



## **Target Responsibility for Alcohol Connected Emergencies**

The TRACE Protocol was created in the spring of 2004 when a diverse group of law enforcement agencies, including the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, stakeholder groups and individuals tried to grapple with the increasing problem of youth access to alcohol.

Casey Goodwin, a college student from Exeter, had been killed in a head-on crash by a 19 year old drunk driver. Her mother, Lynne, was troubled by one nagging thought. Although the police had done an excellent job investigating the crash and the drunk driver was sentenced to a lengthy prison term, she knew another person was involved in the crime that killed her daughter. That person was the individual who either sold or gave the alcoholic beverages to the drunk driver. Lynne simply asked why there wasn't a better method of investigating that aspect of drunk driver crashes involving minors.

The questions Lynne Goodwin asked eventually brought together ABC with the Attorney General's Office, California Highway Patrol, MADD, FNL and many other agencies and stakeholder groups.

ABC had a distinct role to play with TRACE. Of course, there was the obvious access to licensed premises and a high level of expertise. But there was also a dedicated corps of ABC Investigators who were extremely motivated in taking up the assignment.

Initially, TRACE was funded with a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). This funding paid for overtime, equipment, and creation of support mechanisms, training videos and printing.

In May 2006, the TRACE Unit at ABC was born as a free standing bureau within the Department.

Today, TRACE has continued to be supported by OTS grant funding which has stabilized the unit and ensured its continued operation.