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FROM: The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office

DATE: February 15, 2005

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Phone: 720.874.4165

MEDIA RELEASE

TWO ESTABLISHMENTS PROVIDE ALCOHOL TO MINORS DURING SHERIFF'S OFFICE INVESTIGATION

On Wednesday, February 9, 2005 members of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Section and Patrol Services – Impact Team conducted liquor compliance checks at each of the fifty-three (53) retail liquor outlets in the City of Centennial, the Town of Fox Field, the Town of Strasburg, the Town of Byers, the Town of Deer Trail and unincorporated Arapahoe County. The compliance checks were conducted to monitor the sale of alcoholic beverages to individuals under the age of twenty-one. Individuals, who are less than twenty-one years of age, were instructed to attempt to purchase alcohol while under the direct supervision of sheriff's deputies. The individuals participating in the compliance checks were instructed to enter each establishment, obtain beer and attempt to purchase the alcohol without displaying any form of identification.

During the compliance check investigation, three employees of two (2) establishments sold alcohol to individuals who were less than twenty-one years of age, while sheriff's deputies observed the transactions. The establishments that sold alcohol during the investigation are:

**KING SOOPERS # 63
8200 South Holly Street
Centennial, Colorado**

**DIAMOND SHAMROCK # 4054
1495 North Manila Road
Bennett, Colorado**

Employees who are alleged to have sold alcohol during the compliance check investigation have been charged with violations of:

C.R.S. 12-47-901 (1)(5)(A1) Unlawful Acts – Sale of an Alcoholic Beverage to a Minor, a class 2 Misdemeanor

(more)

A class two misdemeanor is punishable, upon conviction, by incarceration at the county jail for three (3) to twelve (12) months and a fine of \$250 to \$1,000.

Information regarding the compliance check investigation, involving the sale of alcoholic beverages to those less than twenty-one years of age, will be presented to the Liquor Authorities of each city, which is responsible for the administration and regulation of liquor licenses within their jurisdiction. The Liquor Authority has the authority to impose sanctions upon establishments that are alleged to have provided alcohol to individuals less than twenty-one years of age; that could include fines, suspension of the liquor license or revocation of the liquor license.

The People of Arapahoe County, the City of Centennial, the Town of Foxfield, the Town of Strasburg, the Town of Byers the Town of Deer Trail and the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office are very concerned about the use of alcohol by the young people of our community. The combination of youth and alcoholic beverages typically results in problems with a youth's life, stress in family relationships, poor academic achievement and is often the cause of injury or death. Effective intervention measures require a cooperative effort by the entire community to ensure a safe and productive environment for our youth.

For additional information, contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at 720.874.4165.

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