

SAFE And Glen Cove Police Prepare For Prom

SAFE Inc., and the Glen Cove Police Department partner to provide alcohol and substance abuse prevention, intervention and education to Glen Cove students. Sgt. Ryan Nardone and police officer Karousos delivered a powerful pre-prom presentation to juniors at Glen Cove High School on March 2.

The School Committee of the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition chaired by Denise Kiernan, director of health and physical education, invited members of the Glen Cove Police Department to speak to students about the dangers of alcohol and substance abuse. The goal of this presentation is to keep kids safe on prom night. These annual pre-prom presentations aim to help teens make better choices about alcohol and drugs. The implementation of this prevention education lecture was a result of the 2014 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey (PNA), which indicated that underage drinking is an area of concern among Glen Cove youth. According to the results, the 12th-graders reported riding in a car with a drinking driver at a rate of 25.2 percent, a 4.7 percent increase from the 2012 PNA.

According to Ashley Ferruffino, coalition liaison, "Juniors are just as susceptible as seniors when it comes to engaging in risky behaviors. Hopefully they will remember Sgt. Nardone and PO Karousos's presentation when making decisions that could



Glen Cove Police Sgt. Ryan Nardone and police officer Ted Karousos speak to Glen Cove High School students about the dangers of underage drinking and substance use.

potentially be life threatening this prom season."

The Parent Committee of the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition, chaired by Laurent Caballero, works in conjunction with Kiernan to highlight Student Lifeline, an organization working to reduce the risks of underage drinking and driving. After the presentation, free SAFE Ride cards were given to students in order to encourage them call for a safe ride instead of getting in a vehicle with a peer who

is under the influence. Glen Cove High School's faculty and administrative staff were on hand during the presentation to support the message against underage drinking and substance abuse.

For more information about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition, SAFE's SAFE Rides Program or other SAFE initiatives contact SAFE at 516-676-2008 or visit www.safeglen Cove.org or www.facebook.com/safeglen Covecoalition. —Submitted by SAFE, Inc.