



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Media Release: August 23rd, 2019 Sheriff's Office Alcohol and Tobacco Shoulder Tap Operation

In the evening of August 23rd, 2019 members of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Units ran a decoy shoulder tap and sales of alcohol compliance operation at off-sale retail stores in Santa Cruz County, using an undercover minor. The goal of this operation was to limit minors' access in the community to alcoholic beverages and tobacco products.

Minor decoys are under 21 years of age and are under the direct supervision of the compliance Deputies during the operation. During this operation, the minor attempted to purchase tobacco products and alcoholic beverages 6 times in the San Lorenzo Valley area of Santa Cruz County by asking adults to purchase for them. Five adults turned the minor decoy away refusing to purchase the minor tobacco or alcohol.

One 24-year-old adult agreed to purchase alcohol for the minor and was issued a citation and was released with a court date for 25658(a) B&S furnishing alcohol to a minor (a misdemeanor).

The decoy attempted to purchase alcohol from the following North County locations but was refused:

- Wild Roots Felton No sale
- Masoods Liquors No sale
- Brookdale Lodge Market No sale

The minor decoy was sold alcohol at the following location:

- Felton Liquors Sold

The 24-year-old clerk from Felton Liquors was issued a citation and released with a court date for 25658(a) H&S furnishing alcohol to a minor (a misdemeanor).

PREPARED BY:

Lieutenant Greg Lansdowne
Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office

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