



# News Release

Promoting  
Responsible  
Alcohol  
Sales and  
Service

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## Three out of five Central Oregon businesses refused to sell alcohol to minors

**Redmond, Ore.** – Three of five Central Oregon businesses passed an Oregon Liquor Control Commission minor sales check on May 8 by refusing to sell alcohol to a minor.

The 60 percent passing rate is below the 2007 statewide average of 78 percent. The commission and local police perform the minor sales checks in an effort to reduce drinking by minors, which is a serious problem throughout the state.

“Minors who start drinking before they turn 21 are more likely to develop an alcohol dependency as an adult,” said Jason Evers, OLCC Bend Manager. “By performing these minor sales checks, we’re reminding servers, clerks and business owners that it is illegal to sell alcohol as well as how damaging underage drinking can be.”

The following licensees passed the compliance check: **Lone Elk Market** at 800 Willow St., Spray; **Rimrock Lanes** at 2653 SW High Desert Lane, Prineville; and **Tacos Morales** at 11593 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Prineville.

The following licensees failed the compliance check: **Mi Tiendita Mini Market Deli** at 803 N. Main St., Prineville and **Redmond Liquor Store** at 232 SW 5<sup>th</sup> St., Redmond.

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.

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 are not subject to these selection requirements.

The OLCC tests 1,300 – 1,600 licensed liquor businesses each year.

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.