



News Release

Oregon Liquor Control Commission
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Three out of Five businesses in Baker County pass OLCC checks for alcohol sales to minors

Bend, OR – Sixty percent of the Baker County businesses checked for alcohol sales to minors passed by refusing to sell to the minor volunteers. The compliance check was performed by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission Feb. 6.

The 60 percent compliance rate was significantly below the 2008 statewide average of 78 percent.

“It is so important for licensees and their employees to check ID’s correctly,” said Katy Boyce, Bend Regional Manager. “Many sales to minors could be avoided by taking a little longer to get a good look at the ID being presented.”

Baker County (2/6/10)		
60% Passed		
GRADY'S TAVERN 20 E WASHINGTON ST HUNTINGTON, OR	SHORTHORN BAR & GRILL 200 MAIN ST RICHLAND, OR	BAKER TRUCK CORRAL 515 CAMPBELL ST BAKER CITY, OR
40% Failed		
STOCKMAN'S RESTAURANT & LOUNGE 146 MAIN ST HALFWAY, OR	SAFEWAY STORE #4381 1205 CAMPBELL ST BAKER CITY, OR	

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.

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.

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.

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"Promoting Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service"