



News Release

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Twenty six out of 28 Corvallis businesses pass OLCC minor sales check

Corvallis, Ore. – Twenty eight businesses in Corvallis were checked for minor alcohol sales on May 24 by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. Twenty six licensees passed the check by refusing to sell alcohol to the minor volunteer.

The 93 percent passing rate is well above the 2007 state average of 78 percent.

"It's very encouraging to see the compliance rates up—especially in a college town," said Pete O'Rourke, Eugene Regional Manager. "Our main goal is to keep everyone safe. So if the licensees are checking ID's and refusing to sell to minors, we're making a significant impact on underage drinking."

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. Licensees or their employees can be held liable for alcohol-related damages and injuries if they serve or sell alcohol to a minor.

The following licensees were tested and passed the compliance check: **Wine Styles Corvallis** at 2333 NW Kings Blvd., **Winco Foods #03** at 2335 NW Kings Blvd., **US Market #145** at 1450 NW 9th St., **University Market** at 1149 NW Van Buren St., **T&G Market** at 1621 NW 9th St., **Whiteside's Beer & Wine** at 119 SW 4th St., **Tri Valley Food Mart #102** at 5500 SW Philomath Blvd., **Shell 327** at 1680 SW Third St., **Natalia & Cristoforo's** at 351 NW Jackson St. #2, **First Alternative Cooperative** at 1007 SE Third St., **Circle K Store #292** at 1467 NW Monroe, **Bi-Mart #639** at 1555 SW 53rd St., **Avalon Wine & Gourmet** at 201 SW 2nd St., **7-Eleven Store #2363-22935C** at 2405 SE Third St., **7-Eleven Store #2363-14520E** at 746 NW Kings Blvd., **26th Street Superette** at 2531 Monroe St. NW, **Western Market** at 2875 Western, **US Market #185** at 300 SW 4th St., **Rice's Pharmacy** at 910 NW Kings Blvd., **Rice & Spice** at 1075 NW Van Buren Ave., **Penguin Flowers** at 930 NW Kings Blvd., **Jackson's Food Stores #111** at 1334 NW Ninth St., **Dede's** at 1786 NW 9th St., **Corvallis Grocery Outlet** at 1235 NW 10th St., **Corvallis Downtown Liquor Store** at 935 Circle Blvd. and **Washington Street Liquor Store** at 575 SW Washington Ave.

The following licensees did not pass the sales check: **Richeys Markets of Benton County #3** at 944 NW Circle Blvd and **Circle K Store #1022** at 1900 SW Third.

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.

Under Oregon law, 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 and unincorporated areas in counties are not subject to these selection requirements.

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.

During the sales 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 lie to encourage the sale of alcohol.

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Promoting the public interest through responsible alcohol sales and service