



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Police Department Conducts “Shoulder Tap” Operation

Riverside, CA – On April 19, 2018, the Riverside Police Department's Vice Unit conducted a “Shoulder Tap” operation in the City of Riverside.

The “Shoulder Tap” operation is designed to address adults who illegally purchase alcohol for minors. This operation was conducted with minors under the direct supervision of vice detectives. The minors were placed to the front of “Off-Sale” establishments and would solicit customers to purchase alcohol for them. The minors were instructed to make clear to the adult that they were under 21 years of age and too young to buy alcohol themselves. If the adult agrees to purchase alcohol for the minor, detectives then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor.

The operation focused on seven locations and twenty-four customers were contacted with three customers purchasing alcohol for the minors. The customers who purchased the alcohol were arrested, cited and released.

The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service. The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) through the department's Grant Assistance Program.

