

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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## **ABC Cites One Person and One Store in Dixon Decoy Operation**

**(Dixon)** - Investigators of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) cited an individual for purchasing alcohol for a minor and cited a store for selling alcohol to a minor during an undercover operation on Saturday, March 6, 2010.

The enforcement activity involved a Minor Decoy operation and a Decoy Shoulder Tap operation. A Minor Decoy operation is where minors under the direct supervision of ABC Investigators, attempt to purchase alcohol from retail licensees. Investigators visited 24 locations in Dixon and one business allowed the sale of alcohol to a minor. The penalty for selling alcohol to a minor is \$250 and/or 24-32 hours of community service. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the alcoholic beverage license of the business. That may include a fine, a suspension of the license, or the permanent revocation of the license.

The ABC also cited one person for furnishing alcohol to a minor during the Decoy Shoulder Tap operation. 63 people were approached by the decoys.

A Decoy Shoulder Tap operation involves a person under the age of 21 who asks individuals to purchase alcohol for them. 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 agree to purchase alcohol for the minor, investigators then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24-32 hours of community service.

ABC is conducting the compliance checks state-wide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors.

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.