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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### SAN FERNANDO POLICE CITE SUSPECTS FOR FURNISHING ALCOHOL TO MINORS



SAN FERNANDO, CA – San Fernando Police and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) cited two suspects on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors. The operation was conducted at various businesses within the City of San Fernando.

San Fernando Police conducted a Shoulder Tap operation, which targets adults who purchase alcohol for persons under the age of 21. A minor under the direct supervision of law enforcement stands outside of a liquor or convenience store and asks customers to buy them alcohol. The minor also indicates they are underage and cannot purchase the alcohol.

“Conducting operations to curb underage drinking is one way the San Fernando Police Department works to protect our youth and demonstrates we are serious about reducing underage drinking,” said Chief Fabian Valdez.

If an adult agrees to purchase alcohol for the underage person, they can be arrested and cited 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.

“We conduct these operations to keep alcohol out of the hands of our youth,” said ABC Director Eric Hirata. “By preventing underage drinking we can increase the quality of life in our communities and reduce DUIs.”

Statistics have shown that young people under the age of 21 have a much higher risk of being involved in a crash than older drivers. About 25 percent of fatal

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crashes involve underage drinking according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the ABC Alcohol Policing Partnership (APP) program.

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### **About the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control**

The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is an agency of the government of the state of California charged with the regulation of alcoholic beverages. ABC's mission is to provide the highest level of service and public safety to the people of California through licensing, education, and enforcement. ABC is a department of the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency.

### **About the City of San Fernando**

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