

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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## **ABC Runs Decoy Operations in Attempt to Reduce Underage Drinking** *One Cited in Decoy Operation*

**(Rancho Palos Verdes)** - Investigators of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) cited one person for selling alcohol to a minor on April 14, 2009. The action was the result of a Minor Decoy Operation conducted in Rancho Palos Verdes.

The Minor Decoy Operation involved minors who worked under the direct supervision of department investigators. The minors attempted to purchase alcohol from twelve retail licensees in the City of Rancho Palos Verdes.

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 alcoholic beverage license of the business where the sale occurred. The penalty may include a fine, a suspension of the license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

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

Minor Decoy operations have been conducted by local law enforcement throughout the state since the 1980's.

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.