prevent students from becoming victims," Sgt. Ben Peña said.

Organizations that set up tables include San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the San Antonio Police Department, Circles of San Antonio Community Coalition, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Rape Crisis Center and Peer Educators counseling at this college.

Danielle Hernandez, liberal arts sophomore, works for Peer Educators through work-study and helped at the table.

"I'm helping students be aware of things they wouldn't otherwise be aware of," Hernandez said. "I also like promoting healthy lifestyles."

The council is a nonprofit organization that focuses on substance abuse, such as drugs and alcohol, and mental health counseling. During the event, the council recruited seven volunteers for their organization from passing students.

It is in the process of transforming programs used for high schools into college activities.

One example would be a Dodging Alcohol dodge ball competition at Reagan High School.

The SAPD table was a buffet of illegal substances recovered by undercover narcotics agents.

Among the drugs displayed were marijuana, LSD, cocaine, heroin and methamphetamines that looked like pink heart Valentine candy.

"It's all the same; it just depends on what part of town you find them," the narcotics officer at the table said. "It's territorial, but for the most part it's all over the place."

The officer had several examples of how drugs can be hidden in unsuspecting places, such as a spray can of WD-40 that has a removable bottom that reveals a secret hiding place.

The Rape Crisis Center is another nonprofit organization looking for student volunteers.

The center provides sexual assault counseling and services to survivors and families of sexual assault.

They also have a 24-hour hotline for questions, references and help.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving also were out to educate students about the services it offers and its youth education programs about drinking and driving.

They were promoting the Strides for Change 5K walk/run at 8:30 a.m. May 3 in McAllister Park.

The walk will raise funds for MADD's programs and support services. For more information, call the local chapter at 349-0200.

College Police Send Message About Spring Break Safety



Reported by: [Kristina De Leon](#)
Email: KristinaDeLeon@woai.com
Last Update: 3/11 3:34 pm

[Print Story](#) | [Email Story](#)



It's time for 'Spring Break' and for some that means wild parties, binge drinking, and days on the beach.

However, the Alamo Community College District Police Department decided to do something about the sometimes hazardous holiday. They held an seminar at Palo Alto College Tuesday meant to open students' eyes to how quickly a fun spring break can go bad.

Students who attended the seminary got some hands-on lessons, including looking through 'beer goggles,' which simulate what's it like to walk when you're drunk. It's fun to watch for some, but more serious a subject to others.

Student Lauren Hernandez lost a friend to binge drinking.

"I think it was already the 3rd day. He had already passed away," Hernandez said. "That, that, kinda put a damper on our spring break last year."

Her friend's death is part of the reason she decided to learn what she could at Tuesday's session.

"We just want to pass along information that will help our students remain safe," explained Chief Don Adams of the ACCD Police.

For some, the message worked.

"It just gives you information," said student Jesse Diaz. "It tells you what to do and what not to do if something happens to you."

The session covered everything from drinking to drugs that look like candy.

"It really showed us, me and my friends, like how, like you're, you're not invincible, ya know," said Hernandez. "Even though we're young, we think we are. We're not."

"We don't want one of our students, to be injured, killed, or disappear," said Chief Adams.

The district's police department will be hosting two more of the sessions by the end of the week. They'll be at Northwest Vista College on the Thursday and St. Phillip's College on Friday. Around 500 students at each college will attend the seminars and hopefully 'get the message.'