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County of Warren

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

The spring season has greeted us in full force, and many young people in our community look forward to proms and graduation celebrations. On behalf of all law enforcement throughout Warren County, we offer our congratulations and best wishes to you and our children in anticipation of these tremendously significant occasions.

During times of celebration, it is vitally imperative that the adults of our community join together to ensure our teens' safety. The prevalence of parties will likely increase the opportunity for pressure upon teenagers from peers to consume alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs. Parents may face demands through the spring and summer months to permit underage drinking at celebrations hosted by them. It is important that all adults, including parents and guardians, do everything possible to resist these pressures and prevent underage drinking and illegal drug use.

The penal consequences for these types of illegal conduct are severe, indeed. Beyond that, the physical and psychological harms inflicted upon youthful offenders can be drastic. Add a motor vehicle to the equation and the magnitude of danger rises exponentially. Those who engage in or facilitate underage drinking or illegal drug use are taking inordinate risks and will be subject to prosecution. It is imperative that all members of our community think and act responsibly.

We must always remember that even a single instance of poor judgment can eliminate a lifetime of opportunities. So, again, congratulations and accept our sincere best wishes for continued success. This spring and summer, please be sure to take necessary steps to ensure that your child's prospects for a successful future are protected.

Very truly yours,

RICHARD T. BURKE
Warren County Prosecutor