

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ABC INVESTIGATORS TEAM WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TO ARREST 7
SUSPECTS FOR ALCOHOL RELATED VIOLATIONS**

Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), Irvine Police Department and the University of California at Irvine Police Department arrested five suspects on Saturday, December 18, 2004, for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors. In addition, two other suspects were arrested for minor in possession of alcohol and possession of marijuana. The operation was conducted in the general vicinity of Irvine.

ABC Investigators and local law enforcement conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol.

If the adults comply, investigators then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

For more information on the operation, contact the ABC district administrator or district supervisor at 714-558-4101.

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.