# C.W. Post Campus Department of Public Safety

#### **Driving Drunk or Under the Influence**

# What is it and is it a Crime?

**Driving under the influence of alcohol (also known as: driving while intoxicated, drunk driving, drinking and driving):** The act of operating a motor vehicle (and even a bicycle, boat or horse in some jurisdictions) after having consumed alcohol, or other drugs, to the degree that mental and motor skills are impaired. **It is a crime!** 

It is also a criminal offense in all states to drive a vehicle while under the influence of drugs (DUID), or under the combined influence of alcohol and drugs; the drugs themselves need not be illegal, but can be prescription or even over-the-counter.

The legal drinking age in New York State is 21 years of age. New York State has a ZERO tolerance policy for anyone who is under the legal drink age. If you are driving in New York with a blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) of 0.08% or higher, **you are drunk-driving.** 

# **Designated Driver (D.D.)**

It is important when you are going out to pre-select someone as the designated driver before you leave or before everyone starts drinking. This person should not consume alcoholic beverages and should not use any form of drug (legal or illegal) that will impair their judgment when it is time to drive. D.D.'s save lives!

# Myths and Facts about drinking and driving

**Myths**- Coffee can sober up someone who has had too much to drink.

<u>Fact-</u> Only time can sober a person that has been drinking; it takes about one hour to metabolize each drink.

Myths- Hard liquor is more intoxicating than beer or wine.

<u>Fact-</u> A 12-ounce beer, a five ounce glass of wine and a 12 ounce wine cooler contains the same amount of alcohol and the same intoxication potential as an ounce-and-a- half of hard liquor.

Myths- Someone who has had too much to drink will look intoxicated.

<u>Fact-</u> A person's physical appearance can be misleading. One drink can impair someone's ability to drive. Judgment is the first thing that is affected when someone has been drinking and important motor skills are the next to go.

# Where to go for help if you or someone you know has/could have a problem:

1. The C.W. Post Student Health and Counseling Center has counselors that you can speak to.

The office hours are: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Located in the Life Science Building in Room 154

Phone number: 516-299-2345

2. If you would like to remain anonymous you can call the Nassau County help lines:

Nassau County Drug and Alcohol 516 - 481-24-Hour Hotline 4000

Alcoholics Anonymous 516-292-3040

Call **Public Safety** at **516-299-2222 (extension 2222)** for emergencies or at 516-299-2214 for non-emergencies

**To Protect and Educate**