

**DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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**ABC Agents will be out Enforcing Alcoholic Beverage Laws during Halloween Weekend**  
*Prevention Organizations Support ABC Efforts to Reduce Underage Drinking on Halloween*

**SACRAMENTO**—The California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) today announced that agents will be enforcing underage drinking laws in multiple communities throughout California this weekend to help make Halloween celebrations as safe as possible.

“Too many Californians are killed or injured in alcohol-related crashes and incidents and hopefully enforcement efforts will prevent tragedies from occurring,” said ABC Director Tim Gorsuch. Enforcement will be broad based and agents will check on ABC licensed businesses, large parties and adults who furnish alcohol to minors. “By getting the message out now, we are reminding people of the potentially devastating consequences that can result from a poor decision during this holiday weekend,” said Gorsuch.

The Department’s efforts are supported by a number of organizations who work to prevent underage drinking. The California Friday Night Live Partnership, Alcohol Justice, Saving Lives Drug and Alcohol Coalition and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) are all supportive of ABC’s enforcement strategies to make this Halloween as safe as possible.

In California, there are many large Halloween events held each year. The ABC will work with local and college police departments to reduce youth access to alcohol. ABC also reminds any adults of legal drinking age to designate a non-drinking driver so they can get home safely following celebrations where alcohol is involved.

October is National Substance Abuse Prevention Month. According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), harmful and underage drinking remain significant problems in this country and on U.S. campuses, despite collective efforts to address them. More information on prevention strategies can be found on their website at <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/>.

In addition to National Substance Abuse Prevention Month, prevention organizations are putting out information for National Red Ribbon Week taking place from October 23 - October 31. The Red Ribbon Campaign, coordinated by the National Family Partnership, is a nationwide effort to raise awareness of the destruction caused by drugs in America. The campaign’s mission is to create a drug-free America by helping citizens across the country come together to keep children, families and communities safe, healthy and drug-free. Visit the [Red Ribbon](http://redribbon.org/) website at <http://redribbon.org/> for more information.

ABC is a Department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.