

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Revokes License of Store in Downey

Store Sold Alcohol to Minors Three Times in 18 Month Period

Downey - On May 15, 2008, the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) revoked the alcoholic beverage license of Gus's Liquor Store, 8659 Florence Avenue in Downey. The enforcement action is a result of an ABC and Downey Police Department investigation that substantiated evidence of three separate sales of alcoholic beverages to minors within an 18 month period from February 25, 2004, through August 19, 2005.

The owner of the store has lost his alcoholic beverage license and will not be allowed to sell alcohol. In addition, there will not be any alcohol sales at this location for a period of at least one year.

"This action is part of an ongoing partnership with Downey Police to reduce crime and help keep young persons safe," said ABC Monrovia District Administrator Hilarie Vazquez. "ABC is pressing forward with a statewide effort to increase compliance with the law through strong enforcement. Selling or furnishing alcohol to minors will not be tolerated."

Today's action coincides with National *Operation Save A Teen*, a national effort aimed at reducing underage drinking and keeping teens safe. ABC has joined the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA) in its effort to get communities across the country to participate in Operation Save a Teen during the month of May, 2008.

In the month of May, NLLEA officers will focus on underage drinking enforcement with a goal to save one teen at a time, one incident at a time and one day or night at a time. 222 persons under the age of 21 died in alcohol-related crashes in California during 2006. ABC Director Steve Hardy says ABC investigators will be working throughout California to enforce the law and hopefully prevent alcohol-related tragedies.

For more information about this effort and about the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association, go to the website at www.nllea.org. If your agency is not a member of the NLLEA but would like to participate in this national effort, please contact Elizabeth Mattfeld, Executive Director at 240-483-8922, or at bmattfeld@nllea.org.

ABC is a Department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.