



State of Arizona  
Department of Liquor Licenses and Control

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## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### GRANT MONEY SAVES DUI ENFORCEMENT TAX DOLLARS

PHOENIX - The Department of Liquor is the enforcement and regulatory agency for Arizona's 12,200 liquor-licensed businesses. The agency was recently awarded a \$41,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) to fund overtime, equipment, and training supplies.

Michael Rosenberger, the agency's Deputy Director, is responsible for 13 sworn officers specially trained in liquor investigations. Rosenberger explains, "This grant funds overtime for Covert Underage Buyer (CUB) operations. Officers train "CUBs", people under age 21, to attempt to purchase liquor from a store or bar that has been reported to the agency. Also with this grant we'll increase law enforcement presence at big events like Waste Management Open, Barrett-Jackson, NASCAR, Fiesta Bowl, annual community celebrations, and events that attract underage, for example, outdoor concerts like Country Thunder, Spring Break, and homecoming."

Rosenberger continues, "Preventing violations from happening in the first place is our goal. This grant allows our officers to facilitate free training about liquor laws and spotting fake IDs. More than 800 officers and business owners have attended our training during the past 12-months. Responsible operators want to be in compliance with Arizona liquor laws. The challenge is in understanding and applying liquor laws to daily business when the laws change each year. Training creates an opportunity for liquor officers and business owners to talk one-on-one. We answer specific questions and explain how laws will be enforced. Licensees and their staff teach officers about how their businesses operate and common challenges. Two-way learning is critical to success in public safety and in compliance. Everyone wins!"

Rosenberger adds, "Grant funding requires officers to take an "aggressive" approach and make a lasting impression. Standard enforcement doesn't always result in permanent change. This "aggressive" enforcement applies to licensees, their staff, and patrons. For licensees, stiff fines, suspensions, or revocations may result. For staff and patrons, arrests, fines, and jail time may result. Enforcement activity and educational achievements are reported to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety."

Alberto Gutier, Director of GOHS, explained, "Through DUI/Impaired Driving enforcement, the Department of Liquor and other state, local, and tribal enforcement agencies use grant funds to promote roadway and public safety. Together we save lives. Educating liquor licensees, their employees and patrons is the first line of defense in preventing permanent harm. Acting on that education will keep intoxicated people from getting behind the wheel, out of jail, and will save millions in taxpayer dollars."

Citizens concerned about the liquor-related violations and public safety are encouraged to call 1-877-668-5345. Violations can also be reported on the homepage of [www.azliquor.gov](http://www.azliquor.gov).

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