

# 2012 Prom Season



## Parent Guide & Pledge Book

Baltimore County Department of Health





Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Baltimore County Department of Health is pleased to present Baltimore County's 2012 *Safe & Sober Prom Season Parent Guide & Pledge Book*. This booklet contains information on underage drinking, young driver safety, consequences of providing alcohol to minors, and suggestions for parents who would like to support after-prom activities at their child's school.

Additionally, this booklet contains the names of local limousine and bus companies who have signed the *Baltimore County Safe and Sober Pledge*, thereby agreeing not to allow minors to use tobacco, alcohol, or any other drugs while using their transportation services. Please note that as of January 2012, the listed companies also meet the minimum safety requirements of the Maryland Public Service Commission. We strongly encourage parents to patronize such businesses that have made a commitment to the health and safety of our youth, and to visit the Commission's web site at [www.psc.state.md.us](http://www.psc.state.md.us) when hiring transportation service, to verify that their selected company remains in good standing.

Thank you for making use of this booklet during this prom and graduation season, and for helping us work towards our vision of healthy people living, working, and playing in Baltimore County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory Wm. Branch".

Gregory Wm. Branch, M.D., MBA, CPE  
Director and Health Officer

## ***Know the Facts about Underage Drinking and Drug Use***

- Underage drinking can lead to severe and tragic consequences including car crashes, injuries, rape, sexual assault, suicide, pregnancy, academic failure, alcohol poisoning, alcoholism, potentially irreversible brain damage, and death.
- Individuals who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to become dependent on alcohol than are those who begin drinking after age 21.
- One-fourth of 16–20 year old drivers who die in crashes have high blood alcohol concentrations. The risk of a crash is substantially higher when teens drive after drinking. This is true even for low and moderate blood alcohol concentrations, possibly because teens are also less experienced drivers.
- The results of the Maryland State Department of Education 2007 Adolescent Survey indicate that of Baltimore County 12<sup>th</sup> grade students:
  - 71%** have tried alcohol
  - 46%** drank alcohol in the past month
  - 45%** have smoked marijuana
  - 24%** within the last 30 days
  - 32%** have tried smoking cigarettes
  - 18%** smoked cigarettes in the past month
- The 2007 Adolescent Survey also indicates that of 12th grade students in the state of Maryland:
  - 19%** have driven at least once after consuming one to four drinks
  - 11%** have driven after having five or more drinks
  - 33%** reported they have been a passenger with a drinking driver.
  - 10%** have driven under the influence of marijuana once or twice,
  - 11%** did so on three or more occasions.

# *Encourage Young Driver Safety*

## *What Parents CAN do...*

- **Limit the number of teen passengers in your young driver's car to one or zero.**

The presence of one teen passenger nearly doubles the risk of a fatal crash. Having two or more teen passengers increases the risk of having a fatal crash nearly five times as much as compared to driving alone.

- **Set a good example. Always wear your seat belt and insist your young driver do the same.**

In 2008, more than half of teen drivers fatally injured in crashes were not wearing seat belts.

- **Discourage distractions and risky behaviors for your teen driver.**

Distractions are a major cause of young driver crashes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that 61% of 16 and 17 year-olds admitted risky driving habits. Of those drivers:

- 28% sent text messages while driving
- 31% talked on cell phones while driving
- 35% drove with their friends in the car
- 24% exceeded the speed limit by 10 miles per hour or more.

*NOTE: In the State of Maryland, drivers under the age of 18 may not use any wireless communication devices, including a cell phone, while driving, except to make an emergency 911 call. Violations may result in the suspension of one's driving privilege for up to 90 days. On October 1, 2009, a new texting law went into effect. The law prohibits a person from using a text messaging device to write or send a text message while operating a motor vehicle in motion or in the travel portion of a roadway. Violations may result in fines up to \$500. On October 1, 2010, Maryland enacted a secondary enforcement law outlawing cell phone use while driving unless a hands-free device is employed. Violations may result in fines up to \$100.*

- **Parents are the most important influence on their teen when it comes to risky behaviors including substance abuse and driving.**

Parents can improve their teen's health and safety by discussing the dangers of drugs and alcohol, setting a good example behind the wheel, and establishing driving rules and consequences early\*. Teach them to eliminate distractions when operating a motor vehicle and warn them of the dangers of riding with impaired or distracted drivers.

