

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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Santa Ana Police Department Receives the ABC Significant Achievement Award
Agency is recognized for grant project aimed at reducing alcohol-related crime

ABC Director Ramona Prieto announced today that the Santa Ana Police Department has been selected to receive the Significant Achievement Award from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) for their work in battling alcohol-related crime through an ABC Grant Assistance Program (GAP) grant.

The grant resulted in 198 arrests, increased visits to ABC licensed businesses and a stronger bond between citizens in the community and law enforcement. The Santa Ana Police Department was able to conduct Informed Merchants Preventing Alcohol Crime Tendencies (IMPACT) inspections at numerous off-sale locations to ensure they did not violate or contribute to public intoxication and public consumption of alcohol. The Department conducted numerous minor decoy operations to help reduce youth access to alcohol, increased contact with bars and restaurants in the downtown area to help spread prevention messages and also talked to numerous locations about how to increase public safety.

ABC Director Ramona Prieto said “The Santa Ana Police Department did important work increasing protection for youth, addressing concerns brought to them from the community and sending a message to problem locations that they need to do a better job of complying with alcoholic beverage laws”.

The grant was one of nearly 50 awarded in California to local law enforcement agencies through ABC’s Grant Assistance Program (GAP).

The grant program has helped strengthen local law enforcement efforts by combining the efforts of local police officers and ABC agents. ABC agents have expertise in alcoholic beverage laws and help communities reduce alcohol-related problems.

“The program improves the quality of life in neighborhoods,” said ABC Acting Director Ramona Prieto. “There can be a real positive impact on the communities where the grant program resources have been invested.”

The GAP Program was created in 1995 to strengthen partnerships between ABC and local law enforcement agencies. The program is designed to put bad operators out of business, keep alcohol away from minors and bring penalties such as fines, suspensions or revocations against businesses that violate the law.

The funds were used to reduce the number of alcoholic beverage sales to minors, obviously intoxicated patrons, illegal solicitations of alcohol, and other criminal activities such as the sale and possession of illegal drugs.

The GAP Program has distributed over \$46 million to local law enforcement to help achieve higher compliance with alcoholic beverage laws. ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.