

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC, USC Public Safety Step Up Alcohol Enforcement *27 Citations Written During Beginning of Rush Week*

(Los Angeles) On Friday, September 1, 2006, the University of Southern California Department of Public Safety (USC-DPS), Investigators from the ABC Inglewood District Office, Los Angeles-Metro Office and the department's Special Operations Unit (SOU) wrote 27 alcohol-related citations during "Rush Week", the first weekend alcohol was no longer on moratorium for the new school semester.

ABC and USC-DPS monitored the streets surrounding the USC campus, the fraternity and sorority houses, and nearby licensed locations. 27 citations were issued for Minor in Possession of Alcohol, Drinking in Public and Minor in Possession of a False Identification.

ABC is working closely with several University Police Departments throughout California in an effort to reduce youth access to alcohol and preventing tragedies from occurring. Last year over 1570 people died on California highways, streets and roads. 222 of those victims were under the age of 21.

"At USC we try to take a holistic approach to dealing with alcohol issues. Education, intervention and enforcement all work together. By working with our partners at ABC our hopes are that we will minimize alcohol related incidents that affect our community" said USC-DPS Captain Gloria Graham.

Statistics have shown that young people under the age of 21 have a higher rate of drunken driving fatalities than the general adult population.

"The department is committed to protecting youth through educational and enforcement efforts," said ABC Chief Deputy Director Dave Goss. "We have to prevent these tragedies from occurring."

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.