



VISALIA POLICE DEPARTMENT
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*****NEWS RELEASE*****
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DOJ Grant Helps VPD Officers Crack Down on Tobacco Sales to Minors.

Today, Visalia Police Department Officers conducted a tobacco minor decoy operation to check if businesses in the City of Visalia sold tobacco products to minors. Under the supervision of officers, the minor decoys entered businesses around the city and attempted to purchase tobacco products. During the operation, five businesses were cited for selling tobacco to a minor. One business was warned for having banned flavored tobacco products for sale.

The Visalia Police Department will be holding a series of tobacco decoy and compliance inspections throughout the year to ensure businesses are complying with state law. A retailer who is found guilty can be charged for a misdemeanor or subject to a fine up to \$1,000.

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Department of Justice.

