

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Agents will be working during the Winter Holiday Season to increase Public Safety
Californians are reminded to have a plan in place prior to celebrating so they can get home safely

Sacramento – The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) announced today that agents will be utilizing education, prevention programs and enforcement operations in collaboration with local law enforcement, licensed establishments, and community stakeholders to help make the winter holiday season as safe as possible.

“Too many alcohol-related tragedies occur during the holiday season when people should be experiencing the joy that families, friends and loved ones bring this time of year,” said ABC Director Jacob Appelsmith.

December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month, it is a time to raise awareness about the consequences of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs. ABC will emphasize programs that promote safety for California’s youth. Minor Decoy and Decoy Shoulder Tap operations will be conducted in the effort to prevent underage drinking. A Minor Decoy operation involves minors under the direct supervision of the agents, who attempt to purchase alcohol from retail businesses. Decoy Shoulder Tap operations address the problem of adults who buy alcohol for persons who are younger than 21.

“It is critical that licensed establishments pay close attention to ID’s and ensure they are not selling alcohol to minors,” said Appelsmith. “They can also help boost safety efforts by reminding patrons to designate a non-drinking driver or find an alternative way of getting home safely. Keeping communities safe is a collaborative effort and involves everyone to prevent underage drinking and over consumption of alcohol.”

ABC uses multiple programs to educate licensees about alcoholic beverage laws, enforce the laws and enhance safety efforts in the State. Many prevention and enforcement efforts are made possible by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA).

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