*\*High school students are more likely to drink and smoke cigarettes and marijuana in the month immediately after getting their driver's license.*

For more information on young driver safety, visit <http://parentsofyoungdrivers.com>

## ***Understand the Laws Regarding Underage Drinking***

It is **illegal** for an adult to host an underage drinking party or to purchase alcohol for persons under 21 years of age, even with their parents' permission.

An adult found guilty of providing alcohol for an individual under 21 (other than their own child) is subject to a \$2,500 fine for the first offense and \$5,000 fine for each subsequent offense for each underage person. Hosting an underage drinking party for 10 minors could result in fines totaling \$25,000.

Adults who provide alcohol to individuals under 21 can be sued if the youth hurts someone, damages property, or is involved in a car crash.

In addition, Maryland law states that persons under 21 who operate a vehicle with any trace of alcohol in their system are subject to license suspension for one year.

### **Tips for Parents**

Parents can protect themselves and their teens by following these guidelines when hosting parties for their children:

- Plan alcohol-free activities in your home and make teens feel welcome. Make sure no one brings alcohol onto your property.
- Be home when your child has a party.
- Get to know the parents of your child's friends. Invite them to chaperone.
- Help your teenager plan the party. Avoid sending e-mail invitations that can easily be forwarded to others.
- Limit guests to certain areas of your home. Let them know that if they leave the party, they cannot return.
- Monitor the party without being conspicuous (e.g., replenish snacks, etc.).
- Provide plenty of food and nonalcoholic beverages.
- Report underage drinking to your local precinct.

## *Support Your Teen's After-Prom Activity*

Exciting events such as the senior prom are often followed by “high-risk” behavior, including drinking, using drugs, and driving carelessly. Adolescents often see these behaviors as acceptable, even expected, at the time.

After-prom events are designed to offer a safe, tobacco- and alcohol-free activity as an alternative to high-risk activities.

### **Assist your child with his/her after-prom plan:**

- Encourage your child to attend the after-prom party planned by the PTSA or school's After-Prom Committee and to stay at the party until it ends.
- Know how your child will get home from the party. (The Limousine will take them to the prom and after-prom site, but will not wait until the party is over unless you've made those arrangements.) Parents not picking up their child after the event may want to drop off a car at the after-prom activity site.
- Encourage your child to take a change of clothes with them, so they can change at the party if they will be uncomfortable in their formal wear.

### **Support the event:**

A successful after-prom event must have enough activities for students to want to stay through the critical hours immediately following the prom. Planners must provide enough entertainment, food, incentives, music, games, etc. to accomplish this, which is costly. Contact your child's school about the event if you haven't yet received information from the PTSA or After-Prom Chairperson. Ask them how you can help support the activity.

*For sources of information presented in this publication, please contact the Bureau of Behavioral Health at 410-887-3828*

## ***SAFE & SOBER TRANSPORTATION COMPANY PLEDGE***

Every year, the Baltimore County Department of Health attends a transportation company meeting to encourage limousine owners/operators to sign the “Safe and Sober Pledge”. Below is the text of the agreement which the companies in attendance have signed and pledged to follow.

*The Baltimore County Safe and Sober Transportation Company Pledge is part of a voluntary program aimed at protecting the lives of young people during the prom and graduation season. Since this is a voluntary program, all companies that sign the Safe and Sober Transportation Pledge are encouraged to adhere to the spirit and guidelines of the program.*

*The Baltimore County Department of Health, the Limousine Association of Maryland, and the Baltimore County Public School System are working together to ensure that the guidelines of this program are followed.*

*If a transportation company that has signed this pledge does not follow these guidelines, this oversight group has the authority to suspend or terminate the transportation company from the Safe and Sober Pledge program.*

*The following guidelines will be adhered to by this company and its operators for prom-related events:*

- *Tobacco products will not be used or transported by minors in our vehicles.*
- *Alcohol will not be supplied or transported in our vehicles.*
- *Alcohol use will not be allowed in our vehicles.*
- *Illegal drug use or possession will not be permitted.*
- *Companies should monitor what passengers bring into vehicles.*
- *Vehicles should be checked each time passengers depart from the vehicle.*
- *Appropriate number of staff should be provided to properly monitor the passengers.*

*We have read the Baltimore County Safe and Sober Transportation Pledge and agree that our company and its operators will adhere to the spirit and guidelines of the program. We understand that if our transportation company violates any of the guidelines of the program that we may face suspension and possible termination from the Baltimore County Safe and Sober Transportation Pledge Program.*

