

Red Rock RPC Newsletter

The Liability and Dangers of Over Serving Alcohol

Over serving patrons while on-premises is illegal and is a serious problem. Oklahoma realizes it is critical to address the over service of alcohol and will hold businesses accountable for over-serving patrons. Oklahoma's dram shop laws hold bars/restaurants accountable for over-serving alcohol. A conviction for charges of further serving an intoxicated person is a felony and could result in a fine of \$500 to \$1,000 and up to one year in jail.

A recent study conducted by researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggests that dram shop liability laws help prevent alcohol-related crashes. Studies also show that where Dram Shop laws exist, publicity about the dangers and consequences of over-serving increase and more establishments abide.

In effort to educate retailers on the liability and dangers of over serving, Red Rock RPC offers a FREE Responsible Beverage Service and Sales (RBSS) training to alcohol retailers in Canadian and Grady County quarterly. The training educates store owners and clerks about laws regarding alcohol sales to minors as well as how to properly check an i.d.

For more information regarding the liability and laws of over-serving and the **Responsible Beverage Service & Sales Training (RBSS)** contact the Red Rock RPC!

Upcoming RBSS Training in Grady County

The Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC), in conjunction with ABLE, plan on hosting a **FREE** Responsible Beverage Service and Sales (RBSS) Training in Grady County on March 18, 2014, at the Canadian Valley Vo-Tech in Chickasha from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. RBSS is a program through ABLE and the Oklahoma State Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. The goal of RBSS is to train store clerks, servers, bartenders, and management of establishments that serve alcohol the basic knowledge and skills to practice responsible alcohol sales and services.

If you would like additional information on RBSS or would like to register for the RBSS training please contact Michelle Bugg at 405-354-1928.

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Upcoming Events:

- March 5-Tobacco Free Grady County, Chickasha @ 11:30 a.m.
- March 11-Canadian County for Children & Families @ 12:00 p.m.
- March 19-Interagency Coalition, Chickasha @ 10:00 a.m.
- March 27-Yu-Can @ 8:00 a.m.
- March 27-MPACT, Mustang @ 12:00 p.m.
- OPPA-TBD

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One Store Sells Alcohol to a Minor in Canadian County

On February 26, 2014, the Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) in conjunction with Canadian County Sheriff's Department and ABLE conducted six alcohol compliance checks throughout Canadian County. Through the compliance checks, one of the six stores sold to a minor.

Each fiscal year the RPC conducts 100 or more Alcohol Compliance Checks throughout the cities of Canadian and Grady counties. A strict protocol is followed in completing Alcohol Compliance Checks. A staff member of the RPC enters a retail store to ensure safety before the minor enters. The minor enters the retail stores without acknowledging the RPC staff and attempts to purchase alcohol using their drivers license which clearly states their date of birth. The minor provides cash that has been tagged by local law enforcement to the retailer to purchase the alcohol. If a sale is denied the minor leaves the retail store immediately. However, if a sale is complete the minor exits the store and hands the alcohol to law enforcement. At that time the law enforcement officer educates the retailer about the law surrounding underage drinking and selling to minors. Alcohol Compliance Checks can be very useful in allocating scarce enforcement and prevention resources.

Oklahoma Parents: You Matter!

Find out how and why by visiting the link below. There, you'll find a video presentation produced by Oklahoma law enforcement and prevention professionals for Oklahoma families discussing the importance of parents and other caring adults, why kids use alcohol and other drugs, what parents can do to help their kids and identifies state and national resources parents can use.

<http://www.pact360.org/page/parents360-for-oklahoma>

REMINDER

Oklahoma's Social Host Law means that if you let underage drinking occur at your house or on your property, you will get fined, up to \$500 for the first offense