

Undercover sting gets 18 citations

Continued from Page 1

"Use the same guy," he said. "They wait till the store gets busy and catch us off guard. It's unfair."

He said, however, he was forewarned the police were planning a sting.

Dwyer said the cadets aren't dressed "to appear any older than what they are." Farmington Hills has seven cadets.

First-offense tickets issued to sellers of alcohol to minors represent a misdemeanor punishable under local ordinance by up to 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine, Dwyer said.

MAYOR TERRY Sever, who accompanied police on the sting, commented at Monday's city council meeting about several establishments ticketed Friday.

Dwyer said he hoped Casa Armando's, also known as Armando's Shammas, 29200 Orchard Lake, ticketed for the third time, would be taken to circuit court to have its license revoked.

Sever said Casa Armando's refused two certified letters from the city — offers to help avoid future liquor problems. Management then denounced the city on a TV news report.

"They ignored both of those, then had the audacity to criticize this department," he said. A Casa Armando

'Why do they do it? I think they are just neglectful as far as their responsibility in training their employees. And, in some cases, it is total disregard to the rules and regulations of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. I think some of those persons are strictly out for the almighty dollar.'

— William Dwyer
police chief

manager did not return a call from the Observer.

Two Pizza Hut restaurants in the city were ticketed, even after one was ticketed and called the second to warn them, Sever said.

AN EMPLOYEE at D. Dennison's Seafood Tavern, 27909 12 Mile, allegedly "became rather disrespectful to the officer" after he was caught selling alcohol to the underage decoy, Sever said.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Farmington Hills Mayor Terry Sever Monday unveiled his six-point plan to fight sale of alcohol to minors.

"I'm disappointed," Sever said, adding he will not frequent Dennison's again. The waiter was ticketed not only for selling alcohol to a minor, but also for "abusive language"

to a female cadet, he said.

"We got caught," said Jim Kroll, D. Dennison's manager. He said the 5-year employee, who was suspended but who continues as an employ-

ee, is "more upset with himself than anything else."

Police received an apology. "We disciplined the employee," Kroll said. "The whole staff's guard is up."

Of the Last Stop Party Store, ticketed for the fourth time for selling liquor to minors, Sever said they "do not deserve the privilege of selling alcohol in Farmington Hills."

Council will consider tough liquor laws

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington Hills City Council will consider enacting laws to clamp down on businesses repeatedly ticketed in recent years for selling alcohol to minors.

"It's time to take tougher action," said outgoing Mayor Terry Sever, proposing a six-point action plan at the beginning of Monday's council meeting. "We can only be a community if we look out for each other and each other's families."

Sever called for the city to become more involved with the state's liquor licensing procedure, putting pressure on repeat offenders ticketed for selling alcohol to minors. "The ease of which our decoys were served alcohol is a very frightening experience," he wrote in a statement to the city council.

MONDAY WAS Sever's last council meeting as mayor. The gavel will pass to Mayor-elect Jean Fox at the next meeting Jan. 8.

Some fellow council members believe the city could add even more teeth to Sever's plan when they consider it next month.

Councilman Aldo Vagnozzi said he "wanted to go further and recommend revocation of licenses in flagrant violations. I would like to get some legal advice to see how far we can go as a city," he added.

Councilman Jon Grant talked about tying repeat liquor violations

into city license renewal procedures. Councilwoman Nancy Bates called for all council members to bring their ideas on the issue to the next meeting.

City attorney Paul Bibeau pointed out that liquor licenses, up for renewal yearly, can be revoked any time of the year for reason and after due processing hearings.

Sever's recommendations and council comments came after an undercover sting, done Friday by the Farmington Hills police, in which 18 businesses were ticketed for selling or serving alcohol to an underage ca-

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— Mayor Terry Sever

previous stings.

IN ADDITION to spot-checking businesses with liquor licenses, the police department has provided Operation Cooperation posters and informational packets to them in an attempt to help change policies relating to checking identification.

Police Chief William Dwyer said he remained concerned about the "total disregard" by some businesses that continue to sell alcohol to minors. "Farmington Hills is not alone," he added. "We're just more pro-active."



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

The Farmington Hills Police Department, under Chief William Dwyer, has staged six liquor enforcement strikes since 1986.

Repeat offenders plentiful

By Susan Buck
staff writer

Of 16 restaurants and bars ticketed Friday for selling or serving alcohol to minors in an undercover liquor law sting, only five are not repeat offenders, according to the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Police conducted their sixth liquor enforcement strike Friday, using two cadets, a man and a woman both 19.

