



## HERMOSA BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

### MEMORANDUM

To: Community Development Director Alison Becker

From: Chief Landon Phillips

Date: January 12, 2026

Re: Roberts Liquor CUP Review

---

#### **Information:**

On August 8, 2025, the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and the Hermosa Beach Police Department conducted an ABC enforcement/compliance operation in the city of Hermosa Beach.

During the operation, ABC Agent Connolly observed a young male carrying a 12 pack of an alcoholic beverage and exiting Robert's Liquor at 74 Pier Plaza. The male was contacted, and an investigation revealed the subject was in possession of a fake identification card and was only 17 years old, a violation of 25662(a)BP- minor in possession of alcohol.

An ABC "backtrack investigation" was conducted and the investigation concluded the clerk had not conducted an adequate check of the identification card.

ABC completed a full report (LB-10153996), a redacted copy is attached, due to the confidentiality of the names and minor involved. Agent Connolly recommended an administrative filing against the licensee, Tran, Dung Quoc for violation of 25658(a)BP- Sales of Alcohol to a Minor.

ABC was able to acquire video of this sale, which shows the underage male subject purchasing the alcohol from Roberts Liquor.

On November 4, 2025, ABC filed a charge of 25658(a) BP. The penalty for the violation was a 25-day suspension of the liquor license at Robert's Liquor. Robert's Liquor did not appeal and accepted the suspension. The suspension began on December 1, 2025, and concluded on December 25, 2025. ABC considers this case closed and no further actions will be taken unless there are subsequent violations.

**Background Information:**

On Friday, April 5, 2024; ABC conducted a “minor decoy” operation in the city of Hermosa Beach. This operation uses a decoy under the age of 21, supervised by Law Enforcement, who attempts to purchase alcohol using a real CA ID/CDL, which indicates they are under 21.

During this operation, Roberts Liquor was visited and the cashier sold alcohol to the decoy. A citation was issued and on June 5, 2025; Roberts Licensee agreed to pay a fine of \$6000 for the violation, in lieu of suspension.

**Recommendations:**

The Police Department is requesting a review of the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Roberts Liquor and recommends the following conditions to be added or modified. The Police Department believes proposed changes will address the violations and help to prevent alcohol sales to minors.

- 1) Roberts Liquor will install or utilize ID verification technology recommended by the ABC to assist in identifying fake/fraudulent identification cards.
- 2) Robert’s Liquor will install informational signage warning patrons of illegal sales of alcohol to juveniles, illegal loitering, or public drinking, and that it is illegal to possess an open container of alcohol in the vicinity of the business. The signs should be placed in a conspicuous location where they are visible to customers.
- 3) Management and all employees of Robert’s Liquor shall complete ABC LEAD training or equivalent. Robert’s Liquor management shall produce proof of completion for any/all employees upon request of any Police Officer, Agent or Code Enforcement.
- 4) Install and maintain a video surveillance system which will retain video for a minimum of sixty (60) days.