




# PROM SAFETY

## How to Report a Tip

 **Call** 713.222.TIPS (8477)

 **Text** TIP610 plus your tip to CRIMES (274637)

 **Use our Mobile App**  
Download app name: Crime Stoppers Houston

 Go to [crime-stoppers.org](http://crime-stoppers.org)

Tipsters will remain anonymous and could be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$5,000.

Prom is a night to remember for the rest of your life -  
**ERR ON THE SAFE SIDE!**



### Tips for Teens: Have fun while staying safe

- Know your plans for the evening by discussing them with your parents, date and friends ahead of time.
- Discuss curfews with your date and friends before prom night to plan accordingly.
- If your date is someone you do not know well, make plans to get to know each other before prom night. This will make prom night less awkward.
- Ask a trusted adult to be near their phone and available on prom night in case of an emergency.
- Make sure your cell phone is fully charged!
- Set the example and show others you can have fun without drugs and alcohol.
- Always be alert, observant and assertive.
- Communicate boundaries with your date. You are not obligated to do anything you are not comfortable with.
- If you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation, DO SOMETHING! Be prepared to deal with peer pressure and to say "NO!".
- If your driver has been drinking – DO NOT GET IN THE CAR!
  - offer to drive, if you are sober
  - ask a sober friend to drive you
  - call a trusted adult for help



### Monitor your own behavior (teens):

- Be respectful of others' boundaries and wishes – "No" means NO!
- Engaging in any sexual contact with a minor who is younger than 14 years old is a felony.
- It is a felony to engage in any sexual contact if you are 3 or more years older than a minor who is 17 years old or younger.
- The legal drinking age in Texas is 21.



## Tips for Parents: Set your teen up for success by discussing safety and expectations

- Tell your teen that you love them and your concern is for their health and safety.
- Discuss plans for post prom celebrations.
- Talk about rules for prom night: your own rules, the school rules, and the consequences of violating these rules.
- Communicate expectations of behavior.
- Set a curfew.
- Meet your child's date before prom.
- Know who is driving:  
If a teen is riding in a limo, look into company policies on alcohol in the limo. When the limo arrives, greet the driver, make note of their name as well as license plate information, and discuss expectations involving alcohol for the evening. Inspect the limo for alcoholic beverages that would be accessible to passengers.
- Communicate prom plans with other parents.
- Let your teen know that they can call you, no questions asked, if they need to be picked up.
- Make sure your teen has money in case of an emergency.
- Ask your child's school what they are doing to educate their students on prom safety.



## Monitor your own behavior (parents):

- If you choose to host a party for your teen, remember that you are legally liable if:
  - a minor is injured or dies as a result of drinking on your property.
  - an underage person gets into a fight, falls, hurts him/herself or is sexually assaulted.
  - a minor attending the party damages someone else's property.
  - the underage person who is drinking on your property leaves and is involved in a motor vehicle accident causing injury to themselves or others.
- It is against the law to make alcohol available to anyone under 21, even with their parents' permission.
- If you are driving your teen to/from prom – DO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE!

## Did you know?

- Going to prom is the second-most-significant event in a teenager's life, after getting a driver's license – 82% of high schoolers are enthusiastic about the idea of going to prom.
- Car accidents are the leading cause of death in teenagers – 70% of teens killed on prom weekend are not wearing seatbelts.
- 87% of teens believe their peers are likely to drive impaired instead of calling their parent or guardian for help because they are afraid of getting in trouble.
- High school students who drink are 7 times more likely to engage in high-risk behavior such as unprotected intercourse.
- A 12oz bottle of beer, a 12oz wine cooler and a 5oz glass of wine all have the same amount of alcohol.