

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GASP Coalition and Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition want parents to "Set the Rules" this prom and graduation season

This spring, the Groton Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention (GASP) Coalition and the Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition are teaming up with other agencies across the state to remind parents that it's up to them to "Set the Rules" about alcohol.

Underage drinking is against the law on prom night and every other night. The "Set the Rules" media campaign drives home the message that parents need to keep alcohol out of the hands of children they host in their homes, or be subject to arrest, fines, and even jail. Parents should also realize that alcohol consumption has long term effects on brain development in adolescents.

This comprehensive media campaign is being implemented in Groton by the GASP Coalition and the Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition in cooperation with the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management; the departments of Children and Families, Consumer Protection - Division of Liquor Control, Education, Emergency Services and Public Protection, Mental Health and Addiction Services, Motor Vehicles, Public Health and Transportation; the divisions of Criminal Justice and Public Defender Services; and the Judicial Branch. The Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) and the Connecticut Food Association have also joined the campaign, which runs throughout prom and graduation season.

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The GASP Coalition and Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition are funded through the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). Both coalitions are initiatives of Ledge Light Health District, a local health department that serves Groton, Ledyard, East Lyme, New London and Waterford. For more information on the GASP Coalition contact Michelle Hamilton at (860) 448-4882 ext. 305 or mhamilton@ledgelighthd.org. For more information on the Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition, contact Kerensa Mansfield at (860) 448-4882 ext. 309 or kmansfield@ledgelighthd.org.

