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ALBANY BAR SURRENDERS LICENSE FOLLOWING UNDERAGE OPERATION
Liquor Authority Sting Finds Bar Overrun With Minors

Albany, NY – An Albany bar, Jugs & Mugs of Albany LLC., at 847-849 Madison Avenue in Albany, surrendered their liquor license on Tuesday, following an undercover sting operation by the State Liquor Authority that found the bar serving scores of minors.

On Friday, May 9, Investigators from the SLA, the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), and the Albany Police Department (APD) conducted a compliance inspection at the premises. Investigators observed approximately 150 patrons, including more than 50 minors, packed inside Jugs and Mugs, a bar with a maximum occupancy of only 50. The SLA obtained 28 statements from minors, 18 that made direct purchases at the bar and another 10 who obtained alcohol from fellow patrons. Several additional underage charges were not documented, as investigators were compelled to exit patrons from the overcrowded premises. The bar was charged on May 13, 2014 with 20 violations of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law, including selling to minors, unlicensed bouncers, and failure to supervise the premises. Jugs & Mugs of Albany LLC must respond to the charges by June 6, 2014. Effective immediately, no alcohol may be served or consumed on the premises.

"Preventing the sale of alcohol to minors is a priority for the State Liquor Authority," Chairman Dennis Rosen said. "These details will continue, and licensees must understand when they sell to minors, they are putting their license and livelihood in jeopardy."

In 2010, the SLA successfully prosecuted 1,036 sales to minor violations. Prosecutions increased by 85% in 2013, with a total of 1,915. Additionally, in 2011 for the first time in agency history the SLA initiated major underage decoy operations with operatives blanketing scores of premises over several days throughout the state.

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