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Sheriff’s Department receives grant to fight alcohol-related harm

SANTA ANA, Ca. (Aug. 6, 2020): The Orange County Sheriff’s Department has been awarded a $97,500 grant from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to address alcohol-related harm in the community.

“This is important to the county in order to increase protection for youth and to shut down problem locations that can reduce the quality of life in neighborhoods,” said Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Don Barnes.

The grant is one of more than 50 awarded in California to local law enforcement agencies through ABC’s Alcohol Policing Partnership (APP).

The grant strengthens local law enforcement response by combining the efforts of local peace officers and ABC agents. ABC agents have expertise in alcoholic beverage laws and can help communities reduce alcohol-related harm.

“The program has helped improve safety in communities we serve,” said ABC Director Eric Hirata. “We’ve seen a real difference where the grant program resources have been invested.”

The APP program was created in 1995 to strengthen partnerships between ABC and local law enforcement agencies. The program is designed to put bad operators out of business, keep alcohol away from minors, and bring penalties such as fines, suspensions or revocations against businesses that violate the law and cause harm to the community.

The funds will be used to reduce the number of alcoholic beverage sales to minors, obviously intoxicated patrons, illegal solicitations of alcohol, and other criminal activities such as the sale and possession of illegal drugs.

Since 1995, the APP program has distributed more than $40 million in California to local law enforcement to combat alcohol-related harm.

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

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