# Important Numbers

For additional information about inspections, or other enforcement or compliance operations, call your local TABC district office.

## Region 1

| | |
|---|---|
| Abilene | (325) 672-8111 |
| Amarillo | (806) 353-1286 |
| El Paso | (915) 351-3697 |
| Lubbock | (806) 793-3221 |
| Odessa | (432) 367-0760 |

## Region 2

| | |
|---|---|
| Arlington | (817) 652-5912 |
| Dallas | (214) 678-4000 |
| Longview | (903) 759-7828 |

## Region 3

| | |
|---|---|
| Beaumont | (409) 898-3116 |
| Houston | (713) 426-7900 |

## Region 4

| | |
|---|---|
| Austin | (512) 451-0231 |
| Victoria | (361) 575-4776 |
| Waco | (254) 776-7626 |

## Region 5

| | |
|---|---|
| Corpus Christi | (361) 851-2531 |
| McAllen | (956) 687-5141 |
| San Antonio | (210) 731-1720 |


**Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission**
**5806 Mesa Drive**
**P.O. Box 13127**
**Austin, TX 78711**
**512-206-3333 (Information)**
**1-888-THE TABC (Complaints)**
**TDD 512-206-3270**

**www.tabc.state.tx.us**
**questions@tabc.state.tx.us**


Save a Life™
Texas Department of Transportation

TABC
TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION
service ★ courtesy ★ integrity ★ accountability

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

05/10

# Retailer Education Opportunities

...provided at no charge to retailers to encourage responsible alcoholic beverage sales.

# Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission

# Common Goal

Through collaborative efforts, TABC and retailers can work together to create safer communities. When retailers take advantage of the following free education opportunities, managers and staff are better prepared to face the challenges of refusing sales to minors, detecting false identification and effectively interpreting other alcoholic beverage laws. By educating retailers, TABC strives to reduce alcohol-related fatalities and keep the people of Texas safe.

# Operation Fake Out

**Over 21**

**with security features identified**

The majority of retailers want to do the right thing and avoid alcohol sales to underage persons. Youth, however, particularly those of college age, can be devious when in pursuit of alcohol. Many don't hesitate to use false or fake IDs, and unfortunately, technological advances have made high quality fake IDs relatively easy to create and even easier to acquire.

To counter the use of fake IDs by underage drinkers, the TABC has developed Operation Fake Out. TABC agents with expertise in detecting fake IDs work alongside the employees of participating on-premises retailers. The establishment's doorman checks an ID presented and passes it to the TABC agent. The TABC agent re-checks the ID to detect tell-tale imperfections and then closely compares the person to the physical description and photo. Those found to be using fake or altered IDs are arrested and transported to jail. Operation Fake Out provides retailers and TABC agents the opportunity to work together as a team to curb underage drinking. It also holds underage drinkers, especially those who use fake or altered IDs, responsible for their actions. It does so in a public way so that others might be deterred from acting similarly.

**Under 21**

# Shoulder Tap Stings

Youth indicate that they can easily obtain alcohol from both commercial and social sources. In some cases, a minor may approach an adult outside of a retail establishment and offer them money to purchase alcohol. Research conducted in 2007, showed that eight percent of adults approached by minors agreed to purchase them alcohol.

In an effort to curb this practice, TABC conducts Shoulder Tap Stings. A minor, working in conjunction with TABC, will approach (tap on shoulder) an adult outside a retail establishment and offer money to purchase alcohol. If the person agrees and follows through with the purchase, they will be approached by TABC agents and cited for making alcohol available to a minor, a class A misdemeanor.

This benefits a retail establishment because it helps educate employees on how to recognize a situation in which an adult is purchasing alcohol for minors.

# Cops In Shops

During Cops In Shops operations, TABC agents, with the cooperation of retailers and their employees, pose as customers or employees of an establishment and apprehend underage violators as they attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages.

TABC agents also have a secondary, educational role, which is to share their expertise with the retailer's employees on such subjects as false or fake IDs, the signs of intoxication, and the physical and behavioral characteristics of minors.

In addition to apprehending underage violators and holding them accountable, TABC wants to leave the retailers with a better understanding of their legal responsibilities and with the knowledge necessary to fulfill them.

# Our Vision

TABC seeks a safe and responsible Texas served by an Alcoholic Beverage Commission committed to innovative partnerships with our communities and the alcoholic beverage industry.