

# Two store workers in Mobile face charges

*They are accused of selling alcohol to a minor without properly checking identification*

SUBMITTED SPECIAL  
TO THE CALL NEWS

MOBILE — Warrants have been signed on two individuals facing charges for selling or serving alcohol to a minor. Officers of the Mobile Police Department and inspectors with the ABC Board conducted an underage drinking operation at five businesses on Thursday, Nov. 19.

An employee at the Dollar General located at 4690 Springhill Ave. and an employee at La Cocina Mexican Restaurant, 4663 Airport Blvd., furnished alcohol to the designated underage operative without properly checking identification as mandated by the state of Alabama.

The employees at the listed locations will be given an opportunity to turn them-

selves in at Metro Jail.

In addition to the misdemeanor charge, the violation carries a fine ranging from \$50 to \$500.

The locations found to be in compliance were Circle K (10 N. University Boulevard), Circle K (1395 N. University Boulevard) and One Stop (6550 Zeigler Boulevard).

Individuals employed at a business

with a state liquor license are reminded to always check for valid identification when selling or serving alcohol regardless of what age the person appears to be.

The Mobile Police Department is responsible for performing compliance checks throughout the year. For each underage drinking operation, the businesses are randomly selected.



Photo submitted

**Alabama School of Mathematics and Science chemistry instructor Kevin Dolbeare**, left, who has been a faculty member at ASMS for over 17 years, observes the lab work of ASMS seniors Cole Wheeler and Desiree Turner.

## ASMS gets state funding for new Science Research Center

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Mobile — Building a state-of-the-art science research center is at the heart of the Alabama School of Mathematics and Science’s (ASMS) five-year strategic plan, as the school recently received a \$6.2 million appropriation from the state of Alabama to build the facility within the next three to five years.

ASMS is one of just 20 entities in Alabama that received funding as part of the governor’s Public School and College Authority (PSCA) projects appropriation announcement.

“The ASMS Science Research Center is our commitment to advancing student success well into the future, and it follows through on our dedication to improving the landscape of education in the state of Alabama,” said ASMS school board Chairman Jo Bonner.

The world-class facility will significantly increase students’ opportunities to conduct research and make innovative contributions to their community, state and nation. Students will

have access to modern-day academic, laboratory and collaborative spaces, positioning them to become global leaders.

“We are incredibly grateful to Gov. Kay Ivey and the Alabama Legislature for investing in our students and our school,” said school President Dr. John Hoyle. “The vision for a science research center began as we reviewed academic and career outlook data for our graduates. We recognized that for our students to continue to compete and excel in future markets, we needed to become a more research-focused institution.”

As the future of ASMS orients more towards research, the school has been enhancing its academic programs in anticipation of the Science Research Center, including establishing a Research Fellows Program. Hoyle described how employment in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) occupations has grown significantly since 1990, outpacing overall U.S. job growth. He expressed how ASMS is responsible for providing its students with exceptional

preparation in science, technology and research, and the ASMS Science Research Center will significantly contribute to fulfilling their mission.

ASMS school founder Sen. Ann Bedsole has been a champion of ASMS since the school’s establishment on Dauphin Street in the 1990s. “Our current facilities, which are over 80 years old, cannot be retrofitted to meet the future direction for the school. The tools and research made available in the Science Research Center will expand our students’ expertise and skillset, preparing them for rigorous collegiate coursework and a competitive job market,” said Bedsole.

The \$6 million appropriation is part of the \$1.25 billion bond that the Alabama State legislature passed to finance school improvements across the state.

ASMS will need to raise \$1.5 million to complete the facility, and they will also receive \$1 million from the ASMS Foundation. The school is expected to break ground on the Science Research Center during the spring of 2021.

## Public urged to use caution after 1,290 gallons of sewage overflows into Mobile Bay

*Seafood should be thoroughly cooked*

SUBMITTED SPECIAL  
TO THE CALL NEWS

MOBILE, Alabama — Mobile Area Water & Sewer System (MAWSS) responded to a Sanitary Sewer Overflow on Nov. 20 at 450 Saint Emanuel Street.

Approximately 1,290 gallons of wastewater overflowed into Mobile Bay as a result of a break on a sewer main line. MAWSS crews have taken the necessary steps to prevent future overflows at this location.

Dr. Bernard H. Eichold II, Health Officer for Mobile County, advises area residents to take

precautions when coming into contact with any standing water that may have accumulated as a result of this overflow. Those who have come into direct contact with untreated sewage are advised to wash their hands and clothing thoroughly.

