



News Release

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Thirteen out of twenty Portland businesses pass OLCC minor sales check

Portland, OR – Thirteen out of twenty businesses in Southeast Portland passed a check for alcohol sales to minors on Sept. 5. The compliance check was performed by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission and the Multnomah County Task Force.

The 65 percent passing rate is below the 2007 state average of 78 percent.

"Clerks and servers need to be aware of how serious it is to sell alcohol to minors," said Carl Lewis, OLCC Regional Enforcement Manager. "Not only is it against the law, but the person who sells could be held liable for alcohol-related damages, injuries and even death."

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: **The Press Club Café**, 2621 SE Clinton St; **Clinton Street Pub**, 2516 SE Clinton St.; **Vindalho**, 2038 SE Clinton St.; **7-Eleven #2353-25200E**, 1930 SE Hawthorne; **Bagdad Theatre & Pub**, 3708 SW Hawthorne; **Barley Mill Pub**, 1629 SE Hawthorne; **Sewlickly Addition**, 4901 SE Hawthorne; **Spring Market**, 3032 SE Hawthorne; **Penny Saver Market**, 2606 SE Gladstone; **Tabor Hill Café**, 3766 SW Hawthorne; **Hawthorne Fish House**, 4343 SE Hawthorne Blvd.; **Thanh Thao Restaurant**, 4005 SW Hawthorne and **Claudia's Sports Pub & Grill**, 3006 SW Hawthorne.

The following licensees were tested and failed the compliance check: **Angelo's**, 4620 SE Hawthorne; **Mt. Tabor Fine Wines**, 4316 SE Hawthorne; **Pepino's**, 3832 SE Hawthorne; **Thai Spoon Restaurant**, 1334 SW Hawthorne; **The Basement Pub**, 1028 SE 12th; **India Oven**, 3862 SE Hawthorne and **Vincente's Gourmet Pizza**, 1935 SE Hawthorne.

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.

Promoting the public interest through responsible alcohol sales and service.