

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Cites Two Clerks For Selling Alcohol To Minors *ABC Investigators visit 15 Yolo County locations and find two violations*

(Yolo County) - Investigators of the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) cited two clerks in Yolo County for selling alcohol to a minor during a law enforcement operation. The actions were the result of a compliance check operation on March 31, 2006, in which minors under the direct supervision of ABC Investigators, attempted to purchase alcohol from 15 retail licensees in Yolo County.

The clerks who sold to the minors face a minimum fine of \$250, and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the business's liquor license. That may include a fine, a suspension of the liquor license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

ABC is conducting the compliance checks state-wide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Young people under the age of 21 have a higher rate of drunk driving fatalities than the general adult population.

Minor Decoy operations have been conducted by local law enforcement throughout the state since the 1980's. In 1994, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that use of underage decoys is a valid tool of law enforcement to ensure that liquor licensees are complying with the law.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.