



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: Police Will Assist Hosts with Unwanted Party Attendees**

The Newark Police Department exists to preserve life and property, to enforce the law, to solve community problems, and to protect the right of all citizens to live in a safe peaceful environment. The highest priority of the Department is to safeguard human life.

The Newark Police Department is concerned with criminal activity taking place at house parties. Examples include armed robbery, along with theft of valuable personal property.

To ensure personal safety, the Newark Police Department advises residents against allowing anyone into their homes who is not an invited guest. Party hosts utilizing an "Open Door" policy of allowing unknown persons to enter their residences are creating opportunities for persons with criminal intent to victimize the host and invited guests. Residents are strongly urged to strictly control who may access their homes.

The Newark Police Department recognizes that it is sometimes difficult for the average person to maintain control of a large number of people, as in a party setting. The Department also understands that not every person who is refused access to a party is accepting of the refusal. It is also recognized that summoning the police for assistance may be seen as a risk, since the host is subjected to enforcement of the noise ordinance.

The Newark Police Department embraces its responsibility concerning crime prevention. Therefore, the Newark Police Department is encouraging residents to call for police assistance in the event they are hosting a party and cannot control the attendees on their own. These circumstances include unwanted/unknown persons inside the residence, uninvited persons refusing to leave, or a crowd that has grown to an unmanageable number. A party host requesting police assistance in such incidents will not be subject to the same enforcement action taken when a complaint is received from an independent caller.

It is the hope of the Newark Police Department that removing the fear of arrest will convince party hosts to call for police assistance before a serious problem arises.

The Newark Police Department will continue to respond to all complaints of noise violations and similar disturbances from the general public. The officers of the Department will continue to strictly enforce the violations observed upon such responses.

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