



## **PRESS RELEASE**

Case #14-507978

### **Underage Alcohol Sales Compliance Checks**

Washington County Sheriff's Deputies, with the assistance of members of the Washington County Explorer Post, conducted an undercover compliance mission where teenagers attempted to buy alcohol from stores in Washington County.

On May 23, 2014, Deputies from the Washington County Sheriff's Office conducted an undercover operation in conjunction with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) where underage Sheriff's Office Explorers attempted to purchase alcohol. Twenty seven businesses from the eastern areas of Washington County were visited by the underage explorers who were both 18 years old. The explorers were constantly supervised by a Sheriff's Deputy and the OLCC. All of the explorers provided their valid Oregon State issued ID cards if requested by the clerk.

Out of the 27 establishments checked, only one store clerk sold alcohol to the underage explorers. The store in violation was the 7-11 located at 7170 SW Beaverton Hillsdale Highway. The Washington County Sheriff's Office has previously had over three times as many underage alcohol sales during these compliance checks. This is an encouraging indicator that the stores are increasing their compliance with alcohol sales.

Theodore Watson, 23, from Beaverton was cited for Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor. This is a Class "A" misdemeanor that carries up to a \$5,000 fine for the first conviction. The OLCC will be following up with the owner of the business that sold the alcohol to the minor.

The Sheriff's Office recognizes the dangers associated with underage alcohol use and works hard to stop underage drinking. This undercover alcohol sting is one of the many programs the Washington County Sheriff's Office utilizes in our continuing effort to stop underage alcohol use and avoid the potentially devastating aftermath.