



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For release: Dec. 20, 2012

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Police cite six liquor stores for selling to minors

Ten other businesses refused sales

In an ongoing effort to ensure a safe holiday season for all, Howard County police recently conducted a test of county liquor establishments that resulted in six businesses being cited for selling alcohol to underage customers.

Jessup Discount Liquor, Elkridge Discount Liquor, Troy Farms Liquors, Lark Brown Liquors, Waterloo Liquors, all in Elkridge, and Dorsey Search Wine & Spirits, in Ellicott City, have been notified that they will be brought before the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board for violation hearings.

As part of the test, two 19-year-old police cadets entered the establishments and attempted to purchase alcohol. Some of the clerks checked their driver's licenses before the sale was made and others did not. The driver's licenses clearly showed that the cadet was under 21 years of age.

Ten other businesses fared well in the test, with employees following all appropriate laws. Clerks at those establishments reviewed the volunteer's driver's license and refused to complete the sale. Police Chief William McMahon is sending letters of appreciation to employees of All Saints Liquors, Montpelier Liquors and Cherry Tree Spirit Shoppe, all in Laurel; Star Liquors in Jessup; Dobbin Square Liquors, in Columbia; Harwood Convenience in Elkridge; Highland Wine & Spirits in Highland; 108 Wine & Spirits and Vintage Cellars, both in Clarksville; and Centennial Cue & Karaoke, in Ellicott City. These letters commend the employees for their commitment to curbing underage drinking.

These periodic tests are part of an ongoing effort to combat underage drinking in Howard County. Police encourage citizens who are aware of underage drinking or establishments that sell alcohol to minors to call 410-313-STOP or to provide tips through the free smartphone app, "iWatchHowardCounty."

The police department continues to focus on reducing inappropriate use of alcohol and drunk driving, particularly among young people. The department also wishes to remind everyone that adults hosting parties where alcohol is served to minors face stiff penalties and criminal charges.

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