

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Authorities Conduct Underage Drinking Compliance Check in Tempe, Resulting in 173 Arrests

TEMPE, AZ (April 25, 2025) – A joint operation between the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control (DLLC) and the Tempe Police Department on Thursday night, April 25, 2025, resulted in a significant number of arrests at a Tempe bar located in the vicinity of McClintock Drive and Apache Boulevard.

The enforcement action was initiated in response to multiple complaints received by the Tempe Police Department regarding underage individuals gaining entry into a licensed liquor establishment. The compliance check specifically targeted underage drinking and the use of fraudulent identifications.

During the operation, authorities identified numerous underage patrons, many of whom were found to be in possession of fake identification documents. In total, 173 individuals were apprehended. Of those, 165 underage patrons were cited and subsequently released, while 8 individuals were booked into the Tempe City Jail.

The Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control emphasizes that underage consumption of alcohol is a misdemeanor offense, and possessing a fake identification is also illegal. The DLLC underscores the critical importance of its partnerships with local law enforcement agencies in Arizona to combat underage drinking.

“Underage drinking is not a minor issue” stated a spokesperson for DLLC. “These collaborative efforts are vital and necessary to reduce underage drinking in Arizona. We can all work together to make our state a safer place for everyone.”

Authorities remind all individuals to always carry valid identification and to carefully consider the consequences before attempting to purchase alcohol or enter a liquor establishment while underage.

Under ARS 4-241.N, A person who is under the legal drinking age and who uses a fraudulent or false written instrument of identification or identification of another person or uses a valid license or identification of another person to gain access to a licensed establishment is guilty of a class 1 misdemeanor.

DLLC and the Tempe Police Department are furthering the investigation to determine if any Title IV violations will be filed against the establishment for failing to comply with state liquor laws.