



THE CITY OF  
**SAN FERNANDO**

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DATE: May 25, 2021

### **SAN FERNANDO POLICE DEPARTMENT ISSUE TWO CITATIONS FOR FURNISHING ALCOHOL TO MINORS**

SAN FERNANDO, CA – As a part of the Annual Statewide Shoulder Tap Operation, the San Fernando Police Department (SFPD) issued two misdemeanor citations to adults for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors.

SFPD worked alongside an agent of the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation that holds any adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age accountable for their actions. Through the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer stands outside a liquor store, offsite retail seller, or convenience store and asks patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor tells the adult their actual age making it evident he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol.

If the adult agrees to purchase alcohol for the minor, SFPD Officers contacts and cites the adult for furnishing alcohol to a minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

This program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Statistics show they generally have a higher rate of drunken driving crashes than adults. According to the American Medical Association, underage drinking can increase chances of risky sexual behavior and teen pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, compromise health, and result in unintentional injury and death.

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**PRESS RELEASE**

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Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

SFPD will continue to conduct these operations throughout the year using grant funding to protect our youth and community.

ABC protects communities through education, prevention, and enforcement programs designed to increase compliance with California's alcoholic beverage laws. ABC is a department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

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