



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Media Release: September 27th, 2019 Sheriff's Office Alcohol and Tobacco Operation

Yesterday, members of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Units conducted a minor decoy operation for the sale of alcohol and tobacco at retailers in the county. The goal of this operation was to limit minors' access in the community to alcoholic beverages and tobacco products.

Minor decoys are under 21 years of age and are under the direct supervision of the compliance Deputies during the operation. During this operation, the minor attempted to purchase tobacco products and alcoholic beverages at 6 locations in the south county area of Santa Cruz County.

The clerks at the following locations refused to sell the minor decoy any alcohol or tobacco products:

• El Patio Grocery	Alcohol/Tobacco	No Sale
• Valero Gas (Soquel)	Tobacco	No Sale
• AJ's Minimart	Alcohol	No Sale
• Four Corner's Market	Alcohol/ Tobacco	No Sale

The minor decoy was sold alcohol or tobacco at the following locations:

• Valero Gas (Hwy 152)	Alcohol	Sold
• ARCO Gas (Aptos)	Tobacco	Sold

The store clerk from the Valero on Highway 152 was issued a citation and released with a court date for 25658(a) H&S furnishing alcohol to a minor (a misdemeanor). The store clerk from Arco Gas in Aptos was issued a citation and released with a court date for 308(a)(1)(A)(I) PC selling tobacco to a minor (a misdemeanor).

PREPARED BY:

Lieutenant Greg Lansdowne
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