

MEDIA ADVISORY

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MISS AMERICA 2006 JENNIFER BERRY SHARES MESSAGE OF INTOLERANCE FOR UNDERAGE DRINKING WITH GOVERNING YOUTH COUNCIL

High school students from all over the state hear Jennifer Berry's message of the dangers of underage drinking and how teens can influence their peers to abstain until legal age.

EVENT: Miss America 2006 Jennifer Berry will appear at a meeting of the state's Governing Youth Council (GYC), speaking about the dangers of underage drinking. Miss Berry is the spokesperson for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), her national platform partner. Her visit to Utah is under the auspices of the Children's Miracle Network.

WHEN: **Wednesday, October 4, 2006**
Noon-2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Utah Department of Human Services
120 N. 200 West, Salt Lake City
Room 224-228

WHY: Jennifer Berry will be in Utah to spread her message of "Building Intolerance to Drunk Driving and Underage Drinking."

"I have experienced firsthand the tragedy that drunk driving causes," says Miss Berry. "One of my high school friends was killed when riding with an underage drunk driver who lost control of the car. My friend was only 15 years old."

Miss Berry believes that a new level of *intolerance* for underage drinking is needed to make our loved ones and roadways safe. Before being crowned Miss America, she volunteered for MADD for five years in her home state of Oklahoma. "MADD's mission is my mission," she says. "I will take every opportunity to raise awareness and educate the public about the dangers and consequences of drunk driving and underage drinking."

ABOUT GYC: The Governing Youth Council is a statewide networking youth group, established in 1983. The group plans and coordinates activities with various state agencies and schools in order to promote positive lifestyles and provide solutions to problems facing today's youth. Advisors are appointed from the Local Substance Abuse Authorities, and high schools throughout the state. Youth are recruited from each school district to ensure uniformity and a broad representation across Utah. One of the main goals of the GYC is help educate youth and communities about the risks of using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs

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