

ISSUED DECEMBER 29, 1998

BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL APPEALS BOARD
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

SHOWBIZ PIZZA TIME, INC.	)	AB-6963
dba Chuck E. Cheese	)	
16920 Prairie Avenue	)	File: 41-176186
Torrance, CA 90504,	)	Reg: 97039679
Appellant/Licensee,	)	
	)	Administrative Law Judge
v.	)	at the Dept. Hearing:
	)	John P. McCarthy
	)	
DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC	)	Date and Place of the
BEVERAGE CONTROL,	)	Appeals Board Hearing:
Respondent.	)	December 2, 1998
	)	Sacramento, CA
	)	

ORDER

Showbiz Pizza Time, Inc., doing business as Chuck E. Cheese (appellant), appeals from a decision of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control which suspended its license for 15 days for appellant's employee selling an alcoholic beverage (beer) to a 17-year-old police decoy.

Based on our review of the record and on the representations of counsel for the Department and for the appellant, we conclude that the result in this matter is controlled by the October 28, 1998, decision of the Second District Court of Appeal in Acapulco Restaurants, Inc. v. Alcoholic Beverage Control Appeals Board

(1998) 67 Cal.App.4th 575 [79 Cal.Rptr.2d 126]. The court stated that “rule 141(b)(5) means what it says,” i.e., strict compliance with the face-to-face identification provision is required. No face-to-face identification of the seller by the decoy was made in this case. Pursuant to Rule 141(c), the failure of the police to comply with 141(b)(5) provides a defense to the accusation issued by the Department. Therefore, the decision of the Department is reversed.¹

RAY T. BLAIR, JR., CHAIRMAN
BEN DAVIDIAN, MEMBER
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL
APPEALS BOARD

JOHN B. TSU, MEMBER, did not participate in the hearing or decision of this matter.

¹This final order is filed in accordance with Business and Professions Code §23088, and shall become effective 30 days following the date of the filing of this order as provided by §23090.7 of said code.

Any party, before this final order becomes effective, may apply to the appropriate court of appeal, or the California Supreme Court, for a writ of review of this final order in accordance with Business and Professions Code §23090 et seq.