UNIVERSITY POLICY SA-05.03-06/01

DATE: June 21, 2001

TO: University of West Florida Community

FROM: Morris L. Marx, President

SUBJECT: Parental Notification Policy

AUTHORITY: Section 240.227 F.S.

Policy/Purpose: Interprets Rule 6C6-3.021 and 6C6-3.010, F.A.C.

1. University of West Florida students, under the age of 21, found responsible for first-time minor offenses involving alcohol and/or drugs in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct will be dealt with directly, without notification of their parents. “Minor offenses” are defined as non-life-threatening, non-threatening to the community and not involving any other significant violations of the law or the Code of Student Conduct. The illegal selling or provision of alcohol and/or drugs may be determined to constitute a threat to the campus community.

2. Enrolled students under the age of 21 found responsible for two minor offenses involving alcohol and/or drugs within the same semester, or a third offense during the students’ enrollment at the university will result in parental notification. The process of adjudicating these violations will be handled in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct. The offense number is determined by the number of incidents related to either alcohol or drugs with an incident in either category counting toward the total number of offenses. Multiple charges resulting from one incident will constitute one offense.

3. Incidents related to alcohol and/or drugs that are determined to be life threatening to the student, threatening to the community, or involving other significant violations of the law or the Code of Student Conduct may result in parental notification regardless of the number of the offense. An incident in which a student is transported to the hospital as a result of alcohol and/or drug consumption will be considered a life-threatening incident.

4. The Associate Vice President for Student Affairs or designee will be the responsible university official to contact the parent. Students whose parents are divorced or separated have the option of designating the parent to be contacted. The Associate Vice President for Student Affairs may use discretion regarding parental notification in those incidents where it is determined that extenuating circumstances exist which would directly and conclusively negatively impact the situation. Alternative guardian contact determinations will be made by the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs.

5. This policy applies to financially dependent students under the age of 21 except for incidents which constitute health and safety emergencies. Parental notification may occur in health and safety emergencies, regardless of the age or financial dependency of the student.

APPROVED: 
Dr. Morris L. Marx, President

DATE: July 5, 2001

06-21-01