RESPONSIBLE ALCOHOL MERCHANT AWARDS





Press Release

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78 Local Businesses Recognized 2022 Responsible Alcohol Merchant Award Winners

Santa Cruz County, CA — May 23, 2023— FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Santa Cruz County Friday Night Live Partnership (FNL) Youth Council proudly announces the 22nd Annual Responsible Alcohol Merchant Awards (RAMA) Program winners! RAMA recognizes Santa Cruz County alcohol merchants who actively work to restrict alcohol sales to minors and are compliant with both local and state alcoholic beverage control regulations. FNL is pleased to recognize 78 businesses that have done honorable and exemplary jobs serving the community and keeping our youth safe. For honorable nominations, merchant scores are either "acceptable" or "excellent". For exemplary nominations, merchants score "excellent" in every single category.

Participating RAMA merchants who meet all state and local requirements in limiting youth access to alcohol are recognized and rewarded. All merchants nominated are reviewed and approved by local law enforcement. First-year winners receive a certificate and multi-year winners receive a plaque that they display to illustrate their commitment to limiting youth access to alcohol and actively promoting a healthy community.

FNL youth worked in collaboration with Community Prevention Partners (CPP), to conduct interviews in person, and over the phone with merchants to assess their carding policies, employee training procedures, product promotion, store layout, and security measures to deter theft. To complete the assessments, FNL youth conducted store assessments to evaluate compliance with Lee Law, which contains a window signage provision prohibiting off-sale retailers from covering more than 33% of store windows with alcohol ads.

RAMA is a program of Santa Cruz County Friday Night Live Partnership, Project CURB (Communities United to Reduce Binging), and Community Prevention Partners Coalition. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety. For additional information, please contact us at (831) 359-0284. Sincere congratulations and thanks to these merchants for making Santa Cruz County a safer community.

Responsible Alcohol Merchant Award Winners 2022:

Exemplary First-Time Winners:

El Frijolito Fruition Brewery Hecker Pass Market Live Oak Supermarket New Bohemia Orchard Park Market Pointside Meat Shop Ranch Milk Market

Exemplary Ongoing Winners:

7 Eleven 2233 17296 7 Eleven 2233 20608 7 Eleven 2233 26525 7 Eleven 2368 39689A 76 Mt Hermon Rd Boulder Creek American Cactus Corner Deli Circle K Capitola 76 CVS Pharmacy Store 9853 Davs Market Deke's Market Boulder Creek Deluxe Foods of Aptos El Alteno Felton Valero Four Corners Market Hacienda Shell Hernandez Market I Jackson's Extra Mile La Tiendita Market Leo's Liquors M&V Boulder Creek Liquors New Leaf Community Markets Nob Hill Foods 615 Ocean (76) or Shell Pajaro Valley Chevron Palm Market and Deli Pinnacle 365 Quik Stop Market 63 Quik Stop Market 78 Quik Stop Market No 101 **Rey's Produce** Rite Aid 5965 Rite Aid Store 5966

Safeway 786 Santa Fe Mercado

Exemplary Ongoing Winners Continued:

Seascape Foods Staff of Life Trader Joe's 193 Wild Roots Market Boulder Creek Wild Roots Market Felton

Honorable First-Time Winners:

Ben Lomond Liquors Cadillac Cafe Imuras Mariscos El Nayarita #2 Mountain Mikes Pizza Real Colima 2 Strawberry Patch Cafe Sushi Qu Tam's Chinese Cuisine Wooden Nickel Bar and Grill Zameen at the Hanger

Honorable Ongoing Winners:

Applebee's Grill and Bar Arco Ben Lomond Market Cilantros CVS 9796 DJ's Mini Mart Don Rafas Ernie's Liquor Food Maxx 486 Grocery Outlet Jalisco's Restaurant Lalo's Liquor Live Oak American Quik Stop Markets 66 Shopper's Corner Inc Staff of Life Natural Foods Sukho Thai Restaurant Tagueria Mi Tierra 2 Village Bottle Shop