



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Media Release: August 8th, 2019

Sheriff's Office Alcohol and Tobacco Minor Decoy Operation

In the evening of August 8th, 2019 members of the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office Alcohol and Tobacco Compliance Unit conducted a minor decoy operation for tobacco products and alcoholic beverages in front of off-sale retail stores in Santa Cruz 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 Compliance Deputies during the operation. During this operation, the minor attempted to purchase tobacco products and alcoholic beverages 23 times at locations throughout Santa Cruz County by asking adult customers to make the purchase for them. Twenty-one adults turned the minor decoy away refusing to purchase the minor tobacco or alcohol.

One 22-year-old adult agreed to purchase alcohol for the minor and was issued a citation and was released with a court date for 25658(a) H&S furnishing alcohol to a minor (a misdemeanor).

Later, A 17-year-old juvenile approached the decoy and offered to sell him marijuana. The juvenile was issued a citation for 11359(a) H&S sales of marijuana (a misdemeanor) and was released.

PREPARED BY:

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