



MEDIA RELEASE

Investigative Unit

www.oiu.ohio.gov



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 20, 2013

OIU Contact: Agent-in-Charge – Eric Wolf
(614) 728-1369 or (614) 752-2792

OIU Agents: Don't Supply Information for Fake IDs

(Columbus) – Agents with the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Investigative Unit want everyone to know that it's illegal to use a fake ID in Ohio, whether that ID uses a photo of yourself with false information, or the photo of someone else.

So far this year, agents have had filed 166 fake ID related charges through various enforcement efforts around the state.

Agents know that the users of these fake documents are doing so to gain entrance to 21 and older liquor establishments or to purchase alcohol underage.

"Underage drinking is a serious issue," explained Agent-in-Charge Eric Wolf. "According to the Ohio Drug Free Action Alliance, underage drinkers account for 21.1 percent of all alcohol consumed in Ohio – and that statistic is alarming."

If caught with a fake ID, penalties may include six months in jail and/or \$1,000 fine. Anyone caught furnishing their ID to someone else, could face up to a year in jail with a maximum fine of \$2,500 and the person could lose their license for a year. In the state of Ohio, manufacturing fake identification documents is a felony and you could face a up to a year in prison with a maximum fine of \$2,500.

###

The Ohio Investigative Unit agents are plain-clothed fully sworn peace officers. OIU is charged with enforcing the state's liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohio-Investigative-Unit/165782203506269> and on Twitter by logging onto http://twitter.com/OIU_OIU.