

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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July 3, 2009  
PR 09-40

## **ABC Runs Decoy Operations in Attempt to Reduce Underage Drinking *10 Cited in Decoy Operation***

**(Compton)** - Investigators of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Compton & Century Stations) cited ten persons for selling alcohol to a minor on July 1, 2009. The action was the result of a Minor Decoy Operation conducted in Compton.

The Minor Decoy Operation involved minors who worked under the direct supervision of department investigators. The minors attempted to purchase alcohol from 46 retail licensees in the City of Compton.

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.