

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC, San Diego County Law Enforcement Task Force Arrest 72 and Cite Nearly 200 Persons at Sun God Festival for Alcohol-related Problems

San Diego – On May 17 and 18, 2007, members of the San Diego County Law Enforcement Task Force on Youth Access to Alcohol along with investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, San Diego District Office, conducted a multi-agency alcohol enforcement operation. The operation resulted in 72 arrests and nearly 200 citations for a variety of alcohol-related offenses at the Sun God Festival in San Diego.

The operation consisted of both uniformed and undercover officers, who specifically targeted administrative and criminal violations including youth access to alcohol violations, sales/furnishing alcohol to minors, minors in possession of alcohol, sales of alcohol to obviously intoxicated persons, possession of controlled substances, open containers and public drunkenness.

The operation zeroed in on the campus and areas surrounding the University of California, San Diego and the annual Sun God Festival. The Sun God Festival signifies the end of the spring semester at UCSD. The operation included investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) San Diego, Long Beach/Lakewood, and Rancho Mirage Districts along with University of California Police Officers, San Diego Police Officers, El Cajon Police Officers, Carlsbad Police Officers, Escondido Police Officers, and San Diego County Sheriff's Deputies. Representatives from Mothers Against Drunk Driving also accompanied officers during the operation.

During the operation, task force officers visited some ABC licensed locations in and around the campus at UCSD. Arrests ranged from Resisting Arrest, Battery on a Peace Officer, and Felony Vandalism, to Drunk in Public, Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor, Minor Purchasing Alcohol, Minor in Possession of Alcohol, Possession of False Identification, Possession of an Open Container, and Possession of Controlled Substances.

Additionally, investigators are considering two ABC administrative cases for violations of the alcoholic beverage control laws. ABC will now decide whether to pursue administrative action that may include a fine, a suspension of the license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

A portion of the funding for the operation was made available by the 5-805 Corridor Arrive Alive Grant. This grant was awarded to state and local law enforcement agencies by the California Highway Patrol in order to combat alcohol-related crimes including youth access to alcohol violations and driving under the influence in and around San Diego freeways. For additional information, contact San Diego ABC District Administrator Jennifer Hill at 619/525-4064.