

## **FAKE NEW JERSEY DRIVER LICENSES ALERT**

As we approach Spring Break and Vacation Season and the college kids are getting out of school and as they head to the beach, other resort areas as well as the local bars and taverns we all need to be extra diligent on checking for identification and making sure that we card all of the patrons that appear to be underage. You need to make sure your staff is trained on what a valid driver's license looks like not only from the state of New Jersey but from other States as well. If you know what a valid license looks like you are more likely to spot a fake one. This is a good time to invest in a Drivers License Guide which can be purchased for a minimal price of \$25.00. You can order one by calling 1-800-227-8827 or order one at [www.driverslicenseguide.com](http://www.driverslicenseguide.com). If our jobs are not hard enough we have recently been advised by one of our members that there is a new website that produces excellent replicas of New Jersey and other states driver's licenses. The NJ license has all the holograms; it scans and passes the UV test. The website is [WWW.IDCHIEF.COM](http://WWW.IDCHIEF.COM) The cost is \$200 for two ids. The website boasts about price incentives group rates and shipping is free. It is in a good idea to go online and take a look at the licenses they claim they can reproduce. The NJLBA has contacted the Document Fraud Unit at the Motor Vehicle Commission as well as the Division of ABC on this issue. We are very concerned about these licenses and their use. We have been advised that what we hear about these licenses is true. The licenses do have the full holograms, they scan and they pass the UV light inspection. We are in close contact with the Documents Fraud Unit and we are waiting to hear back from them on what to look for on these licenses to help detect that they are fraudulent. As soon as we find out more information we will post it on the NJLBA website at [www.njlba.org](http://www.njlba.org). Be sure to periodically check the NJLBA website for updates on this issue. In order to protect yourself you should be aware of the statute that discusses the defense: In Title 33, Intoxicating Liquors, specifically 33:1-77 – Sale to person under legal age; penalty; defense, it is stated in this section a defense to serving a person under the legal age: (a) that the purchaser falsely represented in writing or by producing a driver's license bearing a photograph of the licensee, or by producing a photographic identification card issued pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1968, c. 313 (C.33:1-81.2) or a similar card issued pursuant to the laws of another state or the federal government that he or she was of legal age to make the purchase, (b) that the appearance of the purchaser was such that an ordinary prudent person would believe him or her to be of legal age to make the purchase, and (c) that the sale was made in good faith relying upon such written representation, or production of a driver's license bearing a photograph of the licensee, or production of a photographic identification card issued pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 1968, c 313 (C.33:1-81.2) or a similar card issued pursuant to the laws of another state or the federal government and appearance and in the reasonable belief that the purchaser was actually of legal age to make the purchase. In laymen's terms proof the proof, ask questions of the person presenting the identification, have them fill out an Age Representation form and take a good look at the purchaser, looks can be deceiving. The purchaser has to appear to be 21 years or older to make the defense. If you are not sure about the id ask yourself why and don't make the sale. Be known as a place that checks ID's and train your staff to do the same.