

## *Message to JWU students living off-campus*

### **Off-Campus Living**

Living off-campus can be a wonderful experience when you prepare for the responsibility of being a good member of your local community. Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS) encourages Wildcats to make smart choices.

### **Safety First, Always**

- Whether visiting friends or renting an apartment, be vigilant when traveling to unfamiliar neighborhoods and avoid areas that may be considered unsafe. If you are unsure about a neighborhood, check the area's [crime rate](#) or contact Campus Safety & Security (CS&S) for more information.
- Special note: There is a disturbing trend of crime and poor behavior in the Elmhurst area; students are advised to exercise extreme caution when traveling in this neighborhood.
- CS&S offers Street Smarts programs with safety tips throughout the year; commuters are encouraged to attend.

### **Be a Good Neighbor**

- JWU students living or visiting off-campus neighborhoods are expected to be familiar with and abide by the [Good Neighbor Policy](#) and [Student Code of Conduct](#).
- Be mindful that any apartment may have neighbors who are not students and are permanent neighborhood residents.
- Be respectful to neighbors and exercise good judgement when it comes to noise, social gatherings, parking, trash, and language.
- Commuters should know the local city ordinances for noise, parking, and trash and snow removal ([Providence](#) or [Cranston](#)).

### **Keep Gatherings Small**

- If you are hosting a social gathering at your off-campus residence, limit the number of guests.
- Check your lease before a planned event for any restrictions that apply to your rental.
- Let your neighbors and landlord know about the gathering ahead of time and respectfully ask them to let you know if concerns arise.
- Be prepared to ask uninvited, unwelcome guest to leave. Always remember to contact the police if you need assistance.

### **Be a Responsible Host**

- If you make alcohol available, understand the risk you are assuming as a host which could have serious consequences both on- and off-campus if things go wrong.
- Familiarize yourself with the university's, landlord's and local government's expectations and possible consequences when it comes to alcohol and other substances.

### **Get Involved Locally**

- Don't just live in your neighborhood, be an active, participating citizen.
- Consider volunteering, attend community meetings, join your community's social media network or neighborhood association and learn about your local government and representatives.