

## Local businesses comply with alcohol laws

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[Local businesses comply with alcohol laws](#) Staff Report [news@cowetaamerican.com](mailto:news@cowetaamerican.com) Coweta American - Coweta, Oklahoma

Now that winter has transitioned into spring, every effort is being made to undermine underage drinking.

In recent weeks, the Regional Prevention Coordinator for Region Five teamed up with the Wagoner County Family Service Council (WCFSC) and Coweta Police Department to conduct alcohol compliance checks.



Local businesses complied with ID checks during a recent effort to identify alcohol sales to underage buyers. (File Photo)

The checks are part of an underage drinking prevention campaign established through the Too Much To Lose (2M2L) program of the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Coleman Cox, CPS, prevention specialist with the Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health Prevention Program, said the purpose of alcohol compliance checks is to ensure stores are following Oklahoma laws when they sell or serve alcohol or beer.

Recent compliance checks were completed with the help of the Cherokee Nation Marshals, Coweta Police Department and undercover buyers under the age of 21.

"The task force checked alcohol retailers for compliance, and of the 10 retailers checked, there were zero sales to a minor decoy," Cox noted.

This marked the first time in four years that there were no violations.

"We would like to congratulate Coweta retailers for their complete compliance with Title 37 Alcohol Law," Cox noted. "When asked, decoys provided clerks with their actual ID, showing them to be underage. The clerks are supposed to check their ID and refuse sale to minors."

Coweta retailers who denied sale of alcohol to a minor were Turnpike Tavern, Split Rail BBQ, Debbie's Silver Dollar, Sports Page Steakhouse, Los Tequilas, Fish Shack, Mazzio's, Senor Salsa, Petro Mart and Kum-n-Go.

"Even though all retailers in Coweta checked ID's correctly this time, results from past compliance checks suggest that some businesses in the area may still benefit from further merchant education by attending Responsible Beverage Service and Sales Training," Cox said. "This is a one and a half hour free program offered by RPC 5.

Training teaches cashiers, servers, managers and store owners about proper ID checking practices, how to spot a fake ID, how to comply with Oklahoma laws covering the sale and service of alcoholic beverages and the risks associated with violating such laws.