

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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California Alcoholic Beverage Control Agents will be out on Cinco de Mayo *Agents Will Work with Local Law Enforcement to Keep Communities Safe on Cinco de Mayo*

SACRAMENTO – The California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) today announced that it will have agents out enforcing alcoholic beverage laws in several communities throughout California on May 5 to help make Cinco de Mayo celebrations as safe as possible.

Enforcement will be broad based and agents will be checking on ABC licensed businesses and large parties to ensure that alcohol is not being served to obviously intoxicated patrons or persons under 21 years-old.

ABC reminds any adults of legal drinking age to designate a non-drinking driver so they can get home safely following celebrations where alcohol is involved. Last year 343 people were killed in motor vehicle crashes over the Cinco de Mayo holiday weekend in 2014. Of those 343 people who lost their lives, 34 percent (116) died in drunk-driving crashes. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), almost one out of five (17%) of all the drivers in fatal crashes that weekend had blood alcohol concentrations (BACs) of .15 % or higher—almost two times the legal limit in every state.

The California Office of Traffic Safety DDVIP (Designated Driver VIP) mobile app is available for free download on iOS and Android devices. The DDVIP app offers to “Map a Spot” with their current location to find DDVIP partnering establishments in their area or a “List of Spots” to search all participating bars and restaurants throughout California. Users will be offered free incentives at each bar to celebrate their life saving role. They can stay up-to-date with the latest from DDVIP and see what other users are saying via its social tab. Also through the app, for those who make it a point to plan ahead, users can easily order a sober ride from Uber, Lyft or Curb – all from one screen.

Cinco de Mayo enforcement operations are funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.