

May 31, 2011

To All Rowan University Students, Staff and Faculty,

Health Alert: Falsely Labeled “Bath Salts”

This letter is to make you aware of the very serious health risks and danger of using designer drugs, commonly referred to as “Bath Salts.” The New Jersey Attorney General has recently banned the manufacture, distribution, sale and possession of these drugs due to the imminent threat they pose to New Jersey’s public health and safety.

These designer drugs, labeled as “Bath Salts” (brand names of “Kamikaze,” “Purple Haze,” “White Haze,” “Energizing Aromatherapy,” “Vanilla Sky”, etc.) have been sold at retail establishments such as gas stations, smoke shops, “head shops” that specialize in drug paraphernalia, and from on-line sources. There are very serious, potentially life-threatening consequences of the use of these types of designer drugs in addition to the associated legal consequences. These designer drugs, falsely labeled as “Bath Salts,” once ingested, are highly addictive and can have very serious mental health consequences such as suicidal ideation, self-mutilation, psychosis, extreme anxiety and paranoia, and violent outbursts. These drugs also cause significant medical consequences such as dramatic increase in blood pressure, increase in heart rate, and severe chest pains. Multiple emergency room visits, hospitalizations and even deaths have been attributed to the use of these drugs. Additional information about these designer drugs can be found at www.NJConsumeraffairs.gov/bathsalts.

- If you feel that you or another student you know needs help, please contact the Center for Addiction Studies and Awareness at 856-863-2175 or the Counseling and Psychological Services Center at 856-256-4222.
- In a health related emergency, contact Rowan Public Safety at 856-256-4911 and if off-campus, dial 911.
- If you or another student you know is experiencing significant health related difficulties, please contact the Student Health Center at 856-256-4222.
- If you have information about the manufacture, sale or distribution of these designer drugs, please contact the Division of Consumer Affairs at 1-800-242-5846.

Sincerely,

David Rubenstein, Psy.D.
Director, Counseling and Psychological Services

Suzanne VanDerwerken, M.D.
Interim Director, Student Health Center