



News Release

Promoting
Responsible
Alcohol
Sales and
Service

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Three of nine Klamath Falls businesses pass OLCC Minor Sales Check

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. – Three out of nine Klamath Falls businesses passed an Oregon Liquor Control Commission minor sales check by refusing to sell alcohol to a minor on April 11.

The 33 percent passing rate is significantly below 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 Katie Hilton, Medford Regional 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: El Palacio at 601 Main St, Waldo's at 610 Main St., and The Epicenter Bowling Complex at 3901 Brooke Drive.

The following licensees failed the compliance check: Shield Crest Golf Course at 3151 Shield Crest Drive, The Alibi at 5711 S. 6th St., Legends Night Club at 4480 S. 6th, Cancun Mexican Restaurant at 3255 Washburn Way #A, Kingfalls Lounge/Kingwah Restaurant at 2765 Pershing Way and Lucky Panda Restaurant at 3249 S. 6th St.

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 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.