



# PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange ST • Riverside CA 92501

Phone 951.826.5902 • FAX 951.826.5939

INTEGRITY



SERVICE



EXCELLENCE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 12, 2012**

**Contact: Lieutenant Mike Cook**  
**Special Investigations Bureau**  
**(951) 353-7230**  
[mcook@riversideca.gov](mailto:mcook@riversideca.gov)

## **Police Department “Decoy” and “Shoulder Tap” Operations**

**Riverside, CA** – On May 12, 2012, The Riverside Police Department VICE Unit conducted a “Decoy” and “Shoulder Tap” operation in the City of Riverside. The “Decoy” operation was conducted to ensure businesses that sold alcohol followed proper procedures of checking identification to verify ages of customers before selling the alcohol. The operation was conducted with minors under the supervision of Vice Detectives. The minors were sent into “On-sale” and “Off-Sale” establishments and attempted to purchase alcohol from clerks or servers. The minors are directed to show their valid California driver’s license, California Identification card, or tell the clerk their age if asked by the clerk. Eleven locations were checked for compliance and all businesses successfully passed.

The “Shoulder Tap” operation was conducted to address adults who purchase alcohol for minors. This operation was conducted with minors under the supervision of Vice Detectives. The minors were placed to the front of “Off-Sale” establishments and would solicit customers to purchase alcohol for them. The minors are instructed to make clear to the adult that they are too young to buy alcohol themselves. During the operation, 19 customers were contacted and 3 purchased alcohol for the minors. The 3 customers who purchased alcohol were arrested, cited and released.

Adults arrested for purchasing alcohol for minors could face up to a \$3,800.00 fine, up to 36 months of probation, jail time and/or community service. This project is part of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control’s Minor Decoy / Shoulder Tap Grant Project, funded by the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.