## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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## Press Release

## MICHAEL W. MORRISSEY NORFOLK DISTRICT ATTORNEY OPERATION Traduation

## DA MORRISSEY OFFERING TOWNS SUPPORT FOR SAFE GRADUATION EVENTS

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District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey is renewing his support for local communities that provide safe and substance-free high school graduation events.

A request for grant applications was sent to all Norfolk County superintendents this week, offering to help purchase food, supplies, entertainment or other necessities. Morrissey supplied "Operation Graduation" grants to help communities organize safe and substance-free after-graduation parties to all 15 Norfolk County schools that applied last year.

"The parents and educators who work together to organize these events are doing their communities and their children a very important service," District Attorney Morrissey said. "Graduation night should not include parents worrying where their kids are and what is happening around them. Providing new graduates with a safe, substance-free place to celebrate with their classmates means they are not on the roads and not in situations where alcohol or other high-risk behaviors are present."

District Attorney Morrissey has also provided similar support for pre- and post-prom events since taking office, as well as Operation Graduation. The funds awarded are not tax dollars, but are drawn from the monies that judges have ordered forfeited in successful narcotics prosecutions.

"We respect the enormous amount of work and resources it takes for communities to come together and hold these events, and we encourage parents and organizers to apply if they believe an Operation Graduation grant would assist them," District Attorney Morrissey said.