

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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ABC Investigators Post Revocation at Halcon Café Bar in El Monte *Illegal Drink Solicitations lead to License Removal*

(El Monte) – ABC Investigators have posted a Notice of Revocation at the Halcon Café Bar located at 10325 Garvey Avenue in El Monte. The revocation was posted because ABC investigators discovered the bar was not compliant with the law and allowed an illegal drink solicitation scheme involving waitresses and a bartender who worked at the bar.

During the investigation, ABC Investigators and the El Monte Police Department established that female employees were allowed to solicit the sale of alcoholic beverages from bar patrons, including the undercover investigators. The employees would add a surcharge to their alcoholic beverages for keeping male patrons company. The bar would receive the cash for the alcohol and pay out a commission to the female employee. This type of commission scheme is a violation of section 303a of the California Penal Code, and the profit sharing plan is a violation of Business and Professions Code Section 24200.5(b).

The Department received several complaints from the community regarding the operation of the bar. ABC investigators worked closely with the El Monte Police during an on-going investigation to develop information on the Halcon Café Bar. “We have always enjoyed a solid, working relationship with ABC and we are grateful for their continuous hard work. We partnered together on this case and our community is now safer because of the successful closure of this establishment,” said Tom Armstrong, El Monte Chief of Police.

The investigation revealed the establishment was operating in violation of the rules and laws governing the operation of a business with a license to sell alcoholic beverages.

“This is an outstanding example of two agencies working together to achieve a common goal of making the community safer and holding businesses accountable,” said ABC Director Steve Hardy.

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.