

A Word About Noise

One of the most frequently raised issues that continues to be a problem in Mission Hill is that of noise disturbances. The nature of the neighborhood is such that sound travels and echoes much more easily than in other parts of the City, even if you are inside. It is important that you make a conscious effort to avoid being disruptive, keeping in mind that just because you may not think you are being loud does not mean that someone else cannot hear you. Keeping your windows closed can help to minimize the possibility of causing such a disturbance, and likewise, you should also refrain from other activities on your outdoor porch after 10:00 pm that could result in a disturbance. Be reminded that if what you do inside your unit becomes audible to your neighbors, it is no longer simply your business, and residents have been instructed to call the police in such situations.

Members of the MHPPTF

Michael P. Ross, Boston City Council, PPTF Chair

Jeffery Sánchez, State Representative

William Onuoha, Mayor's Office of
Neighborhood Services

Captain Paul Russell,

Boston Police Department, Area B2

Bill Good, Boston Inspectional Services

Mary Jane Curran, Mission Hill Resident

Noreen Loughran, Mission Hill Resident

Susan St. Clair, Mission Hill Resident

Patricia Flaherty, Mission Hill Resident

Jeff Doggett, Northeastern University

Sandra Pascal, Wentworth Institute of Technology

George Humphrey, Massachusetts College of
Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Robert Chambers, Mass College of Art

Ernest Plowman, School of the M.F.A.

Stefanie Sullivan, Berklee College of Music

Joseph M. Onofrietti, Emmanuel College

Sgt. Robert Gilman, Simmons College

PPTF Hotline: (617) 373-3680

For Your Information & Safety

- To report a loud part or disturbance, call the **PPTF Hotline at (617) 373-3680**
- The local **Boston Police Department** Station is Area B-2, located at 135 Dudley Street. The phone number is (617) 343-4270. For all **emergencies, dial 911 immediately.**
- **Trash pick-up** is on Tuesday and Friday – for more information, call the Department of Public Works at (617) 635-4900.
- If you have concerns about **the condition of your apartment**, you can call the City's Inspectional Service Department at (617) 635-5300.
- If you have questions about your **rights as a tenant or concerns with your landlord**, you can call the Rental House Resource Center at (617) 635-4200.
- For other housing questions, please visit <http://www.cityofboston.gov/students/Housing.asp>
- The monthly **Mission Hill Crime Committee** meeting takes place on the last Thursday of every month at 7 pm in the Music Room of the Mission Church on Tremont Street.
- The local newspaper is the **Mission Hill Gazette**, available at a number of local business locations or at www.missionhillgazette.com.
- To view your local **elected officials**, you may visit www.wheredoivotema.com.

MISSION HILL

A great place to
live...

NOT to party

*A welcome guide
for new student
residents*

WELCOME!

Dear Mission Hill Student Resident,

We would like to welcome you to this vibrant and exciting neighborhood. In choosing to live in Mission Hill, you are joining a diverse, active community of hard-working Bostonians, many of them families with children, in what has become one of the City's growing neighborhoods with some of the best neighbors.

Many of your neighbors have lived in Mission Hill for decades – some of them for their entire lives – and care tremendously about their community. You have decided to join this community, and in so doing, it is expected that you will do your part in its continuing success, and treat both the neighborhood and its residents with the respect and consideration that they deserve. Paramount for any thriving community are quality of life issues, and loud parties and other disruptive behavior have been a major concern for the last several years. It is both our hope and expectation that you will do your part to minimize these issues by refraining from any behavior that is detrimental to the community and yourself.

Similarly, as a member of the Mission Hill community, you can expect to enjoy a safe, active, tightly-knit community with a thriving business district, a number of community organizations, and a wide variety of opportunities readily available to you. We look forward to your positive involvement in Mission Hill!

Sincerely,

The Mission Hill Problem Property Task Force

The MH PPTF and 123 Contact

Quality of life issues such as loud parties, disruptive behavior, or just being noisy can affect **all** of your neighbors. Mission Hill has had a recent history of these problems – you should be aware that measures are in place to stop problems and hold people accountable.

The City of Boston, area elected officials, the Boston Police Department, and local educational institutions have been working diligently with the residents of Mission Hill to address such concerns through a variety of different channels, including the following:

123 Contact

This program was established specifically to bring the area educational institutions together to address incidents of disruptive student behavior. Incidents taking place in Mission Hill involving students are referred to the respective institution where the individuals involved face disciplinary action, in addition to any criminal or civil penalties levied by the City and/or the BPD.

The Problem Property Task Force (PPTF)

The Mission Hill Problem Property Task Force (PPTF) is a group of residents who, together with the City, local elected officials, and area institutions, are specifically working to address problem properties and landlords in the Mission Hill neighborhood. Through a data collections process that records and tracks specific incidents at various properties, the PPTF has made working to address landlords its primary focus.

Private Security Patrols

In an effort to further address behavior-related quality of life concerns, several property owners have hired a private security service to monitor their properties. These officers address any potential disturbances before they get out of hand and report back to the owners, as well as the institutions, should an incident take place.

How It Works

- Boston Police Department patrols the Hill on weekend evenings to respond to loud party calls
- Institutional representatives join the BPD on these “ride arounds” to directly address any students involved
- A special hotline has been established allowing residents to report loud parties as they take place, resulting in an immediate response by the BPD and the institutions

2008-2009 Statistics

The following figures from the 2008-2009 academic year represent the results of the joint effort between 123 Contact and the Mission Hill Problem Property Task Force:

- 104 arrests made
- 196 citations written
- 13 summonses to court
- More than 350 reported incidents of disruptive behavior – all referred to institutions

If you choose to have a party, please understand the following:

- Your neighbors have been instructed to call 911 and 123 Contact to report disruptive behavior
- You are responsible for your actions and those of your guests in and around your residence
- You face being arrested if underage drinking or other illegal activity is taking place
- You may be issued a citation and a fine for disturbing the peace, keeping a disorderly house, etc.
- You may be summoned to court
- You will face disciplinary action from your school
- Your landlord will be notified and you may face possible eviction
- You are responsible for the choices you make, so please choose correctly