

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**For questions or more information please contact:**

Lynsi Mayfield  
Regional Prevention Coordinator  
90 North 31<sup>st</sup> Street  
Clinton, OK 73061  
(580)323-9736  
[lynsim@red-rock.com](mailto:lynsim@red-rock.com)

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**3 Stores Sell Alcohol to Minor in Sayre**

On January 24, 2019, the Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) in conjunction with the Beckham County Sheriff's Office conducted 3 alcohol compliance checks in Sayre. Throughout the compliance checks, all stores sold to a minor.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), underage drinking causes around 4,300 deaths in the United States per year among those 12 to 20 years of age. More specifically, in Oklahoma, an average of 56 children ages 0-19 die per year as a result of alcohol consumption. "Underage alcohol consumption can also lead to abuse of other drugs, school problems, and legal problems; the list seems endless. This is why it's so important to keep alcohol out of those individuals hands who are not old enough to purchase it and why we continue to work with local law enforcement to make sure store owners and sellers of alcohol are aware of the consequences of selling to a minor, states Lynsi Mayfield, RPC Director."

In lieu of the alcohol sales to minors, the RPC will follow up with all stores checked to offer a FREE Responsible Beverage Service and Sales (RBSS) training. The training will educate store owners and clerks about laws regarding alcohol sales to minors as well as how to properly check an I.D.

The RPC is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and conduct compliance checks every year. For more information regarding Alcohol Compliance Checks or RBSS Training please contact the RPC at (580)323-9736.