



News Release

Promoting
Responsible
Alcohol
Sales and
Service

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Eleven of 19 Malheur County licensees pass OLCC minor sales check

During recent minor sales checks by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, 11 out of 19 businesses checked in Malheur County passed by refusing to sell alcohol to a minor volunteer.

The minor sales compliance checks are statutorily required and are performed statewide as part of the agency's effort to curtail drinking by minors, which is a serious problem throughout the state.

The following licensees passed the check by refusing to sell alcoholic beverages to the minor volunteer: Winners Annex in Ontario, Red Apple in Ontario, Twilight Cafe in Nyssa, M & W Market in Nyssa, Kristy's Diner in Ontario, Los Potrillos in Ontario, Rusty's in Ontario, A Street Tavern in Vale, Wal-Mart Supercenter in Ontario, Saddles & Spurs in Ontario and Ontario Liquor Store.

The following licensees failed the compliance check: Sunset Lanes in Ontario, Primo's Pizza in Ontario, Brewsky's Broiler in Ontario, Kanpai Club in Ontario, Fiesta Mexican Restaurant in Ontario, Nyssa Tavern in Nyssa, Mirage Cafe in Adrian, and Super Taco in Nyssa.

During the compliance check, the minor volunteer attempts to purchase 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 years old. 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 businesses involved in the checks are selected at random through a scientific computer program or have been targeted due to prior alcohol sales to minors.

Servers and bartenders or licensees whose employees provide alcohol to the minor or fail to verify their age, are subject to OLCC administrative sanctions including fines or license suspensions. Store clerks who sell are subject to criminal charges and at least a \$350 fine.

The OLCC provides a free training course once a month on how to check ID's, identify false identification and the laws regarding minors and alcohol. Additional training opportunities include training for store clerks and service permit holders.

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