

# T O R R A N C E

---

*Press Release*  
*Police Department*

**Torrance Police Department and ABC  
Complete Decoy Operations in Attempt  
to Reduce Underage Drinking  
June 2, 2015**



Agents of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) along with Torrance Police Department Detectives have cited three clerks for selling alcohol to minors and also cited nine adults who purchased alcohol for minors during the last ten months. The actions were the result of Minor Decoy Operations and Decoy Shoulder Tap Operations.

The Minor Decoy Operation involves minors who work under the direct supervision of department agents. The minors attempted to purchase alcohol from eighteen retail licensees in the City of Torrance.

Those who sold to the minor face a minimum fine of \$250, and/or 24 to 32 hours of community service for a first violation. In addition, ABC will take administrative action against the alcoholic beverage license of the business where alcohol was sold to a minor. That may include a fine, a suspension or the permanent revocation of the license.

In addition to the Minor Decoy Operation, ABC agents also conducted a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation. A Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol. If the adults agree to purchase alcohol for the minor, agents then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

The Torrance Police Department with the assistance of ABC is conducting the compliance checks statewide to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Statistics have shown that young people under the age of 21 have a higher rate of drunken driving fatalities than the general adult population.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) through the Department's Grant Assistance Program. ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

Sergeant Paul M. Kranke  
Torrance Police Department  
Public Information Officer  
(310) 618-5688  
[PKranke@Torranceca.gov](mailto:PKranke@Torranceca.gov)

#####

---

**TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
3300 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, TORRANCE CALIFORNIA  
90503**