



SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW

SUCOL Alcohol Policy (Revised, September 2006)

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Section 1. *Purpose*

The purpose of this Alcohol policy is to set forth the rules governing the consumption of alcoholic beverages at College of Law student-organization sponsored educational, professional, or social events.

Section 2. *Policy*

It is the policy of the College of Law to promote the professional and socially responsible use of alcoholic beverages by its students at student organization-sponsored events. The College of Law is mindful of the challenges faced by lawyers in the profession with respect to alcohol and substance abuse. Because law students are pursuing an educational path leading to membership in the legal profession, the College of Law seeks to instill in its students the highest levels of professionalism and integrity in connection with all student organization-sponsored events.¹ For this reason, law students are held to a standard of behavior under the Code of Student Conduct, which is influenced by the Model Rules of Professional Conduct of the American Bar Association.

Section 3. *Consumption of Alcohol at Student Organization-Sponsored Events*

- a. Student fees shall not be used to purchase alcohol beverages.

¹ See Code of Student Conduct and Grievance Procedure, 2005-2006 at 32 (“Students admitted to the College of Law are embarking on a professional endeavor, and are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner in accordance with this Code of Conduct.”)



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- b. Alcohol may not be served at any event without charge. All events at which alcohol is to be served shall be on a charge per drink basis. “Open” bar events, at which attendees may consume an unlimited quantity of alcohol, are not permitted. No more than one event where alcohol is served may be held at any one time or consecutively.
- c. Alcohol may not be served at an event for longer than two and one-half hours. Events three and one-half hours and longer shall be scheduled so that the final hour of the event shall allow for one hour of only non-alcoholic beverage service.
- d. Depending on the student organization’s budget for an event and at the discretion of the Dean of Student Life, non-alcoholic beverages shall be made available without charge during the course of a scheduled event.

Section 4. *Advertising*

Events at which the consumption of alcohol is the central defining feature of the event may not be advertised on any College of Law or University server. All advertising for student organization events must be in compliance with the Sign Posting Policy, as adopted by the 2006 Law Student Senate Board of Governors.

Section 5. *Administration*

- a. All events at which alcohol is to be served shall be approved in advance by the Assistant Dean for Student Life.
- b. All officers of a student group sponsoring an event that will be in attendance, shall execute a “Responsible Drinking Pledge” in advance of the event which shall include a personal commitment to (i) prevent the introduction of alcohol to the event from any outside source, (ii) refuse entry to any attendee who is obviously intoxicated, (iii) maintain a professional atmosphere at the event in which respect and cooperation is the standard of behavior between attendees and the service staff, and (iv) ask any attendee to refrain from the further consumption of alcohol or, if need be, to leave the event if he or she is conducting him or herself in an unprofessional or discourteous manner or otherwise in violation of this Policy.
- c. All students attending a student organization-sponsored event at which alcoholic beverages are consumed shall be deemed to have consented to the application of this Policy. Failure to comply with the terms of this Policy, or to conspire to violate the terms of this Policy, shall result in a hearing in front of the Judicial Board.
- d. Any student organization officer alleged to have violated this Policy shall be required to appear in front of the Senate Judicial Board for adjudication. If found guilty of a violation of this policy, the student organization officer will



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be removed from their respective office unless and until they have completed three (3) counseling sessions with the Office of Student Life. Any appeals from a determination of the Senate Judicial Board shall be made to the Assistant Dean for Student Life. Determinations by the Assistant Dean of Student Life are final.

- e. Any Senate member alleged to have violated this Policy shall be required to appear in front of the Senate Judicial Board for adjudication. If found guilty of a violation of this policy, the Senate member will be removed from their respective office unless and until they have completed three (3) counseling sessions with the Office of Student Life. Any sanctions assigned to the Senate member shall come from a recommendation by the Senate Judicial Board, but shall be voted on by the entire Senate. Any appeals from a determination of the Senate Judicial Board shall be made to the Assistant Dean for Student Life. Determinations by the Assistant Dean of Student Life are final.

Section 7. *Definitions*

- a. “*Event*” means a law student sponsored educational, professional, or social event at which membership in the College of Law community is advertised or is otherwise a defining characteristic.
- b. “*Hard liquor*” shall mean any alcoholic beverage with greater than 14% alcohol (28 proof).
- c. “*Obviously intoxicated*” means a condition of impairment from alcohol consumption such that a reasonable person would conclude that an individual is intoxicated.