

Six Grand Forks-area businesses fail alcohol compliance checks

73 [Sam Easter](#) on Nov 12, 2015 at 2:07 p.m.



Six Grand Forks and East Grand Forks businesses failed recent alcohol compliance checks.

Grand Forks Police Lt. Derik Zimmel said the department's most recent compliance check was conducted Nov. 5 at 11 local businesses. Of those, two businesses failed the check and sold alcohol to a minor:

- The Rite Spot Liquor Store, 1901 S. Washington Ave.
- Ground Round Grill and Bar, 2800 32nd Ave. S.

East Grand Forks Police Chief Mike Hedlund said the last alcohol compliance check by his department was conducted Sept. 22 on 16 businesses. The four that failed and sold to a minor are:

- Whitey's, 121 DeMers Ave.
- Veterans of Foreign Wars Club, 312 DeMers Ave.
- Blue Moose Bar and Grill, 507 Second St. N.W.
- Tesoro, 607 Gateway Drive N.E.

In Grand Forks, citations were issued to the single staff members who served alcohol at both locations, Zimmer said. The department is reviewing both instances for possible sanctions against the businesses, which would be administered by the Grand Forks city prosecutor or the North Dakota Attorney General.

Citations have been issued to all individuals who served alcohol to minors in East Grand Forks, Hedlund said, though none of the businesses had prior violations of this kind within the 12 months leading up to the check. As a result, the businesses were fined \$250, but no further action has been taken against their licenses to sell alcohol.

The news coincides with a [slew of arrests](#) regarding minors in possession of alcohol. On Friday, the Grand Forks County Sheriff's Office arrested 26 underage individuals on a party bus in Emerado, N.D., which is 17 miles west of Grand Forks.

"We've had issues with party buses at other bars," Sheriff Bob Rost said. "Usually what happens is people who are underage will stay on the bus. The ones that are older go in the bar."

Issues with alcohol consumption have drawn attention from a range of community leaders in the past few weeks, including recent [survey results](#) that indicate broad

concern on alcohol consumption. According to a recent poll of 69 local business leaders, many are concerned about how young people learn about and later consume alcohol.