



Huntington Beach Police Department

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Media Advisory

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Subject: Minor Decoy/Shoulder Tap Operation

Case Number: N/A

Details:

On January 22, 2016, Detectives from the Huntington Beach Police Department's Special Investigation Bureau conducted "Minor Decoy" and "Shoulder Tap" operations. The "Shoulder Tap" operations used under aged decoys to target adults, who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. The "Minor Decoy" operations involved under aged decoys attempting to purchase alcohol from an Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) licensed facility. The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors.

HBPD Detectives visited 14 businesses throughout the City of Huntington Beach and contacted approximately 30 people. Three of the liquor establishments sold alcohol to the decoys, and the employees were issued citations for Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor. During the "Shoulder Tap" operations, three adults purchased alcohol for the under aged decoys. The adults who purchased the alcohol were arrested and later issued citations for Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor. During one of these operations, the adult suspect was also arrested for being in possession of drugs. Additionally, HBPD Detectives had received complaints related to two businesses in the downtown area, who were furnishing tobacco or tobacco products to minors. The under aged decoys were able to purchase tobacco and tobacco related paraphernalia from employees of the businesses. The employees were issued citations for furnishing the decoys with the tobacco related items.

This project is part of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's Minor Decoy / Shoulder Tap Grant Project, funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.