

Security

Updated 11/17/2021

You are not required to have security on site for After-Prom parties, however as your event may include hundreds of teenagers and volunteers, you may want to consider organizing one, two or three paid or volunteer security personnel to monitor entrances/exits and wander the event ensuring rules are being followed. The visual presence of security personnel may also provide visual peace of mind for event organizers and participants alike.

You may also want to consider ahead of time your strategy for:

- Attendees who show up smelling of alcohol or other substances,
- Allowing attendees to travel back and forth to their vehicles/leave & return to the party,
- Deciding if/how you want to check bags as attendees enter,
- Requiring attendees to arrive by a certain time,
- Contacting parents for any reason you determine (e.g. attendees who leave before a certain time will trigger a phone call, attendees who purchase a ticket but don't arrive at all, smelling alcohol, etc.)

As After-Prom parties are organized and held by PTSAs, which are private non-profits, they are private events - NOT school-sponsored events. When HCPSS employees attend After-Prom parties, they do so as private citizens, NOT in their official government capacities.

The Howard County Police Department (HCPD) will only provide uniformed officers under a contract, like the one they have with the BOE, and only to in-county locations. According to [HCPSS After-Prom - Frequently Asked Questions](#), "**HCPSS does not provide supervision or security personnel for After Prom events.** The sponsoring organization is responsible for enforcement of guidelines, public laws, etc."

HCPD is also understaffed, and uniformed officers are not available as security for PTSA After-Prom events.

HCPD recommends a private security firm that is staffed by former/retired police officers called The Surveillance Group (TSG).

Contact: John Superson, Operations Manager - 410/707-8583

TSGguardlog@hotmail.com

Another Howard County firm used previously by PTSAs for several After-Prom parties is:

All County Security Agency

<http://www.allcountymd.com/>