# Transportation Company Pledge Signers

A Platinum Plus Limousines, Inc.  
6146 Downs Ridge Court  
Elkridge, MD 21075  
410-796-7433  
Michael E. Greene  
Commission No : 3077  
[www.platinumpluslimo.com](http://www.platinumpluslimo.com)

A. S. Tours Inc.  
Midway Limousine, LLC  
3834 Lewin Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
410-367-6900  
Dwayne Greer  
Commission No: 2450  
[www.midwaylimo.com](http://www.midwaylimo.com)

A Touch of Elegance  
Limousine Service, Inc  
1393 Hughes Shop Road  
Westminster, MD 21158  
410-876-0902  
1-800-819-8879  
Ralph Dennis  
Commission No: 1428  
[www.weddingtrain.com](http://www.weddingtrain.com)

About Town Limousine Service, Inc.  
PO Box 276  
North East, MD 21901  
410-287-6400  
Carol Gerhart  
Commission No: 377  
[www.abouttownlimo.com](http://www.abouttownlimo.com)

Absolute Elegance Limousine, Inc.  
P.O. Box 851  
Edgewood, MD 21040  
410-679-8555  
Tim Foster  
Commission No: 1667  
[www.mylimoride.net](http://www.mylimoride.net)

Affordable Luxury Limousine Service  
PO Box 278  
White Marsh, MD 21162  
410-529-5006  
Jim Ferguson  
Commission No: 1499  
[www.affordableluxurylimos.com](http://www.affordableluxurylimos.com)

Aires Limousine, Inc.  
523 Applewood Drive  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
410-893-9156  
Lucinda McFillin  
Commission No: 1133

American Limousines, Inc.  
4401 E. Fairmount Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
410-522-0400  
Gary Day  
Commission No: 56  
[www.amerlimo.com](http://www.amerlimo.com)

American Sedan Service, Inc.  
2 Fox Field Court  
Reisterstown, MD 21136  
410-833-1060  
Vladimir Segal  
Commission No: 1095  
[www.rideamericansedan.com](http://www.rideamericansedan.com)

An Extraordinary Limousine Service  
1113 Dorsey Road  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061  
410-437-8200  
Michelle Tepper  
Commission No: 753  
[www.bigcars.com](http://www.bigcars.com)

At Your Door Limousine, LLC  
1701 Searles Rd.  
Dundalk, MD 21222  
443-503-6217  
Wendy Greiser  
Commission No: 4408  
[www.atyourdoorlimousine.com](http://www.atyourdoorlimousine.com)

Belaire Limousine, Inc.  
P.O. Box 37  
Bel Air, MD 21014  
410-879-4548  
Carolyn J. Nelson  
Commission No: 637  
[www.BelaireLimo.com](http://www.BelaireLimo.com)

Black Ice Transportation  
10813 River Oaks Terrace  
Bowie, MD 20721  
240-863-6315  
Reginald Banks  
Commission No: 3774

Bob's Limousine Service  
9229 Main Street  
Damascus, MD 20872  
301-525-2525  
Bob Cherian  
Commission No: 4185  
[www.bobslimoservice.com](http://www.bobslimoservice.com)

Capital City Limousine, Inc.  
5140 Lawrence Place  
Hyattsville, MD 20781  
301-982-6100  
James M. Bowling  
Commission No: 1077  
[www.capitalcitylimo.com](http://www.capitalcitylimo.com)

Christian Knights Transportation  
9406 Higbee Ct.  
Adelphi, MD 20783  
301-351-9230  
Christopher Douglas  
Commission No: 4338

Excalibur Express  
1454 Henryton Road  
Marriottsville, MD 21104  
410-442-1251  
K.C. Jones  
Commission No: 525

Executive Carriage, Inc.  
8359 Washington Blvd  
Jessup, MD 20794  
410-880-3500  
Joe Mundie  
Commission No: 3057  
[www.executivecarriage.com](http://www.executivecarriage.com)

First Choice Transportation  
11521 Cronridge Drive, Suite E  
Owings Mills, MD 21117  
410-356-3499  
Kim Little  
Commission No: 2218  
[www.fctsedan.com](http://www.fctsedan.com)

Hall's Limousine Service, LLC  
12002 Hazem Ct.  
Ft. Washington, MD 20744  
240-375-1785  
Paul E. Hall, Sr.  
Commission No: 3224  
[www.hallslimousineservice.com](http://www.hallslimousineservice.com)

