

Norfolk DA offering training for alcohol servers

BY DAVID LINTON / SUN CHRONICLE STAFF | Posted: Tuesday, October 27, 2015 10:24 pm

The Norfolk County District Attorney's Office is holding safety training classes for local bartenders and wait staff who serve alcohol as part of a continuing campaign to prevent impaired driving.

The first of 10 sessions was held Monday and subsequent trainings will be held in the coming weeks at Patriot Place in Foxboro and Legacy Place in Dedham.

"We see hundreds of impaired driving crashes every year. Roughly one a week involves serious injury or death," Norfolk County District Attorney Michael Morrissey said in a statement.

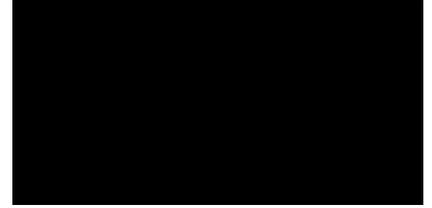
Morrissey said bartenders and wait staff are often in the best position to intercede when someone has had enough to drink.

Training for Intervention Procedures, commonly referred to as "TIPS Training," is not required by state law to be a server, Morrissey said, "but it is an important set of tools on how to use changes in a patron's judgment, coordination and other signs to assess when they have had enough. They are skills that can end up saving lives."

The district attorney's office was awarded one of just five education and prevention grants from the state Drunk Driving Trust Fund this year, which is being used to pay for the TIPS training sessions.

"We can seat 35 servers at each training, so we are hoping for about 350 more TIPS-trained servers in Norfolk County by the time we are done," Morrissey said.

On Monday, employees from the Franklin Country Club, Alumni and Artistry Kitchen, as well as Vinitas WineWorks in Norfolk, were at the five-hour training session.



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Michael Morrissey

Norfolk County District Attorney Michael Morrissey. (File photo.)