

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Shoulder Tap Operation Nets Three Arrests

(Bellflower-Paramount) – Investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) arrested three suspects on September 27, 2007 during a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation in the cities of Paramount and Bellflower.

The Decoy Shoulder Tap program 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, the peace officers arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor.

The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service. The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. .

During the operation, 19 individuals were contacted by a minor decoy and three agreed to illegally buy alcohol for the minor decoy.

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 Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.