The 16 restaurants or bars cited in the undercover sting Friday were:

- Alfocino's Restaurant, 39205 Grand River, no previous violations since licensed in 1988.
- Casa Armando's, 29200 Orchard Lake, third violation since ticketed for selling to a minor in 1988 and 1988.
- Clarion Hotel, no previous violations since licensed in 1986.
- D. Dennison's Seafood Tavern, 27909 Orchard Lake, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor and allowing a minor to consume or possess alcoholic liquor in 1986.
- Drakehire Lanes, 35000 Grand River, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor and allowing a minor to consume or possess alcoholic liquor in 1988.
- Ground Round Restaurant, 30005 Orchard Lake, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor and allowing a minor to consume or possess alcoholic liquor in 1988.
- Hunan Palace, 38259 10 Mile, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor in 1988.
- Kyoto Japanese Steak House, 21150 Haggerty, no previous violations since licensed in 1989.
- Marmaduke's Tavern, 31196 Haggerty, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor in 1988.

- Max and Erma's, 31205 Orchard Lake, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor and allowing a minor to consume or possess alcoholic liquor in 1986.
 - Nippon Kai West, 32443 Northwestern Highway, no previous violations since licensed in 1989.
 - O'Sheehan's Tavern, 35450 Grand River, third violation since ticketed for allowing a minor to consume or possess alcoholic liquor and selling to a minor in 1985 and for selling to a minor in 1986.
 - Pizza Hut, 31200 10 Mile, third violation since ticketed for selling to a minor in 1986 and 1988.
 - Pizza Hut, 38300 10 Mile, second violation since ticketed for selling to a minor and allowing a minor to sell in 1986.
 - Sitar Cuisine of India, no previous violations since being licensed in 1988.
 - Wing Hong, 31455 Orchard Lake, third violation since ticketed for selling to a minor in 1986 and 1988.
- Michigan Liquor Control Commission fines for the previous violations ranged from \$100-\$600.
- The two package liquor licensees cited in the sting Friday were:
- Last Stop Party Store, fourth violation since twice ticketed for selling to a minor in 1986. That year, fined \$1,000 and issued a 7-day license suspension (licensee was issued four violations in 1981). In reference to a June 2 ticket involving sale to a minor, no disposition was available.
 - Warren Prescriptions, 32910 Middlebelt, third violation since ticketed for selling to a minor in 1986. A \$300 fine was waived because of the licensee's exemplary record. On June 2, the store was ticketed for selling to a minor; it was fined \$450.

THESE 25 restaurants or bars that

refused to sell to the undercover cadet in Friday's sting were:

- Blakey's Ranch House, 28333 Grand River; Boston Inn, 28000 Grand River; Brass Pointe, 24234 Orchard Lake; Buddy's Pizzeria, 31646 Northwestern Hwy; C.J.'s Fine Food & Spirits, 29505 Nine Mile; Cafe Cortina, 30715 10 Mile; Clam-digger's, 30555 Grand River; Clancy's Bar & Grill, 32350 Eight Mile; Country Lanes, 30250 Nine Mile; Ginopolis' Restaurant, 27815 Middlebelt; Glen Oaks Golf and Country Club, 30500 13 Mile; Holiday Inn, 38123 10 Mile; J.W.'s Saloon, 31425 12 Mile; McFrocks' (added to Roman Terrace license), 27620 Orchard Lake; Mike & Tom's Pub, Bar & Lounge, 31650 Eight Mile; Mr. Sports, 30860 Orchard Lake; Mountain Jack's, 24275 Sinclair Court; New Mandarin Gardens, 31539 13 Mile.

Nor-West Lanes, 32905 Northwestern Highway; Radisson Suite Hotel, 37529 Grand River; Roman Terrace, 27822 Orchard Lake; San Marino Golf Club, 26634 Halsted; Shot's (Formerly J.R.'s), Steak & Ale, 27590 Orchard Lake; Towne Square Pub, 27408 Eight Mile.

Of the 10 package liquor stores with two or more LLC violations for selling to minors within the last five years, the following eight did not sell to the undercover cadet who came calling Friday.

- Mike and Tom's Party Store, 20925 Inkster; Five Brothers, 29010 Eight Mile; Mid-Nine Market, 22200 Middlebelt; Great Scott, 25780 Middlebelt; Farmington Hills Market, 24211 Orchard Lake; Perry Drugs, 30830 Orchard Lake; Farmington Party Store, 29450 10 Mile; Jonna's Wine Shop, 24225 Halsted.

Also visited during the sting but which did not sell to the cadet were: Grand Square Liquor, 32441 Grand River; Great Scott, 30555 Orchard Lake; 7-Eleven, 29318 Orchard Lake.

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