Hire Quality, Inc.  
3103 Winchester Way  
Fallston, MD 21047  
410-877-1600  
Barbara Ballard  
Commission No: 01831  
[www.HQLimo.com](http://www.HQLimo.com)

Jason Tours  
5908 Chris Mar Avenue  
Clinton, MD 20735  
301-967-8200  
John C. Jason  
Commission No: 2623  
[www.jasontours.com](http://www.jasontours.com)

Landcruzer LTD  
8660 Pine Rd.  
Jessup, MD 20794  
301-776-9412  
Forster Harmon  
Commission No: 2710  
[www.landcruzer.com](http://www.landcruzer.com)

Lasting Impressions Limousine Service  
PO Box 1406  
Westminster, MD 21158  
1-800-583-2233  
Kimberly Klein  
Commission No: 2370  
[www.lastingimpressions1.com](http://www.lastingimpressions1.com)

Lighthouse Limousine  
PO Box 1407  
Edgewater, MD 21037  
410-798-8881  
Shirl and Leon Johnson  
Commission No: 3366  
[www.lighthouselimousines.com](http://www.lighthouselimousines.com)

LSA Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation  
(Alex Pope, Inc.)  
8723 D'Arcy Road  
Forestville, MD 20747  
301-324-1650  
866-419-5466  
Alex Pope, III  
Commission No: 3187  
[www.lsaworldwide.com](http://www.lsaworldwide.com)

Martin's Sedan & Limousine Service  
18228 Darnell Drive  
Olney, MD 20832  
301-260-9393  
Julian Martin  
Commission No: 3341  
[www.msllimo.com](http://www.msllimo.com)

Ogilvie Transportation Services  
P.O. Box 12233  
Silver Spring, MD 20908  
301-598-0591  
1-800-406-2227  
Sheila Ogilvie  
Commission No: 2123  
[www.otslimo.com](http://www.otslimo.com)

Regency Limousine Service, Inc.  
8403 Maymeadow Court  
Windsor Mill, MD 21244  
410-655-0780  
Melvin J. Scott  
Commission No: 1621

Reliable Limousine  
11941 Tech Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20904  
301-622-5800  
Paul Rodberg  
Commission No: 1494  
[www.reliablelimo.com](http://www.reliablelimo.com)

Remedy Limousine  
12203 Justice Place  
Glenn Dale, MD 20769  
301-233-2713  
Remigius N. Onuoha  
Commission No : 1896

RMA Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation  
6010 Executive Blvd, Suite 101  
Rockville, MD 20852  
301-231-6555  
Robert M. Alexander  
Commission No: 2014  
[www.rmalimo.com](http://www.rmalimo.com)

Rolyat, Inc.  
3207 Taylor Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
443-992-5731  
Jerry Booker  
Commission No: 4350

Spring Ridge Limousines, LLC  
T/A Watkins Limousines &  
ExecutiveTransportation Services  
#1 Contour Road  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771  
301-831-LIMO (5466)  
1-877-831-TAXI (8294)  
Thomas A. Watkins  
Commission No: 3369  
[www.watkinslimousines.com](http://www.watkinslimousines.com)

The Franklin Chauffeur, LLC  
10707 Cardington Way #T4  
Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
410-903-0385  
Linda Lee Jones  
Commission No: 4216  
[www.thefranklinchauffeur.com](http://www.thefranklinchauffeur.com)

The Limo Lady/ All Around the County  
Transportation Services, Inc.  
PO Box 20179  
Baltimore, MD 21284  
410-663-7000  
Joanna Fridinger  
Commission No: 2171  
[www.thelimolady.com](http://www.thelimolady.com)

Triangle Limousine, Inc.  
350 Granary Road, Suite 3  
Forest Hill, MD 21050  
410-877-0215  
Don Testerman  
Commission No: 3049  
[www.trianglelimos.com](http://www.trianglelimos.com)

Zbest Limousine Service, Inc.  
6809 Ritchie Highway  
Glen Burnie, MD 21061  
410-768-1148  
800-406-0301  
George Rains  
Commission No: 1210  
[www.zbestlimo.com](http://www.zbestlimo.com)

# Baltimore County Department of Health

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Fax: 410-887-3786**

*TTY users: Call through Maryland Relay*

**Email: [substanceabuse@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:substanceabuse@baltimorecountymd.gov)**

**[www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/health](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/go/health)**

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*Healthy people living, working, and playing in Baltimore County*

Gregory Wm. Branch, M.D., MBA, CPE – Health Officer and Director  
Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and the Baltimore County Council