

March 25, 2014

Dear AU Student,

Warm weather is (hopefully!) going to arrive soon in DC. With warm weather coming, mid-term exams and papers completed, and spring break behind us, we will soon see increased activity all around the campus and in our neighborhoods. It is a good time to remind everyone of the commitment the university has made to be good neighbors in the local community.

As you welcome the spring weather and are able to be out and about and have friends over more frequently, we want all AU students to:

- know, understand and abide by local ordinances and laws;
- know, understand and abide by the terms of your lease;
- monitor and maintain the condition of your property;
- manage the behavior of your guests and;
- when you choose to host friends at your residence, do so in a responsible, considerate and lawful manner.

Neighbor reports of disturbance or reports from local law enforcement will result in a meeting with staff in the Office of the Dean of Students to discuss the incidents, and may result in your referral to the Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution.

Many of you are aware of the “Disorderly Conduct Amendment Act of 2010” which became effective in Washington D.C. on February 1, 2011. While it is important for you to become familiar with all the provisions of this act, one provision warrants your full 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.**

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.

There are multiple tips and resources for off campus students on the Off Campus Housing Website (<http://www.american.edu/ocl/housing/off-campus-resources.cfm>.) Please take time to review this site and see what can be helpful to you. If you would like assistance in communicating with your neighbors, or if you want to discuss ways to manage your off-campus residence effectively, please call the Office of the Dean of Students at (202)885-3300 and schedule an appointment to meet with me. I would be glad to help you develop strategies for living successfully in the local community.

Enjoy the rest of the spring semester!

Sincerely,

Michelle Espinosa  
Associate Dean of Students