



# News Release

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## **58% of Downtown PDX businesses pass OLCC check for alcohol sales to minors**

**Portland, OR** – Seven out of 12 businesses visited in downtown Portland passed a check for alcohol sales to minors by refusing to sell alcohol to a minor volunteer. The sales checks were performed July 28 by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

The sales check resulted in a compliance rate of 58 percent which is significantly below the 2010 statewide average of 80 percent.

“Underage binge drinking can lead to damage of a teen’s still developing brain. We need to do everything we can to prevent minors from getting alcohol,” said Janice Kindrick, Regional Enforcement Manager. “Taking an extra 30 second to get a good look at the ID being presented can make a big difference in keeping alcohol out of the hands of minors.”

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 licensed liquor businesses throughout the year. Licensees or their employees could 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* <http://www.flickr.com/photos/oregonliquorcontrolcommission/sets/72157624623539267/>)

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. The Oregon Driver license for a minor carries a red border around the picture with the words “Under 21 until” followed by the date of his/her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

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.

*“Promoting Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service”*

*Did you know that in the last two years, the OLCC distributed more than \$343 million to Oregon's General Fund, Cities, Counties, and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Programs? [See the distribution of dollars on OLCC's Website.](#)*

**Downtown Portland Area**

12 premises visited: 7 No Sales, 5 Sales – Compliance rate of 58%.

<b><u>NO SALES:</u></b>	<b><u>NO SALES:</u></b>
BAILEY'S TAPROOM 213 SW BROADWAY PORTLAND	PLAID PANTRY #75 950 SW MILL ST PORTLAND
JUNIOR'S II GROCERY 139 SW BROADWAY PORTLAND	PORTLAND TENTH AVE 925 SW 10TH AVE PORTLAND
LA CATRINA REST AND BAR 1235 SW JEFFERSON PORTLAND	THANH LONG BAKERY & REST 635 SW COLLEGE PORTLAND
PARK AVENUE MARKET 1503 SW PARK AVE PORTLAND	
<b><u>SALES:</u></b>	<b><u>SALES:</u></b>
BLUE FIN SUSHI 1988 SW BROADWAY PORTLAND	SILVER DOLLAR PIZZA II 225 SW BROADWAY PORTLAND
GRUNER RESTAURANT 537 SW 12TH AVE PORTLAND	SAFEWAY STORE #2790 1303 NW LOVEJOY PORTLAND
LIQUOR STORE - DOWNTOWN 550 SW WASHINGTON ST PORTLAND	