



City of Ridgecrest Police Department

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Ronald N. Strand, Chief of Police

Press Release

DATE OF INCIDENT: MARCH 30, 2013

TYPE OF INCIDENT: "SHOULDER TAP" AND "TAPPED" OPERATIONS

On 03/30/2013, The Ridgecrest Police Department conducted a "Shoulder Tap" Operation. This Operation was funded from a grant from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and administered through the Grant Assistance Program (GAP). This Education/Enforcement Grant runs from July 01, 2012 through June 30, 2013 (Fiscal Year 12/13).

- **SHOULDER TAP** is a common method used by persons under age 21 to solicit a person to purchase and furnish them with alcoholic beverages. The Shoulder Tap Program is an enforcement program that ABC and local law enforcement agencies use to detect and deter shoulder tap activity. During the program, a minor decoy solicits adults outside ABC licensed stores to buy the minor alcohol. Any person seen furnishing alcohol to the minor decoy is arrested (either cited or booked) for furnishing alcohol to a minor (a violation of Section 25658(a) Business and Professions Code).

The Shoulder Tap Operation resulted in the arrest of three (3) persons for the following violations:

Hamilton, Andre	- Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor.
Peyton, Nichole	- Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.
Lyons, Aretha	- Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor.

On 03/30/2013, The Ridgecrest Police Department also conducted a "TAPPED" Operation. "TAPPED" stands for "Teenage Party Prevention, Enforcement, and Dispersal." This Operation was also funded from the ABC grant. During the operation, thirteen (13) persons were arrested on various charges including several citations being issued for possession of alcohol by a minor. Four (4) residential parties were identified and over fifty (50) persons were contacted. This successful operation took alcohol out of the hands of minor/juveniles and may have prevented tragic events such as sexual assaults, DUI's, and/or injury or fatal traffic collisions.

The Ridgecrest Police Department and ABC believe that aggressive enforcement mixed with public education will successfully limit the access of alcohol to minors and improve the quality of life in Ridgecrest.

Prepared By: Sgt. Justin Dampier

RONALD N. STRAND - Chief of Police
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