



News Release

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Fake ID has big costs for minors and businesses

Portland, OR – The Oregon Liquor Control Commission reminds students, servers, bartenders and store clerks that fake ID's can not only ruin your spring break, but can also be costly.

In 2013, OLCC issued more than 1,000 criminal citations related to minors and alcohol.

427	Misrepresentation of age by a minor
343	Minor in possession (consumption)
182	Minor in possession of alcohol
145	Furnishing alcohol to a minor
23	Using another driver license
23	Possession of a forged instrument
18	Permitting misuse of license
15	Misuse of a state ID card
14	Providing a place for a minor to consume alcohol



“When in doubt, send them out,” says John Eckhart, Public Safety Services Director. “If you have any suspicions about the ID being presented, you are well within your right to refuse alcohol service to that person. We want to give businesses the tools to prevent sales to minor and protect themselves from potential administrative, criminal, or civil liabilities.”

Each year, OLCC inspectors check nearly 6,500 IDs each year and confiscate more than 1,000 fakes. Minors who get caught using a fake ID can lose their driving privileges for up to a year. Minors caught in possession of alcohol can be fined and/or required to perform community service. A server or bartender in Oregon can be administratively fined up to \$250 for not checking ID of anyone who reasonably appears under 26. Store clerks can face criminal charges for failing to check ID. Businesses are subject to a fine and/or liquor license suspension, up to license cancellation.

Through licensee, permittee, and social host liability laws, any person or business who sells or makes alcohol available to minors can be held liable for any damages, injuries or even death that result. That includes possible confiscation of property or law suits from injured persons or their families.

“The best bet for businesses is to make sure to check ID,” adds Eckhart. “We encourage folks to take at least ten seconds to really get a good look at the ID. It can make a big difference in preventing alcohol sales to minors. We work closely with bars across the state to help them identify even the most sophisticated fake IDs. We offer free training to any business interested. We want our liquor license holders to keep their money and invest it back into their building, their employees, and their business.”

OLCC partners with licensees, liquor store owners, universities, and police to prevent alcohol sales to minors. People who work in the alcohol service industry, can attend one of OLCC's free ID checking classes on how to identify fake ID. Classes are offered at each regional OLCC office or classes can be scheduled for larger groups. OLCC also offers a [fake ID training video](#) available on YouTube. For more information on [minors and alcohol](#).

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