



NEWS RELEASE

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13 Omaha Area Businesses Cited for Selling Alcohol to Minors *Compliance checks conducted at over 200 businesses*

OMAHA, NEB - As a result of compliance checks conducted at off-sale alcohol retailers on February 16th and 17th, 13 businesses were cited for selling alcohol to a minor.

In an effort to crack down on the availability of alcohol to minors, Omaha metro area law enforcement officers conducted compliance checks over the weekend resulting in 13 (6%) of the 204 retail outlets checked in Douglas and Sarpy Counties being cited for selling alcohol to a minor. A summary sheet of the compliance check operation results and a full list of businesses checked can be found by [clicking here](#).

"Last year the percentage of businesses selling alcohol to minors during compliance checks nearly doubled. As law enforcement, we recognize the importance of keeping alcohol out of youths' hands. Underage drinking is unhealthy, unsafe and unacceptable, and we're committed to reducing access through regular enforcement of underage drinking laws," said Sergeant Alan Reyes of the Omaha Police Department.

Three repeat violators were cited for selling alcohol to minors:

- **Bucky's Express 60**, 6003 Center St, Omaha (8/13);
- **Mega Saver**, 10707 Blondo St, Omaha (5/17);
- **Tobacco Hut 15**, 5434 N 103 Street, Omaha (11/09).

Only Mega Saver has a sale to minor that falls within the 4-year look back period used by the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission (LCC) to enhance penalties. If found guilty by the LCC, Mega Saver could be facing up to a two-day mandatory closure (no alcohol sales would be allowed) and an additional 50 days of suspension that could be paid off at \$100 per day, according to the LCC's [penalty guidelines](#). Other businesses cited during the compliance checks would be facing their first sale to a minor violation, which would carry a 10- to 20-day suspension that could be paid off as a fine at \$50 per day.

38 officers from the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, La Vista Police Department, Nebraska State Patrol, Omaha Police Department, and Sarpy County Sheriff's Office participated in the two-day enhanced underage drinking enforcement effort.

To assist in reporting underage drinking or adults providing alcohol to minors, call the statewide tip line at **1-866-Must-B-21 (687-8221)**. **It's anonymous and it's the right call.** Individuals are urged to call 911 to report an underage drinking party in progress.

Heightened enforcements are supported by the Nebraska Department of Transportation - Highway Safety Office and Grant #93.243 under the Strategic Prevention Framework-Partnership for Success Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Center for Substance Abuse Prevention through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare. The Nebraska Department of Transportation - Highway Safety Office also funds the tip line. Project Extra Mile helped to coordinate the enforcement efforts.

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Mission: Advocating for evidence-based policies and practices to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harms.