September 12, 2013

OFFICE OF BUSINESS AFFAIRS MEMORANDUM No. FY14-13
Distributed via Campus Email

To: PVAMU Students, Staff and Faculty
From: Corey S. Bradford
Senior Vice President for Business Affairs
Re: Alcohol and Other Drugs Annual Notification

This notification is being provided to you in accordance with the Federal Government requirements of the Drug Free Schools and Campuses Act. In order for Prairie View A&M University to receive federal funding of any kind, including financial aid resources, all students, faculty, and staff must receive a copy of this notification.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this notification, please contact:

Alexia Taylor
Compliance Officer
University Compliance Office
Prairie View A&M University
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Prevention of Alcohol Abuse and Illicit Drug Use at Prairie View A&M University

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is committed to the elimination of alcohol abuse and illicit drug use. The uses of such substances disrupt the campus’ mission of excellence in teaching, research and service. We all must help prevent alcohol abuse and illicit drug use from negatively affecting the learning environment of the University. This summary provides basic information on University policy, legal sanctions, and health risks associated with alcohol and other drug abuse. Also included is information on intervention, assessments, counseling and referrals through our campus programs.

Legal Sanctions

Alcohol and Minors: It is a Class C misdemeanor for minors to purchase, attempt to purchase, possess, or consume alcoholic beverages. Minors who are intoxicated in public or misrepresent their age to obtain alcoholic beverages are also subject to a Class C misdemeanor, which is punishable by a fine up to $500. Additional consequences may include mandatory completion...
of an alcohol awareness class, 8-40 hours of community service, and/or 30-180 days loss or denial of the driver’s license.

For minors 17 years of age and older, if it is the third offense, the violation is punishable by a fine of $250-$2000 and/or 180 days in jail as well as automatic suspension of the driver’s license. Minors with previous alcohol-related convictions who do not attend judge-mandated alcohol awareness training will have his or her driver’s license suspended for one year.

It is a Class C misdemeanor for an individual under the age of 21 to operate a vehicle while having any detectable amount of alcohol in their system. Anyone who violates the law is subject to a fine up to $500. He or she must also attend an alcohol awareness class, must complete 20-40 hours of mandatory community service, and a 60-day driver’s license suspension. Repeat offenses could result in a $2,000 fine and/or 180 days in jail.

Providing Alcohol to Minors: It is a Class A misdemeanor for an adult who makes alcohol available or sells alcoholic beverages to a minor. Violators will be subject to a fine of up to $4,000 and/or up to a year in jail. Violators will also have his or her license automatically suspended for 180 days upon conviction. In addition, individuals 21 and older (other than the parent or guardian) can be held liable for damages caused by the intoxication of a minor under the age of 18 if the adult knowingly provided alcohol or allowed the minor to be served or provided an alcoholic beverage on the premises owned or leased by the adult.

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI): It is a Class B misdemeanor if an individual is convicted of operating any type of motor vehicle while intoxicated with drugs or alcohol. Punishment for this offense is a minimum 72-hours in jail. If an open container is found in the vehicle, punishment increases to a minimum of 6 days of confinement.

Intoxication Assault: It is a Third degree felony to cause serious bodily injury to another by accident or mistake while operating any vehicle (motor, aircraft, or watercraft) in a public place while intoxicated.

Intoxication Manslaughter: It is a Second degree felony to cause death to another by accident or mistake while operating any vehicle (motor, aircraft, and watercraft) in a public place while intoxicated.

University Sanctions
PVAMU has a zero-tolerance for students using alcoholic beverages on campus. The possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages is controlled by Texas statutes, city ordinances and University regulations. All members of the campus community are expected to abide by the laws and regulations.

Possessing, manufacturing, selling, transmission or use of illegal drugs and controlled substances is prohibited. This includes unprescribed or dangerous drugs or drug paraphernalia on the University premises or at University-sponsored events. Pursuant to the TAMUS policy 34.02 Drug and Alcohol Abuse, policy violators are subject to disciplinary actions up to and including expulsion, termination of employment and referral for prosecution.

PVAMU is committed to a drug-free workplace and educational environment. University administrators, supervisors, and University police are charged with the enforcement of TAMUS Policy 34.02 Drug and Alcohol Abuse and the student code of conduct. Both student and employees are subject to prosecution under applicable state or federal laws. The PVAMU Department of Public Safety does and will continue to cooperate with federal, state, local and other law enforcement agencies to enforce statutes governing illegal involvement with drugs
and violations of state liquor laws including underage drinking. These are criminal offenses and will be treated accordingly. PVAMU reserves the right to permanently dismiss any student or terminate any employee whose continued presence on campus and in the community constitutes a risk to the health, safety, or general well being of the University community or themselves.

**Marijuana Possession:** Possession of as little as 2 oz. of marijuana is a Class B misdemeanor could result in 180 days in jail and fines of $2,000. Possession of more than 2 oz. is a Class A misdemeanor and could result in up to ten years in prison and/or a fine of $10,000 to $50,000.

**Marijuana Sale to Minors:** Selling marijuana to minors is a felony. Anyone convicted of selling marijuana to a minor is subject to a maximum 20 year prison sentence and fines of $10,000.

**Possession of Cocaine, Heroin, and Methamphetamine:** Minimum penalties could result in two years in jail and a $10,000 fine, but the penalty may increase to up to life in prison if the individual possesses 400 or more grams of the substance.

**Possession of LSD:** Possession could result in two years to life in prison with fines up to $250,000.

**Possession of Ecstasy, PCP, and Mescaline:** Possession carries a two year jail sentence for less than 1 gram and a maximum life sentence and fines up to $50,000 for 400 grams or more.

**Possession of Valium, Ritalin, and various other Chemical Compounds:** Possession could result in a minimum of one year in jail and a $4000 fine. Possession of over 200 grams of these substances could result in up to 20 years in prison and $10,000 in fines.

**Health Risks**
Alcohol abuse is a prime contributor to suicide, homicide, automobile deaths and other unintended deaths. Excessive alcohol consumption leads to more than 100,000 deaths in the United States each year. Alcohol abuse can lead to alcohol dependence, early death through overdose, alcohol-related stroke, and complications involving the brain, heart, liver and other organs. Alcohol abuse can also cause cirrhosis of the liver, gastritis as well as esophageal cancer. Illicit drug abuse can cause a variety of health problems as well. Abuse can result in drug addiction, death by overdose, death from withdrawals, seizure, heart problems, liver disease and chronic brain dysfunction. Alcohol and/or drug use by a pregnant woman may lead to pregnancy complications, birth defects, or brain damage to her unborn child. If the mother abuses drugs while pregnant, her unborn child may be born with an addiction to the substance.

**Campus Resources**

**Students:** To help students who may have an alcohol or drug problem, the campus offers an Early Intervention and Education Program. The program is designed to meet the individual needs of students referred for alcohol or drug conduct violations. The program offers individual counseling, assessment and/or treatment referral. For more information on the alcohol or drug program or to schedule an appointment, call the Owens-Franklin Health Center: 936-261-1400.

**Employees:** The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential source for assessment, short-term counseling, and referral for a variety of problems, including alcohol or other drug abuse. PVAMU contracts with the University of Texas Health Science Center’s Employee Assistance program (UTEAP) to provide these services to PVAMU employees. For more information, call 713-300-3327 or 936-261-1400. You can also refer to the UTEAP website: http://publicaffairsuth.tmc.edu/worklife/EAP/memberservices/services.html.