



PRESS RELEASE

SCOTT LOUGHNER, INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

DOWNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES \$66,540 GRANT TO FIGHT ALCOHOL-RELATED HARM FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

Downey, CA, January 24, 2024

The Downey Police Department was recently awarded \$66,540 in grant funding from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to reduce alcohol-related harm in the community.

The grant is one of many awarded in California to local law enforcement agencies through ABC's Alcohol Policing Partnership (APP) program.

These grants strengthen local law enforcement efforts by working collaboratively with ABC agents who have expertise in alcoholic beverage laws. "The Alcohol Policing Partnership program can improve the quality of life in neighborhoods," said ABC Director Joseph McCullough. "We've seen a real difference in the communities where the grant program's 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 keep alcohol away from minors and prevent harm to the community.

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

To date, Downey Police Officers and Agents from ABC have visited several licensed alcohol establishments to conduct Informed Merchants Preventing Alcohol Related Crime Tendencies (IMPACT) inspections. These inspections are designed to educate licensees and their employees regarding potential violations.

On November 14, 2023, the Downey Police Department worked with ABC and hosted a

joint Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drugs (LEAD) training. During the training, ABC Licensees and their employees were provided free and voluntary training in both English and Spanish to help further educate them on laws pertaining the sale of alcoholic beverages. The Downey Police Department will host another training sometime in early 2024 with details to be provided at a later time.

About the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is an agency of the government of the state of California charged with the regulation of alcoholic beverages. ABC's mission is to provide the highest level of service and public safety to the people of California through licensing, education, and enforcement. ABC is a department of the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency.

If you have any question regarding the ABC grant, please contact Sergeant B. Valenzuela at bvalenzuela@downeyca.org or (562)904-2382.