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FROM: The Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office

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Phone: (720) 874-4165

MEDIA RELEASE

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

On Wednesday, April 19, 2006, between 6:00 - 9:30 P.M., the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Section conducted a compliance check regarding the sale of alcoholic beverages to individuals under twenty-one years of age. 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 check were instructed to enter each establishment, obtain beer and attempt to purchase the alcohol without displaying any form of identification. In the event that identification was requested, the individuals were instructed to tell the clerk that they did not have identification on their person or present their valid identification. The liquor investigation was conducted at each of the fifty-six (56) establishments that are licensed to sell packaged alcoholic beverages in unincorporated Arapahoe County and Centennial.

During the investigation, three (3) 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:

City of Centennial

Safeway Store #3007

6770 South University Boulevard

Diamond Shamrock

Cornerstore #1105

7799 East Arapahoe Road

Unincorporated Arapahoe County

3. Albertsons Store #822

1442 South Parker Road

(more)

Employees who are alleged to have sold alcohol during the compliance 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

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.

The information regarding the investigation into the sale of alcoholic beverages to those less than twenty-one years of age will be presented to the Arapahoe County Liquor Authority, which is responsible for the administration and regulation of liquor licenses within unincorporated Arapahoe County and the City of Centennial. The Arapahoe County 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, 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. Additional liquor compliance checks are planned for 2006.

For additional information, please contact Sheriff Grayson Robinson at (720) 874-4165.

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