ALCOHOL POLICY

Policy Statement

Sale, consumption or evidence of consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the residence halls and on campus.

Reason for Policy/Purpose

This policy is required for the effective communication of university policy regarding alcohol.

Who Needs to Know This Policy

All students of The University of Southern Mississippi community living on campus.

Website Address for this Policy

www.usm.edu/institutional-policies/policy-stua-res-018

Definitions

Policy/Procedures

Sale, consumption or evidence of consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the residence halls. Sale, consumption or evidence of consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus is a violation of university regulations and some state laws. Possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages by students under the age of 21 is illegal under state policy.

The following statement of policy is in effect: Although University Police and Residence Life personnel are responsible for enforcing the same alcoholic beverage laws and regulations, their
enforcement roles differ. Of the university’s enforcement representatives, the University Police have the overall and primary responsibility for enforcement of all applicable alcoholic beverage laws and regulations (i.e., university, city, county, state) on all Southern Miss-owned or -controlled property and buildings (including residence halls). Residence Life personnel have enforcement authority exclusively in the residence halls. University Police and Residence Life personnel will become mutually or singularly involved in the enforcement of alcoholic beverage laws and/or regulations pertaining to a particular alcohol-related offense in a residence hall when that offense causes concern for the health, safety and/or welfare of a person, or becomes a public nuisance in a hall. Any alcohol-related offense occurring in or that can be heard in a public area of a residence hall that violates the public order constitutes a public nuisance. A resident’s room becomes a public area when the door is open. An alcohol-related offense in a resident’s room becomes a public nuisance when excessive noise or disorderly conduct from the room disturbs the order and tranquility of the residence hall community. University Police and Residence Life personnel are authorized to investigate and decide whether a situation in a residence hall constitutes a public nuisance suitable for the initiation of disciplinary action.

**Review**

The Director of Student Housing Administration is responsible for the review of this policy every four years (or whenever circumstances require immediate review).

**Forms/Instructions**

N/A

**Appendices**

N/A

**Related Information**

N/A

**History**

03/15/13: Formatted for template. Minor editing throughout.

**Amendments**: Month, Day, Year – summary of changes
Authorization

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STUA-RES-018

As the Responsible Officer, I have reviewed this policy and believe it represents the current policy.

[Signature]
Responsible Officer

[Signature]
Date

March 22, 2013