



Parade Participant:

The Truman State University Homecoming Parade is a marvelous tradition for the City of Kirksville and the University. The City, including the Police Department, collaborates with the University to ensure that the event runs as smoothly as possible.

One tradition, which is not unique to the Homecoming Parade, has gotten out of hand and poses any number of hazards to participants and bystanders. This involves the distribution of candy by throwing it to the crowd. In addition to the obvious risk of injury to someone hit by the candy, there is a significant risk to small children who often run into the street, in front of motorized floats, to grab at candy that falls short of the crowd.

The University and the Police Department are issuing the following joint statement:

No candy, or other items, may be thrown during the homecoming parade. Those operating floats, or otherwise on record as the point of contact, are responsible to ensure compliance. Failure to do so may result in the immediate removal of the entry from the parade by the Police Department and/or exclusion of that group (and who they represent) from participating in next year's event. In extreme circumstances, lack of compliance could lead to possible criminal charges. If you are a student organization, it is your obligation to follow instructions as outlined in the parade packet and in your Student Code of Conduct.

The University and City are not attempting to prevent the distribution of candy during the parade. In fact, participants are encouraged to have volunteers walk along the crowd and hand out candy, or drop it along the route in such a manner that it does not require anyone to break the police line. The Center of Student Involvement at Truman State will also have a limited number of volunteers on site to help with the distribution of candy.

Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Chief of Police Jim Hughes (660-785-6945), or Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Laura Bates (660-785-4222).

Sincerely,

Jim Hughes
Chief of Police
Kirksville Police Department

Laura Bates
Assistant Dean-Student Affairs
Truman State University