



STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY

84 Holland Avenue  
Albany, New York 12208

317 Lenox Avenue  
New York, New York 10027

125 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203

IN REPLYING REFER TO  
New York City

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Contact: Kimberly Morella (212) 961-8331

[Public\\_Affairs@abc.state.ny.us](mailto:Public_Affairs@abc.state.ny.us)

**“OPERATION PREVENT” HITS SYRACUSE AREA BARS**

*Albany, NY-* Last night two area bars were the subject of surprise inspections by New York State Police, Syracuse Police and State Liquor Authority Beverage Control Investigators (BCI). The sting was planned to target underage drinking. ‘Operation Prevent’ so far has yielded 3 arrests, numerous violations of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law (ABC Law) and numerous fake ID’s.

The raid was conducted at ‘Lucie’s Retired Surf Bar’ located at 731 South Crouse Avenue in and ‘The Shire’ located 3010 Erie Boulevard, both bars frequented by college students in Syracuse. State Liquor Authority investigations are ongoing. Potential charges include improper supervision at both locations with an added charge of four counts of contaminated liquor for Lucie’s Retired Surf Bar.

“We want to thank the New York State Police and Syracuse Police for their dedication to sting sweeps like ‘Operation Prevent,’ said State Liquor Authority Chief Executive Officer, Joshua B. Toas. “The SLA will seek-out those illegally serving alcohol to underage college students and will continue to capitalize on all means available to punish those who violate these laws,” continued CEO Toas.

New York State Police Troop D Commander, Major Gerard E. Kropf, added, “Underage drinking remains a problem in Onondaga County, including the City of Syracuse. Under Operation Impact, the State Police will continue to render assistance to the Syracuse Police Department to help address the problem.”

Syracuse Police Chief Gary Miguel stated” Statistics tells us that most campus rapes involve alcohol use. Also a large percentage of campus vandalism is the result of underage alcohol use. Furthermore, what community has not been touched by a drunk driving fatality? Underage drinking is a recipe for disaster. The Syracuse Police Department is committed to protecting the youth of our community by preventing minors from illegally accessing alcohol.”

One bartender from 'Lucie's Retired Surf Bar' and both a bartender, and Thomas C. Hartlieb the licensee/owner of 'The Shire' were also cited with serving alcohol to minors. The three were arrested by police for 'Unlawfully Dealing with a Child' by police.

Licensees found selling alcohol to minors face civil and criminal charges. Criminal charges can be filed against bartenders that serve minors, and for minors found in possession of an alcoholic beverage. The charge currently carries a \$50 fine. Governor Pataki's recently unveiled Executive Budget calls for an increase of four times the current fine, raising it to \$200 per violation.

On the Web: [www.abc.state.ny.us](http://www.abc.state.ny.us)

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