



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 29 March 2016

SHIRE BOTTLE SHOP LIQUOR LICENCE SUSPENSION

A Sutherland Shire bottle shop will have its liquor licence suspended for three days for illegally selling alcohol to minors under the age of 18.

Woronora Cellars at Woronora, which trades under the name of Little Bottler, will have its liquor licence suspended from 4 April 2016 until 6 April 2016 under the NSW Government's Minors Sanctions Scheme.

About 2.30pm on Friday 16 October 2015, Police spoke with two minors aged 17 and 16 who had purchased six 750ml long neck beer bottles from Woronora Cellars.

When questioned by Police, the bottle shop licensee, Mr Peng Hu, admitted that he had failed to ask for any age identification before selling the beer to the minors.

On 5 January 2016, Mr Hu paid a \$1,100 penalty notice for the offence of selling alcohol to a minor on licensed premises, triggering consideration of a liquor licence suspension under the Minor Sanctions Scheme.

The bottle shop has since advised it has erected additional underage warning signs, has applied to become a member of the Sutherland Liquor Accord, and is developing a draft management plan.

Under the scheme, escalating penalties apply for selling alcohol to under 18s, including licence suspensions as well as licence cancellations and licensee disqualifications for repeat offences.

The bottle shop has become the eighth NSW venue to have its liquor licence suspended under the scheme. It has also incurred a strike under the Three Strikes scheme.

Liquor & Gaming NSW advises all licensed venues and their staff to check the age IDs of anyone who appears under the age of 25 to ensure they are of legal age before selling them alcohol, to avoid the risk of minors' offences.

ENDS