

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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**ABC Suspends License of Store in Salinas for Illegal Gambling Violations***15 Day Suspension will be in effect*

Salinas – On Thursday, August 17, 2017, the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) posted a 15 day suspension at La Estrella Liquor & Deli, located at 124 Abbott Street in Salinas. Alcohol sales are prohibited during the term of the suspension. In addition, the licensed premises will be on probation for the next two years and if any similar violations occur during that period then ABC has the authority to exercise further disciplinary action.

The suspension came after ABC agents discovered an illegal gambling device on the premises. ABC Agents seized one freestanding gambling device and issued a misdemeanor citation to the owner for possessing the machine.

In ABC's ongoing efforts to protect communities, the Department will continue to tackle this issue and others to increase public safety. Reducing illegal gambling is important. According to the National Council on Problem Gambling, unregulated gambling puts consumers at risk and results in social costs of approximately \$7 billion a year in the United States.

ABC protects communities through excellence in education and by administering prevention and enforcement programs designed to increase compliance with California's alcoholic beverage laws. Visit https://www.abc.ca.gov/programs/programs_PE.html to learn more about ABC enforcement and prevention programs that can help increase compliance and public safety. ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

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