

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **SDPD Vice Unit Arrests Two Individuals for Purchasing Alcohol for Minors**

## **OPERATIONS IN SAN DIEGO DESIGNED TO PREVENT UNDERAGE DRINKING**

**SAN DIEGO** - The San Diego Police Department's (SDPD) Vice Unit contacted 20 individuals during a [Shoulder Tap](#) operation on Saturday, March 14, 2026, in the City of San Diego, resulting in two citations for purchasing alcohol for minors. This enforcement operation was in conjunction with the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's (ABC) statewide Shoulder Tap operation.

A Shoulder Tap operation focuses on adults who purchase alcoholic beverages for people under the age of 21. Under the supervision of law enforcement, an underage person outside of a convenience or liquor store asks customers to buy them alcohol, after telling them they are underage and cannot purchase alcohol.

Statistics have shown that young people under the age of 21 have a much higher risk of being involved in a crash than older drivers. [Almost a third of young drivers killed in fatal crashes involved underage drinking](#) according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

If an adult agrees to purchase alcohol for the underage person, they can be arrested and cited for furnishing alcohol to a minor. The penalty is a minimum \$1,000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

This operation was funded by ABC's [Alcohol Policing Partnership](#) program and the California Office of Traffic Safety through NHTSA.

### **About the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control**

The mission of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control is to provide the highest level of service and public safety to the people of the State through licensing, education, and enforcement.

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