

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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May 1, 2008  
PR 08-31

**License of Bar Suspended Indefinitely for Selling Alcohol to a Minor Who Later Died in Crash**

**Julian** – The Rong Branch Saloon, a restaurant and bar located at 2722 Washington Street, Suite A in Julian, will not be allowed to sell alcohol indefinitely as the result of a Target Responsibility for Alcohol-Connected Emergencies (TRACE) investigation by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC). ABC Investigators, along with help from the California Highway Patrol (CHP), substantiated that a bartender sold alcohol to two minors, one of whom was later killed in an alcohol-related crash.

On November 4, 2006, a bartender sold alcohol to a pair of underage firefighters. One of the underage firefighters and an adult firefighter later died in a car crash after leaving the Rong Branch Saloon. The second minor was not seriously hurt.

ABC investigators charged Brenda Massey, a bartender at Rong Branch, for two violations of Section 25658 of the Business and Professions Code. She was accused of selling alcoholic beverages to 19 year old Adrian Rios and 20 year old Frank D'Amico.

D'Amico and 29 year old Daniel Duran were killed in a one car crash after the trio left the bar.

ABC Investigators opened the investigation immediately after the November 4, 2006 crash. The investigation included reports produced by the California Highway Patrol

Jerry Ackley, ABC Supervising Investigator of the TRACE Unit thanked the CHP for their efforts. ABC worked closely with them throughout the course of the TRACE investigation.

Funding for the TRACE program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The grant provides funding for in-depth ABC investigations of serious incidents including car crashes, but also alcohol overdoses, poisonings, and assaults that occur after alcohol consumption by minors.

For more information contact Jerry Ackley in ABC's Southern Division Office at (562) 402-0659.