



State of Arizona
Department of Liquor Licenses and Control

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, December 17, 2018

Two Arizona State Agencies Partner to Reduce Underage Drinking and Driving

PHOENIX - The Arizona Department of Liquor, the state's enforcement and regulatory agency for Arizona's 14,482 liquor-licensed businesses, announced today it received a \$43,000 grant to fund underage drinking and driving abstinence efforts. The grant was awarded by the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS).

The *GOHS Safety Contract* submitted by the department cites a 2015 U.S. Health and Human Services Report that identified "alcohol [as] the most popular substance used by students."

This grant will fund police officer overtime and employee-related expenses plus miscellaneous training costs and supplies tied to youth alcohol intervention and prevention programs. According to the department's Deputy Director, Michael Rosenberger, "there is no more important responsibility placed in the hands of agency officials than safeguarding the health and wellbeing of Arizona's youth and families."

Officer programs span an array of strategies such as traditional classroom training, covert underage buyer operations, DUI enforcement details, interactive scenario-based training, and attendance at public and private family events.

A portion of the money will also be used to provide fake ID recognition training to other law enforcement officers as well as equip a portion of these officers with a tool to aid in their review of actual identification cards. Rosenberger added, "Equipping police officers across the state with tools and training to spot fake IDs is a force multiplier. Preventing violations from happening in the first place is our goal."

The Department of Liquor has 13 sworn officers specially trained in liquor investigations. "This grant allows our officers to conduct free training courses on the enforcement of liquor laws and spotting fake IDs", said Rosenberger.

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 department's homepage of azliquor.gov.
