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PRESS RELEASE: ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE UPDATE

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

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Reading, MA- The Reading Police Department Detective Unit conducted alcohol compliance checks on Thursday June 18, 2015. Officers monitored licensed package stores, restaurants and clubs in Reading. This operation involved underage operatives attempting to purchase alcohol at twenty-three businesses. During this operation, 21 local establishments passed the compliance check and the American Legion Post 62 and Reading Overseas Veterans did not allow the underage operatives to enter the premises at the time of the operation. Overall, there were no violations found with zero sales to a minor. The establishments that were 100% compliant were:

American Legion Post 62
Bangkok Spice Thai Restaurant
Bertucci's Italian Restaurant
Busa's Liquors
Café Capri
Chili's Grill & Bar
Fuddruckers
Grumpy Doyle's
Knights of Columbus
Liquor Junction
Longhorn Steak House
Mandarin Reading Restaurant

Meadow Brook Golf Club
Oye's Restaurant
Pamplemousse
Portland Pie Company
Reading Overseas Veterans
Ricky's Liquors
Ristorante Pavarotti
Sam's Bistro
Square Liquors
The Wine Shop
Venetian Moon Restaurant

Since 2008, there has been a multi-faceted effort spearheaded by Police, Town, and School Leaders working with the Reading Coalition Against Substance Abuse to improve local liquor policy, responsible beverage service education, training, and alcohol enforcement. These efforts led to improvements in our local compliance rate. The average compliance rate from 2008-2015 is 94% (pass) and 6% (fail). The Reading Police Department will continue to monitor local liquor establishments throughout the year and into the future.

Communities like Reading that have reduced the availability of alcohol to underage drinkers have experienced fewer crashes and fewer crimes. According to the Reading Youth Risk Behavior Survey results, the rate of underage drinking declined from 48% in 2007 to 41% in 2013. Preventing underage drinking in Reading is everyone's responsibility!

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