

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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Minor Decoy Operation in Dinuba is Successful *18 Businesses visited, not one sells Alcohol to a Minor*

Dinuba— The Dinuba Police Department and Investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) conducted a Minor Decoy Operation on Friday, April 14, 2006 in the city of Dinuba. The enforcement operation was a compliance check in which minors under the direct supervision of the investigators, attempted to purchase alcohol from retail licensees. The decoy attempted to purchase alcoholic beverages at 18 different locations. During the operation not one business sold alcohol to a minor decoy.

Those who sell to a minor 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 drunken driving fatalities than the general adult population.

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.