

“Shoulder Tapping”

Buying Alcohol for Minors

SUBMITTED BY: TUALATIN POLICE OFFICER KEVIN MILLER

Have you ever been approached by a teen and been asked to buy them beer or alcohol? “Shoulder tapping” is one of the most common ways teens are able to obtain alcohol. While this practice goes on throughout the year, it becomes increasingly more prevalent around the start of the school year due to kids reconnecting with friends at school and Friday night football games.



While for some, this may not seem like that big of an issue; however, it is a crime and you could be charged with a Class A Misdemeanor if you are caught supplying alcohol to a minor. Fines start out at \$500 for a first offense. Upon subsequent convictions, you could face fines of \$1,500 and jail time of at least 30 days.

While fines and jail time might be deterrents, it is important to remember that underage drinking has been shown to be linked to injuries and risky behavior to young people. The Tualatin Police Department encourages you to keep your community safe by doing your part to abstain from contributing to this behavior.



Kevin Miller has been a police officer for the City of Tualatin for the past seven and a half years. He is currently assigned as a School Resource Officer (SRO) at Tualatin High School.