

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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PR 15-30

ABC & Oakland Police Close Down Unlicensed Club

Vacant Location Operating as Night Club

Oakland, CA - On November 6, 2015, agents with the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and officers from the Oakland Police Department (OPD) culminated an undercover investigation and executed a search warrant at an unlicensed underground nightclub located at 361 12th Street, Oakland. Agents arrested the club operators and seized alcoholic beverages, money and illegal drugs during the operation.

Both ABC and OPD had received citizen complaints of illegal alcohol sales, loud music and illegal drug use taking place at the location, known as "Studio 361", often until the early morning hours. On previous dates, agents entered the basement club undercover and confirmed that the illegal activity was taking place. In addition to a full cash bar, the club offered a disc jockey, a dance floor and several smoking rooms for its patrons.

Two club operators present on November 6th were arrested for selling alcohol without a license and for possessing cocaine. Agents seized 72 bottles of liquor, a significant amount of beer and wine, and approximately \$400 in cash from behind the bar. Agents also found several small bags of suspected narcotics believed to have been abandoned by patrons as agents and officers entered the business.

The investigation revealed that advertisement for the club took place primarily through social media and that it largely catered to patrons of licensed bars in the area after those businesses stopped serving alcohol at 2 a.m. as required by law.

ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

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