

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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

Los Angeles - ABC Director Ramona Prieto announced today that the Los Angeles Police Department has been selected to receive the Significant Achievement Award from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) for their work reducing alcohol-related harm through the ABC Grant Assistance Program (GAP).

The ABC GAP grant awarded to the Los Angeles Police Department resulted in 2003 arrests, increased visits to ABC licensed businesses and a stronger relationship between law enforcement and citizens in the community. The Los Angeles Police Department exceeded 145% of their grant goals. Police Officers conducted 21 multi-agency ABC task force operations, 63 Shoulder Tap Operations to reduce youth access to alcohol, 144 inspections at ABC licensed businesses, trained 570 Officers on ABC enforcement and prevention strategies, and completed over 150 STAR Responsible Beverage Service training sessions for Los Angeles area businesses that sell alcohol.

ABC Director Ramona Prieto thanked the Los Angeles Police Department for protecting the community and said "They 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 GAP program. "ABC is proud to work with all allied agencies throughout the State to provide education about alcohol-related laws and also the enforcement of those laws," said Acting Director Prieto. "The ABC GAP program helps to improve the quality of life in neighborhoods and there can be a real positive impact on the communities where the grant program resources have been invested."

The GAP Program was created to strengthen partnerships between ABC and local law enforcement agencies. The program is also designed to educate licensees and communities about the need for compliance with alcoholic beverage laws and also help increase public safety.

Program funds are used to try 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.

Since 1995, the GAP Program has distributed over \$46 million to local law enforcement to help increase compliance with alcoholic beverage laws. For more information about ABC programs that increase safety in the community visit <http://www.abc.ca.gov/programs/programs.html>. ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.