

**News Release** 

Promoting Responsible Alcohol Sales and Service

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## Fifteen of 19 Seaside area businesses refused to sell alcohol to minors

**SEASIDE, Ore.** – Fifteen of 19 businesses in Seaside and Cannon Beach passed an Oregon Liquor Control Commission minor sales check by refusing to sell alcohol to a minor.

The 79 percent passing rate is consistent with the 2007 statewide average of 78 percent. 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 1,300 licensed liquor businesses each year.

"Studies show that teenage binge drinking severely damages a child's still developing brain," said Janice Kindrick, OLCC Regional Enforcement Manager. "Serving and selling alcohol is a big responsibility. Servers and store clerks are obligated to ask for ID of anyone who looks under 26."

The following licensees passed the compliance check: Seaside Stop N Go in Seaside, Seaside Liquor Store in Seaside, Rite Aide in Seaside, 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. Market in Seaside, Seaside Discount Cigarette Store in Seaside, Turnaround Market in Seaside, Sam's in Seaside, Pudgy's in Seaside, Fultano's in Seaside, Girtle's Restaurant & Lounge in Seaside, Beach Club in Seaside, The Lumberyard Restaurant in Cannon Beach, The Wine Shack in Cannon Beach, Truckee's 1 Stop in Seaside and Pizza Hut in Seaside.

The following licensees failed the compliance check: Seaside Safeway in Seaside, Shilo Restaurant & Lounge in Seaside, Laurel's Cannon Beach Wine Shop in Cannon Beach and Mariner Market in Cannon Beach.

During the 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 and do not disguise their age or encourage the sale of alcohol. The businesses involved in the checks are selected at random by computer 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 the minor's age, are subject to OLCC administrative penalties including fines or suspensions. Store clerks who sell can be cited with criminal charges and a minimum \$350 fine.

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.