ABC INVESTIGATORS AND BERKELEY POLICE ARREST 7 AND CITE 103 IN BERKELEY

Berkeley - Investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and Berkeley Police Department arrested 7 people and cited another 103 for a wide variety of violations in Berkeley on Saturday, November 20. Most of the arrests and citations were alcohol-related. Enforcement actions were made before, during and after the Big Game between the University of California-Berkeley and Stanford University.

ABC Investigators from the departments’ Special Operations Unit (SOU), Grant Assistance Program (GAP), San Jose and Oakland District Offices teamed with Berkeley Police to make the arrests in a continuing effort to address problems related to underage drinking. Officers arrested two individuals for public intoxication, two for obstruction of justice, one for a no bail warrant and two on other charges. Authorities cited 11 minors in possession of alcohol and two for false identification. 46 citations were written for open container, other charges included possession of marijuana, possession of a concealed weapon, vehicle tampering, and public intoxication.

The SOU is made up of a team of specially trained investigators assigned to both of ABC’s Northern and Southern Division offices. GAP is an ABC program that pairs department investigators with local police to address alcohol related crimes.

ABC Director Jerry Jolly says one of the primary goals of the department is to work with local law enforcement agencies to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. “We must continue sending the message that it is against the law for anyone to sell or furnish alcohol to minors and it is illegal for minors to be in possession of alcohol.” Jolly said the weekend operation was just
one example of the ongoing partnership between ABC, local authorities and the University of California targeting crime problems related to underage drinking.

ABC investigators said most of the arrests were made in a business district that encompassed several blocks just off the University of California Berkeley Campus.

The majority of funding for the enforcement activity was made possible by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. The ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. The Secretary of the BTH is Sunne Wright McPeak, a member of the Governor’s Cabinet.