



Ottawa County Sheriff's Office

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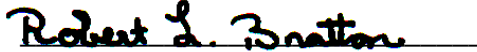
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TO: Ottawa County Liquor Permit Holders

FROM: Sheriff Robert L. Bratton



DATE: Friday, May 19, 2006

RE: *Partnership with Permit Holders*

The 2006 vacation time is upon us, and we're all anticipating a safe season for both our visitors and citizens. We want to work together to promote a good, safe, and responsible atmosphere, and we can accomplish this goal.

I am taking this opportunity to announce a plan that will be implemented this summer in Ottawa County.

In June 2006 the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office will visit as many establishments of liquor permit holders that we possibly can. Under our guidance, an underage individual will attempt to purchase alcohol. This is not a new program and has been going on for years. However, we will step up our contact with the permit holders. If we encounter a violation, notification will be made at that time with a follow-up letter to the owner of the establishment. There will be no criminal complaint filed at that time.

In July 2006 we will conduct the same activity. We may do so repeatedly at businesses where alcohol can be purchased. If a violation occurs one or more times during the month of July, a criminal citation will be issued to the violator.

It is our intent to warn those locations that incur violations. We are asking that businesses step up their checks of identification of those purchasing alcoholic beverages. We feel this is a responsible way to work in partnership with our liquor permit holders.

As always, your comments and suggestions may be forwarded to me. Thank you for your cooperation in this vital matter.

RLB:jkb