

Governor**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**3927 Lennane Drive, Suite 100
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(916) 419-2500**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact: John Carr
(916) 419-2525February 1, 2005
PR 05-27**ABC INVESTIGATORS TEAM WITH LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TO
ARREST 5 SUSPECTS FOR FURNISHING ALCOHOL TO MINORS**

Investigators from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and the Hayward Police Department arrested 5 suspects Monday night in the City of Hayward for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors

The program is called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which targets adults who purchase alcohol for people under 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under 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, officers then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to a minor. The State Legislature recently increased the penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor to a minimum \$1,000 fine, and 24 hours of community service.

The program is designed to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. According to the American Medical Association, underage drinking can physically damage the brain; interfere with mental and social development; interrupt academic progress; increase chances of risky sexual behavior and teen pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, and crime; compromise health; and result in unintentional injury and death. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety.

The ABC is a department of Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.

For more information on the operation, contact the district administrator or district supervisor at (510-622-4970).

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