



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF CAMPUS LIFE

February 7, 2011

Dear American University Students:

I am writing to inform you that the “Disorderly Conduct Amendment Act of 2010” became effective on February 1, 2011. The amendments to DC law increase the specificity of prohibited conduct related to “preservation of the public peace and the protection of property” and impose serious penalties on convicted violators.

While it is important for you to become familiar with all the provisions of the new act, one provision warrants your immediate attention:

It is unlawful for a person to make an unreasonably loud noise between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. that is likely to annoy or disturb one or more other persons in their residences. [Sec. 211. Disorderly conduct. (d)]

A person who violates this or any of the other provisions of this section will be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, will be fined up to \$500, imprisoned up to 90 days, or both.

A copy of the act is available through this link:

<http://www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us/images/00001/20110105110704.pdf> Remember that violations of the law are also violation of the AU Student Conduct Code, and they will be charged and adjudicated according to Code provisions.

Over the next several weeks, we will take additional steps through meetings and targeted mailings and notices to ensure that AU students understand the heightened expectations for considerate conduct in the DC community and the substantial penalties that are now associated with disorderly conduct convictions. As we learn more about the Disorderly Conduct Amendment Act of 2010, we will communicate the new information to the AU community.

American University is committed to fostering positive relations with neighbors in the residential communities that surround our campus. We have set Good Neighbor Guidelines, developed workshops to help prepare students for life off campus, and focused our interventions to address misconduct that is reported to us. We appreciate your attention to these new regulations and all that you do to be good neighbors.

Gail Short Hanson
Vice President of Campus Life

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4400 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20016-8127 202-885-3310 FAX: 202-885-1769

www.american.edu/ocl