

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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ABC Receives Four Awards from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
ABC Officers Gerald Ackley, Matthew Hydar & Jeannine Peregrina are Honored
Overall ABC Efforts also Recognized

Sacramento – On Saturday, March 29, 2008, three ABC Supervising Investigators, Riverside District Supervising Investigator Jeannine Peregrina, Target Responsibility for Alcohol-Connected Emergencies (TRACE) Supervising Investigator Gerald Ackley and San Diego Supervising Investigator Matthew Hydar were given statewide MADD California Hero awards for their efforts to help reduce drunk driving deaths and injuries. In addition, The California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) was presented with a MADD California Hero Award for the department's overall efforts to combat drunk driving.

The awards were presented at the 10th Anniversary Statewide Law Enforcement & Community Recognition Event for MADD which was held at the Sacramento Convention Center. MADD presented the awards to "Honor Our Heroes" for helping to eliminate drunk driving in California. Law enforcement agencies statewide were honored.

Supervising Investigator Jerry Ackley of ABC's TRACE unit was recognized for his leadership in ABC's TRACE Program. Ackley's leadership has been exemplary, and he has helped make the program a statewide success. His dedication and commitment has made a positive contribution to hundreds of DUI victims. The program has included contributions from several ABC investigators since its inception in 2004. To date, over 270 TRACE investigations have been conducted with "relentless" effort resulting in more than 45 arrests of persons providing alcoholic beverages to underage persons and nearly 20 administrative actions that have been filed against retail licensed establishments.

Riverside Supervising Investigator Jeannine Peregrina was recognized for coordinating 25 Minor Decoy Operations and 6 Shoulder Tap Operations during 2007. The operations totaled visits to 405 licensed locations in Southwest Los Angeles County, resulting in a total of 93 citations and 59 accusations for administrative penalties being prepared. It was noted that Supervising Investigator Peregrina is in constant demand to provide training to local law enforcement at roll call and academy courses.

San Diego Supervising Investigator Matthew Hydar was recognized for making 58 arrests for minor youth related alcohol violations, 68 arrests for other alcohol related violations, 12 arrests for possession of false ID and 3 arrests for DUI. Additionally, Hydar provides law enforcement in-service, line-up, and reserve training on alcohol laws to San Diego County law enforcement officers. He is also a law enforcement volunteer at the MADD Victim Impact Panels and has provided training to MADD advisory groups regarding their Youth in Action program and alcohol laws. Hydar is also the chair of the San Diego County Law Enforcement Task Force on Youth Access to Alcohol which in totality made in excess of 1500 alcohol related arrests for 2007 during 75 different enforcement operations county-wide.

ABC was presented with a MADD California Hero Award, in recognition of the department's contribution to MADD'S Mission; To Stop Drunk Driving, Support The Victims Of This Violent Crime, And Prevent Underage Drinking.

ABC Director Steve Hardy attended the event and said "the effort these three officers and our ABC employees continually put forward on a daily basis should make the organization proud. It is important to recognize such hard work that impacts the lives of Californians every day."

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.