



News Release

Promoting
Responsible
Alcohol
Sales and
Service

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For immediate release:
Wednesday, Aug. 1, 2007

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OLCC records 78% compliance rate during No. Bend licensee checks

Seven of nine liquor businesses tested in North Bend refused to sell alcohol to a minor during a recent compliance checking operation conducted by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission and North Bend police.

An OLCC inspector, North Bend police and a minor volunteer did the compliance testing July 31 as part of the Coos County Underage Drinking Task Force's effort to curtail drinking by minors, which is a serious problem on the Southern Oregon coast and throughout the state.

The 78 percent compliance rate during this operation equals the average statewide compliance rate recorded during more than 700 OLCC compliance checks so far this year, and is up 2 percent from 2006.

These licensees said "no sale" to the minor: Ciccarelli's Restaurant, 2076 Sherman; Ashworth's Market, 1585 Sherman; Lucky Star Restaurant, 3480 Tremont; La Herradura, 1430 Vermont; Roger's Zoo, 2037 & 2047 Sherman; Humboldt Club, 2056 Sherman; North Bend Liquor Store, 2080 B Public Square Court.

The businesses that sold were: La Costa, 1930 Newmark; Sizzler, 3390 Broadway. Store clerks who provide alcohol to the minor are cited into court and face at least a \$350 fine. Waiters, servers, bartenders and other OLCC service permittees face a \$250 administrative fine. And business owners – licensees – will be fined up to \$1,650 for a first violation, even if the sale is made by an employee.

In a compliance test, the volunteer attempts to buy alcohol from licensees or their employees to determine if they are properly checking identification and obeying state law prohibiting alcohol sales to anyone under 21. The minors are supervised by OLCC inspectors or other law officers, carry their own legal ID and are advised not to disguise their age or encourage the sale of alcohol.

The OLCC tested about 1,600 licensed liquor businesses in 2006 along with a number of police agencies. The OLCC offers training to store clerks, service permit holders and others on ID checking, identifying false identification and laws regarding minors and alcohol.