

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Social Host Reminder-Don't be a Party to Underage Drinking**

Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) and Sherriff Bill Lancaster with the Kiowa County Sherriff's Office would like to remind community members about "Cody's Law," also known as the Statewide Social Host Law. Social Host provides stronger penalties for individuals who knowingly allow underage drinking in their homes or on their property. With the statewide social host law, all youth across the state of Oklahoma are better protected against the dangers of underage drinking.

The social host law provides a misdemeanor and fine of up to \$500 for the first violation and a fine of up to \$1,000 for a second. Further violations can result in up to five years in prison and a fine of \$2,500. If a violation of Cody's Law results in bodily injury or death, a social host will face a fine of between \$2,500 and \$5,000 and up to five years of incarceration,

House Bill 1211 is named after Cody Greenhaw, a Tulsa teenager who died from a drug and alcohol overdose. Both chambers of the Legislature passed House Bill 1211 unanimously. The legislation took effect Nov. 1, 2011.

Red Rock RPC takes a proactive approach in reducing substance abuse among communities, specifically underage drinking, adult binge drinking, and the non-medical use of prescription drugs. They identify factors in a community that cause the risk of substance abuse and work to promote protective factors that serve to minimize the risk of substance use/abuse.

For more information on the Social Host Law or the RPC please contact Red Rock RPC Director, Lauren Greenfield, at (580)323-9736 or visit the RPC website at [www.redrockrpc.com](http://www.redrockrpc.com).