



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 June 10, 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 9 businesses throughout the City of Huntington Beach and contacted approximately 20 people. All of the licensed liquor establishments followed proper protocol and asked for ID from the minor decoys. After obtaining the ID and determining the minors correct age, none of the store clerks sold alcohol to the decoys. We consider this a successful operation and applaud the businesses for their efforts towards keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors.

During the "Shoulder Tap" operations, one adult agreed to purchase alcohol for the under aged decoys. Instead of purchasing the alcohol, the adult took the minor's money and fled from the location. The adult suspect was detained by detectives and ultimately arrested for the theft.

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.