

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ABC Investigators Michelle Ott, Jesus Gutierrez, Dean Maier and Miguel Rios Receive Awards**  
*Berkeley Police Detective Darrin Rafferty, Sgt. Ben Cardoza and Officer Steve Rego are also Honored*  
*Sgt. Steve Moore of Los Angeles Police is also Honored*

**(Sacramento)** Four California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) investigators have received honors from the California Office of Traffic Safety for outstanding law enforcement work. The ABC Officers have been recognized along with four Berkeley Police Officers who are currently working alcohol enforcement through an ABC Grant and Sgt Steve Moore from the Los Angeles Police Department.

The awards are known as the CLEC Awards, California Law Enforcement Challenge, organized each year by the California Office of Traffic Safety. Below is a breakdown of the awardees and the work they did to receive the honors.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL- Investigator Michelle Ott**

In 2009, Investigator Ott was assigned to a detail focusing on night club enforcement in the South of Market (or SOMA) district within the city of San Francisco. During the 10 month assignment, Ott worked closely with the San Francisco Police Department, focusing on alcohol sales and service occurring at non-licensed locations and during restricted hours, as well as on service to intoxicated persons and minors. During this assignment, Ott was responsible for 173 arrests and citations for violations of the ABC Act, the Vehicle Code and the Penal Code. The collaborative effort resulted in a decrease of disorderly and non-compliant activity in the SOMA district and improved traffic safety in surrounding neighborhoods.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL - Investigator Jesus Gutierrez**

In 2009 and 2010, Investigator Gutierrez coordinated and participated in number of successful alcohol-related enforcement operations and investigations throughout Northern California, including those involving the service of alcohol to intoxicated persons, illegal drink solicitation and underage drinking task forces. Gutierrez's outstanding initiative, leadership and enthusiasm during these operations resulted in over 80 alcohol-related arrests, clearly creating a positive impact and improving traffic safety in many local communities.

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL - Investigators Miguel Rios and Dean Maier**

In 2009, Investigators Rios and Maier dedicated much of their enforcement efforts to laws prohibiting the over-service of alcohol to patrons of bars and restaurants throughout San Diego County. Working long hours as an undercover team, they were responsible for making numerous arrests of negligent bartenders, alcohol servers and obviously intoxicated patrons. Their investigations led to no fewer than 13 administrative accusations filed against businesses, each resulting in significant fines or license suspensions. The enthusiastic and tireless efforts of Rios and Maier have helped increase awareness in the bar and restaurant industry as to employee responsibility and the importance of continuous attention to the condition of patrons. Their efforts have clearly had a positive impact on rates of drunk driving and improved traffic safety in many local communities.

### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL - Investigator Miguel Rios**

In 2009, Investigator Rios dedicated much of his enforcement efforts to laws prohibiting the over-service of alcohol to patrons of bars and restaurants throughout San Diego County. Working long hours with an undercover team, he was responsible for making numerous arrests of negligent bartenders, alcohol servers and obviously intoxicated patrons. His investigations led to no fewer than 13 administrative accusations filed against licensed businesses, each resulting in significant fines or license suspensions. The enthusiastic and tireless efforts of Rios have helped increase awareness in the bar/ restaurant industry as to employee responsibility and the importance of continuous attention to the condition of patrons. His efforts have clearly had a positive impact on rates of drunk driving and improved traffic safety in many local communities.

### **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL - Investigator Dean Maier**

In 2009, Investigator Maier dedicated much of his enforcement efforts to laws prohibiting the over-service of alcohol to patrons of bars and restaurants throughout San Diego County. Working long hours with an undercover team, he was responsible for making numerous arrests of negligent bartenders, alcohol servers and obviously intoxicated patrons. His investigations led to no fewer than 13 administrative accusations filed against licensed businesses, each resulting in significant fines or license suspensions. The enthusiastic and tireless efforts of Maier have helped increase awareness in the bar/ restaurant industry as to employee responsibility and the importance of continuous attention to the condition of patrons. His efforts have clearly had a positive impact on rates of drunk driving and improved traffic safety in many local communities.

All of the law enforcement officers received awards for increasing safety in the communities they serve. Each year the State of California presents plaques and certificates to police officers around the State as part of the California Law Enforcement Challenge (CLEC) Awards.

ABC Director Steve Hardy presented the awards and said “it gives me great pride to hand out awards to people who put it on the line everyday to make California a safer place to live.” Each officer has received a plaque and a certificate for their outstanding efforts.