Area residents should take precautions when using Mobile Bay for recreational purposes because of the overflow. All seafood harvested in this general area should be thoroughly cooked before eating. People should wash hands after cleaning seafood and before preparing food.

## Wilmer man is charged with stealing school trailer

STAFF REPORT  
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A Wilmer man was arrested last week after law enforcement officers discovered him to be in possession of stolen property.

Mobile Police reported that a traffic stop was made on I-65 on Nov. 19 after discovering the vehicle involved in the traffic stop was pulling a stolen trailer. According to reports in the case, the storage trailer had been stolen from Saint Paul’s Episcopal School and was filled with sporting equipment.

Terry Kastorff, 43, was arrested and charged with stealing the trailer.

### ‘REVIVE PLUS’ PROGRAM

## \$200 million in funds OK’d for small businesses

SUBMITTED SPECIAL  
TO THE CALL NEWS

MONTGOMERY — Gov. Kay Ivey recently announced the creation of Revive Plus, a \$200 million grant program to support small businesses, non-profits and faith-based organizations in Alabama that have been impacted by COVID-19. Revive Plus is the second wave of funding for these organizations with 50 or fewer employees and will award grants of up to \$20,000 for expenses they have incurred due to operational interruptions caused by the pandemic and related business closures.

“As the state has rolled out over \$1 billion of the CARES Act monies to the individuals and businesses affected by COVID-19, it became evident the group most overwhelmingly hurt during the pandemic were the small ‘mom and pop’ shops,” Ivey said. “A second round of assistance through Revive Plus will ensure that the small business owners who have borne the brunt of the downed economy can be made as whole as possible. As we head into the holiday season, my hope is that this will be welcome news for our businesses and help ease their burdens from what has been a very hard year.”

Entities may receive up to \$20,000 to reimburse qualifying expenses if they have not received federal assistance for the corresponding item they are claiming with the state of Alabama. The Revive Plus grant is in addition to any state of Alabama Coronavirus Relief Fund grant previously received, including the Revive Alabama Small Business, Non-Profit, Faith-Based, and Health Care Provider grants. There is no set cap on the number of entities that may be awarded a Revive Plus grant. Grants will be awarded to qualifying applicants on a first-come, first-served basis until the funds are exhausted.

“The Revive Plus program is much needed in our small business economy,” Senate General Fund Chairman Greg Albritton (R-Atmore) said. “I commend Gov. Ivey for taking this action, recapturing unspent dollars and using a proven program to bring economic relief to our small business owners.”

Alabama received approximately \$1.9 billion of CARES Act funding to respond to and mitigate the coronavirus pandemic. Alabama Act 2020-199 initially designated up to \$300 million of the Coronavirus Relief Fund for individuals, businesses, non-profit and faith-based organizations directly impacted by the

coronavirus pandemic. After the initial \$100 million for small business that was reimbursed starting in July 2020, legislative leadership approved a second round of \$200 million from allocations made to reimburse state government and from other grant programs that have ended with the full allocation unspent.

“This second round of funding for Alabama entities will provide much needed resources for our state’s economy,” Senate Minority Leader Bobby Singleton (D-Greensboro) said. “I appreciate the governor and the Finance Department’s work to ensure we utilize these funds to the benefit of our citizens.”

Entities may access grant information and the grant application through the Coronavirus Relief Fund website. The application period for the Revive Plus grant program will open at noon, Nov. 23, 2020, and run through noon, Dec. 4, 2020.

“This is welcome news for small businesses, non-profits and faith-based organizations that are continuing to feel the adverse effects of the Covid-19 virus,” House General Fund Chairman Steve Clouse (R-Ozark) said. “Time is of the essence and I urge all qualified entities to apply as soon as possible beginning Monday, Nov. 23.”

A coalition of the Business Council of Alabama, the National Federation of Independent Business of Alabama (NFIB Alabama), and the Alabama Restaurant Association worked closely with the Governor’s Office to revisit the grant program after the initial round of Revive Alabama reached the \$100 million cap.

“Businesses throughout the state are working diligently to keep their employees and customers safe, all while ensuring commerce throughout Alabama continues to move,” Business Council of Alabama President and CEO Katie Britt said. “Revive Plus will be essential in giving Alabama businesses access to the necessary and needed funding to keep their doors open and keep hard working Alabamians employed. Our broad coalition of businesses, associations and chambers commend Governor Ivey and her administration for putting these critical funds into the hands of businesses who need it most.”

Qualifying entities must have been in business March 1, 2020, are currently in business and have a valid W-9 to apply for a Revive Plus grant.

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