



# San Diego County SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## NEWS RELEASE INFORMATION SHEET

Subject: Minor Decoy/Shoulder Tap Operation - Vista

Date of Release: November 12, 2019

Time of Release: 08:00 PM

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### SYNOPSIS:

The San Diego County Sheriff's Department is partnering with the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) through a countywide grant to help prevent underage drinking and other crimes that may occur at ABC licensed establishments.

In July 2019, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department received an ABC grant of \$100,000. The money is being spent in the communities patrolled by the Sheriff's Department to reduce alcohol related crimes and educate ABC licensed businesses. The goal of the ABC Alcohol Policing Partnership Program is to collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to help make communities safer. The cooperative efforts of the Sheriff's Department and ABC are aimed at building positive working relationships between all stakeholders and increasing the safety of San Diego County.

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, deputies from the San Diego County Sheriff's Department and three minor decoys conducted a Minor Decoy and Shoulder Tap Operation at various locations in the City of Vista. The minor decoy tested retailers at four (4) locations, attempting to purchase alcoholic beverages inside their establishments. Two (2) locations sold alcohol to the decoy.

The Shoulder Tap operation was conducted in front of two local retail liquor stores where a teenager asked adults to purchase the teen alcohol. Seven (7) adults total were contacted, and one (1) purchased alcohol for the minor. The adult who purchased alcohol for the teen was arrested for furnishing alcohol to a minor, which is a misdemeanor offense. ABC related operations such as Minor Decoy and Shoulder Tap help reduce alcohol abuse and youth access to alcohol. Operations like these will continue through June 2020.

Anyone with information on licensed liquor establishments providing alcohol to minors can remain anonymous by calling Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477, or by calling the Sheriff's Department's non-emergency line at (858) 565-5200.

Call Crime Stoppers at (888) 580-8477 with information and you will remain anonymous. You can also download the P3 anonymous tip app. You may be eligible for up to a \$1,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest.

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PAD-3 Rev. 11/18