



September 28, 2005

Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission
Seller/Server Training Section

Training Together

Responsible Alcohol Service Saves Lives

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2005 Seller Training Seminars



What's Happening??

What is happening in Seller Training?

What legislative changes from the 79th Legislature will affect Seller Training?

How do trainers receive continuing education training hours for free?

What news headlines are of interest to all seller training schools?

These questions and more will be answered at the 2005 Seller Training Seminars.

Plan to Attend! 2005 Seller Training Seminars.

Hours: 8:30 to 4:00

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| October 25 | Houston |
| October 26 | Houston |
| November 1 | Corpus Christi |
| November 3 | McAllen |
| November 8 | Lubbock |
| November 10 | Austin |
| November 14 | Ft. Worth |
| November 15 | Mesquite |
| November 29 | El Paso |
| December 1 | Austin |



****6 Continuing Education Hours****

Check our website for details and registration at
<https://www.tabc.state.tx.us/liccom/seller/>

Registration
Form



TABC GETS "GO-AHEAD" TO RAMP UP ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS

Thanks to Texas lawmakers, TABC will soon put more than 50 new agents on the streets to protect the health and safety of Texas citizens.

BACK TO BASICS.

Recently, TABC administrator Alan Steen announced his "Back-to-Basics" plan for enforcement agents.

"The additional agents and 'back-to-basics' approach to enforcement priorities will ultimately save more lives," Steen said.

Administrator Steen says this shift in priorities will enable enforcement agents to focus on enforcement activities.

"Our specialized law enforcement agents need to be in the bars and restaurants preventing DWI's and addressing other public safety concerns," he said.

According to Enforcement Chief Sam Smelser, "Not only are we sending out every

available agent, but compliance officers will conduct regulatory inspections, allowing our agents to focus on high-risk locations."

STRATEGIC PLANNING LEADS TO ACTION.

During the legislative session, TABC requested additional agents for a new pilot program aimed at reducing DWI's on our highways. The new program will focus on prevention and ways to ensure retail establishments do not sell to intoxicated persons.

Regional action plans have been developed that incorporate this new pilot project. These plans outline proactive strategies that encourage public awareness and voluntary compliance of alcoholic beverage laws. They also give the agency the ability to analyze trends and measure the success of their programs.

As part of the strategic planning, staff in each region identified public safety issues and

resources needed to reduce the number of alcohol-related wrecks and fatalities, and DWIs.

The pilot project involves gathering information from local and state law enforcement to pinpoint areas with numerous DWIs, wrecks, and fatalities. With this data, enforcement staff will be able to allocate more agents to high-risk locations.

Other programs and strategies to improve compliance include:

- ◆ public education
- ◆ undercover operations
- ◆ retailer education
- ◆ minor stings
- ◆ public intoxication stings
- ◆ follow-up investigations

ARTICLE FROM THE DENTON
RECORD CHRONICLE
CIRC. 17435
FROM PAGE :1
7/3/2005

TABC CRACKS DOWN ON VIOLATORS



By Dave Moore
Staff Writer

While Denton County was drinking Friday night, the eyes of Texas were upon it.

The results were 17 arrests on charges of public intoxication, four citations alleging alcoholic sales to drunken individuals, and 10 citations against private clubs in dry communities, alleging that they failed to properly enroll undercover agents in their clubs before allowing them to drink alcohol.

"We're taking a more proactive approach to selling alcohol to intoxicated individuals to keep drunks off the road," TABC Agent David Doggett said Saturday.

Thirty agents fanned out across dozens of bars in Denton County communities, including Denton, Lewisville, Frisco, Carrollton, North Dallas and Flower

Mound. Numerous clubs — establishments in dry communities that serve alcohol only to members — were also visited by agents. Doggett didn't have a complete list of the names of the clubs and businesses visited and individuals arrested when interviewed.

Between 9:30 p.m. Friday and 2:30 a.m. Saturday, TABC agents observed bartenders and bar patrons, watching for violations of state law, which defines public intoxication as being so drunk that individuals may endanger themselves or others.

Public intoxication is a Class C misdemeanor, which carries a maximum \$500 fine in Texas.

The bartenders who served the allegedly intoxicated individuals face stiffer fines, Doggett said. Those individuals face fines of up to \$2,000 and up to six months' jail time, he said. Their establishments

also face administrative action by the state agency, and risk being fined or barred from selling alcohol for a period of days, he said.

The fines' amounts and number of days alcohol sales may be banned depends on the number of violations the establishment has had in the past, Doggett said.

Doggett said the commission will observe the number of arrests for charges of driving while intoxicated in the coming weeks to see if the action made an impact on drunken driving.

"We started the operation to lower the DWI stats," Doggett said. "Texas leads the nation in alcohol-related fatalities."

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New/Amended

Alcoholic Beverage Laws

The following chart summarizes some of the changes to the TABC Code made during the last legislative session. Plan to attend the 2005 Seminars to learn about how these changes will affect seller training schools/programs. For full text of bills, go to: www.capitol.state.tx.us

| Bill | Subject | Summary |
|---------|--|---|
| HB 1575 | Civil consequences of certain alcohol-related offenses | Enhances penalty for illegally making alcohol available to a minor. Requires automatic suspension of driver's license for 180 days upon conviction. Enhances penalty for minors convicted of certain alcohol-related offenses if minor has similar previous convictions. Requires automatic suspension of DL for one year if minor does not attend required alcohol awareness training. |
| HB 2451 | Sale, service, and delivery of alcoholic beverage. | Creates a specific criminal charge of sale or consumption during prohibited hours on permitted premises. Makes sale or consumption during prohibited hours a class C misdemeanor. |
| HB 2868 | Civil liability for providing alcohol to a minor. <i>Chapter 2. Civil Liabilities</i> | Establishes civil liability for adults 21 or older (other than parent/guardian) for damages caused by intoxication of minor under 18 if adult knowingly provided alcoholic beverage to minor or allowed minor to be served or provided alcoholic beverage on premises owned or leased by the adult. |
| SB 1465 | Use of certain electronically readable information on a driver's license or ID certificate to comply with certain alcohol- and tobacco-related laws. | Creates a defense to prosecution of sale to a minor if person selling checked ID with electronic scan device that showed ID was valid and person was 21. Creates a defense to administrative action if permittee provided a transaction scan device to employees and trained them, but an employee sold to a minor. |

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We're on the Web!
[www.tabc.state.tx.us/
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***ATTENTION:
IMPORTANT NEW FORMS
AND SEMINAR
REGISTRATION***

