

COSTA MESA POLICE DEPARTMENT

VI-15

MEMORANDUM

TO: Allan Roeder, City Manager

FROM: David Makiyama, Corporal

SUBJECT: Shoulder Tap Program

DATE: October 12, 2006

“Shoulder Tapping” refers to the growing practice used by persons under the age of 21 to obtain alcohol from strangers outside of retail establishments. The minor simply asks the adult to purchase alcohol for them and provides the money. The goals of the program are to reduce under age drinking and to educate the public about the seriousness of providing alcohol to minors. The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control has awarded the City of Costa Mesa a \$10,000.00 grant to run a minimum of seven operations through May 31, 2008. This is the first time the Shoulder Tap Program will be conducted in Costa Mesa.

The operations will be supervised by a corporal and staffed with two additional officers as an arrest team. Two youthful appearing minors will be selected from the explorer program and must be under 20 years of age. The minors will be truthful about their age and will not badger adults to make the purchases for them. Adults that provide alcohol to the minors will be arrested and released with a citation at the scene unless they have an outstanding warrant or are on probation or parole. Target locations will be selected based upon information gathered from officers. Furthermore, the media will be invited to publicize the program in order to educate the public on the seriousness of the offense.

Thank you for your interest in this program.

DAVID MAKIYAMA
Corporal