



Madison Police Department

Noble Wray, Chief of Police

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Dear Mifflin St Area Property Owner/Manager:

As you may know the Mifflin Street Block Party is set to occur on May 5th this year. The goal of the Madison Police Department is to prevent unlawful conduct while protecting the safety of our citizens. It is crucial that we continue to work together with the goal of making this event as safe as possible.

We will once again be working with stakeholders to attempt to identify sponsors and/or organizers. However, we must proceed with our planning while additional details of the event continue to be worked out. While some details have yet to be worked out, we know from previous years that certain activities are likely to occur in private residences and on private property the day of the event. It is these activities that are the concern of this letter to you.

We know that many of the following activities will occur in private residences or on private property:

- Illegal alcohol sales or dispensing alcohol without a permit.
- Providing alcohol to underage persons.
- Allowing underage persons to consume alcohol on premise.
- Violations of fire codes related to overcrowding inside apartments and overloading of balconies.
- Overconsumption of alcohol.
- Improper depositing of human waste.
- Consuming alcohol on private property without the permission.
- Throwing of objects into crowds or at police officers from balconies.
- Unreasonable noise, to include bands or other amplified music.

We also know that serious incidents have occurred at this event in the past, to include:

- Sexual Assaults
- Stabbings
- Substantial Batteries
- Porch Collapses
- Injuries and assaults to Police Officers and Fire Personnel

We believe it is common knowledge the above incidents or activities will occur, or have a significant likelihood to occur and no stakeholders can reasonably deny having knowledge of the conditions described above. It is with this understanding that the Madison Police Department is obligated to educate property owners, landlords, management, residents and potential visitors about the perils associated with this event, and about our proactive and aggressive enforcement of local ordinances and state laws. Our officers will be thoroughly investigating incidents that occur both on the street and on private property. Many of these investigations will result in formal complaints to the City Attorney for additional prosecution consideration. Our department will be taking full advantage of all available city ordinances in addressing unsafe conditions that occur on private property.

As the date of the Mifflin St Block Party approaches we encourage you to begin your preparations immediately, and recommend that at a minimum you:

- Contact your tenants regarding their conduct on your property and add clauses/addendums to their leases which restrict or prohibit:
 - Illegal Conduct
 - Large Parties inside the apartment or house, or on the property
 - Any bands or amplified music that would emanate beyond the property
- Instruct residents that you will aggressively enforce any and all lease agreement violations.
- Provide the Madison Police Department with authorization to enforce illegal consumption of alcohol and/or trespassing on your property. This can be done by:
 - Completing and returning the enclosed Trespassing Authorization Form prior to the event.
 - Obtain 'No Trespassing' signs in person from the Madison Police Department or by requesting signs be delivered to you (must be a downtown address and include how many signs you need).
 - Post the 'No Trespassing' signs in at least two conspicuous places on your property.
 - Typically by the front entrance/driveway and visible to the back yard is adequate.
- Inspect porches and make any necessary repairs.
- Educate residents the dangers of overcrowding porches, balconies, basements or the inside of apartments.
- Post prices of items likely to be damaged and how it will impact their security deposit.
- Ensure that all repairs and maintenance are up to date on your property.
 - Building inspection will once again be working with Police and Fire staff prior to the event to identify potential safety hazards.
- Remove trash and secure any moveable property prior to the event.
- Consider networking with neighboring properties to take other proactive steps such as:
 - Blocking off the majority of back yards utilizing temporary fencing.
 - Fencing should be flexible and constructed in a manner that would not impede emergency personnel from access your property (snow fencing is recommended).
 - Hiring private security to patrol your property throughout the event.

Our goal is to work collaboratively with you and your residents to reduce the risk of serious injury, property damage or enforcement actions. If you have any questions you can contact me or Sgt. Tony Fiore, (608) 576-2300 or afiore@cityofmadison.com.

Sincerely,

Carl Gloede, Captain
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