

## **CADCOR training stores on beer sales: Gives 'Responsible Vendor' training**

*From the Clarksville, TN, Daily News: June 27, 2010*

Seven local Shell and BP convenience stores operated by Huddleston Oil Co. have received state certification as "Responsible Vendors" with the help of the Community Anti-Drug Coalition of Rutherford County.

"Being a locally owned and operated company, we are very committed to being good neighbors and being a positive influence in our community," said George Huddleston Jr., the third generation president of Huddleston Oil Co.

"CADCOR provided the training to our employees on responsible alcohol sales through their TIPs training program, which enabled us to achieve this certification for each store employee and reduce the possibility of sales to underaged or intoxicated customers, thereby enhancing safety and quality of life for all of us."

To date, 82 employees of Huddleston Oil and Exxon On the Run stores have attended the TIPs Responsible Vendor training provided by CADCOR. The Responsible Vendor certification process is a voluntary program administered by the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

"It is the goal of the coalition to have 100 percent of all retail vendors in the county be certified as responsible vendors," CADCOR coordinator Karen Claud said in a news release. Doing so "ultimately provides for a safer and healthier community for our teens by reducing one point of access to alcohol and affecting consequential tragedies related to underage drinking such as traffic accidents, deaths, teen pregnancy, property damage and violence."

The General Assembly passed the "Tennessee Responsible Vendor Act of 2006," which became effective July 1, 2007. This act allows off-premise beer permittees to voluntarily participate in training employees on responsible alcohol sales and receive certain reduced penalties when faced with offenses related to the sale of alcohol to a minor.

The intent of the legislation is to eliminate underage sales; to reduce accidents, injuries and deaths related to intoxication; to encourage vendors to be prudent in their selling practices of beer; to restrict or reduce the sanctions by beer boards against vendors who comply; and to provide a consistent training, certification and enforcement process across the state.

According to the release, requirements for certification include having all sales clerks successfully complete an approved training program within 61 days of being hired. This instruction includes the laws regarding the sale of beer, methods of identifying and procedures for refusing to sell beer to underage or intoxicated customers. A Responsible Vendor must also hold an annual meeting for its trained employees to provide updated information, policies and procedures.

CADCOR is a community coalition that brings people and organizations together to create a environment and improve the local quality of life by reducing substance abuse, crime and violence. The coalition holds monthly meetings on the third Wednesdays at 3 p.m. at the Murfreesboro Housing Authority office. Meetings are open to the public.

For more information on CADCOR or the TIPs Off Premise training program, call 615-893-9414 ext 32 or 40 or e-mail to [info@cadcor.org](mailto:info@cadcor.org). Visit the organization's website at [www.cadcor.org](http://www.cadcor.org).