Underage students charged

Five minor charged with alcohol possession

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By Josh Hall

Last Friday, five Drury University students were issued minor in possession citations by the Springfield Police Department.

According to Dean of Students Tijuana Julian, the citations were issued in the vicinity of the Drury campus.

"They (Springfield Police Department) have jurisdiction," Julian said. "Obviously, we don't condone underage drinking."

Julian said that all citations issued by the Springfield Police Department would remain between SPD and the students.

"We don't duplicate that," said Julian, "so if you get an MIP downtown, we don't give you an alcohol violation as well.

With the growing concerns of underage drinking, the Springfield City Council approved a grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks last week.

The grant will pay police $6,500 overtime to target underage drinking.

Officers will patrol bars, parties, and campuses.

Sigma Pi president Larry Page described last Friday as an ordinary night at the Fraternity Quad.

Page said his fraternity's main concern is keeping students safe, but not necessarily checking to see if they are underage.

"We try to keep binge drinking to a minimum and keep everyone in a safe environment," Page said. "When we can tell that they are getting to that tipping point, we try talking to them to get them to slow it down."