



News Release

Promoting
Responsible
Alcohol
Sales and
Service

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Eight of ten Bend businesses refuse to sell alcohol to minors

BEND, Oregon – On March 7, eight out of ten Bend-area businesses refused to sell alcohol to minors during a minor sales check by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

The 80 percent passing rate is slightly above the 2007 statewide average of 78 percent. The OLCC and a number of police agencies check about 1,300 licensed liquor businesses per year.

“The eighty percent success rate is a step in the right direction,” said Jeff Jett, OLCC Bend Regional Manager. “We hope that our presence during compliance checks will encourage businesses to reach 100 percent.”

The following licensees passed the check: Mt. Bachelor Main Lodge in Bend, Cinco De Mayo La Pine in La Pine, Gordy’s Restaurant in La Pine, Wickiup Junction in La Pine, Glory Days in La Pine, Quick Stop Market in Bend, Thousand Trails Restaurant in Bend, Expressway in Bend, Butler Market South in Bend and Quick Way Market in Bend.

The following licensees failed the compliance check: La Pine Shell in La Pine and Sunriver Liquor Store in Sunriver.

The OLCC performs the minor sales compliance checks statewide in an effort to reduce drinking by minors, which is a serious problem throughout the state.

During compliance checks, a minor volunteer attempts to purchase alcohol from a licensed business to see if the staff checks ID’s properly and obeys state law that prohibits alcohol sales to anyone under 21. Commission inspectors or other law officers supervise the minor volunteers. The volunteers carry their own legal ID and do not 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, bartenders and licensees whose employees sell alcohol to the minor or do not verify their age, are subject to OLCC administrative penalties including fines or suspensions. Store clerks who sell can be cited with criminal charges and at least a \$350 fine.

The OLCC provides 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 include training for store clerks and service permit holders. Interested persons can call the local OLCC office to schedule a training session.