



# News Release

Oregon Liquor Control Commission  
9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Portland, OR 97222-7355  
1-800-452-6522

For more information: Christie Scott, Public Affairs Specialist, (503) 872-5002  
Pete O'Rourke, Eugene Regional Manager, (541) 686-7739  
[www.oregon.gov/olcc](http://www.oregon.gov/olcc)

For immediate release: Friday, August 28, 2009

## Ninety percent of businesses in Philomath pass OLCC minor sales check

**Philomath, OR** – Nine out of ten businesses in Philomath passed a check for alcohol sales to minors Aug. 7. The sales check was performed by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission and Philomath Police Department.

The 90 percent compliance rate was well above the 2008 statewide average of 78 percent.

"It's great to see results like these," said Pete O'Rourke, Eugene Regional Manager. "Underage drinking can cause long-term damage to a teen's still developing brain and lead to adult alcohol dependency."

The commission performs the minor sales checks in an effort to reduce drinking by minors, which is a serious problem throughout the state. The OLCC tests about 1,800 licensed liquor businesses each year. Licensees or their employees can be held liable for alcohol-related damages and injuries if they serve or sell alcohol to a minor.

### Businesses that passed:

**76 Market**, 1841 Main St.

**Philomath Market**, 1405 Main St.

**Philomath Thriftway**, 1740 Main St.

**High 5 Sports Bar & Grill**, 1644 Main St.

**Ixtapa Mexican Restaurant**, 1702 Main St.

**Java Connections**, 1640 Main St.

**Jona's Market**, 100 S. 8<sup>th</sup> St.

**Main Street Chevron**, 1414 Main St.

**The Meet'n Place**, 1740 Main St.

### Business that failed:

**Wings Sing Restaurant**, 658 Main St.

Under Oregon law, businesses in cities with a population of 20,000 or more have an equal chance of being randomly selected for a minor decoy compliance check. A business can also be selected for a compliance check if there is a documented complaint of sales to minors. Businesses in cities with a population under 20,000 and unincorporated areas in counties are not subject to these selection requirements.

The OLCC offers a free training course on how to check ID's. Participants learn how to identify false identification and the laws regarding minors and alcohol. Additional training opportunities are available including classes for store clerks and service permit holders. Interested persons can call the local OLCC office to schedule a training session. (*Samples of OR Driver Licenses for minor and adult attached*)

During the sales checks, a minor volunteer attempts to purchase alcohol from a licensed business to see if staff are checking ID's correctly and refusing to sell alcohol to anyone under 21. Commission inspectors or other law enforcement officers supervise the minor volunteers. The volunteers carry their own legal ID that identifies them as under 21 and do not disguise their age or lie to encourage the sale of alcohol.

##

*"Promoting Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service"*