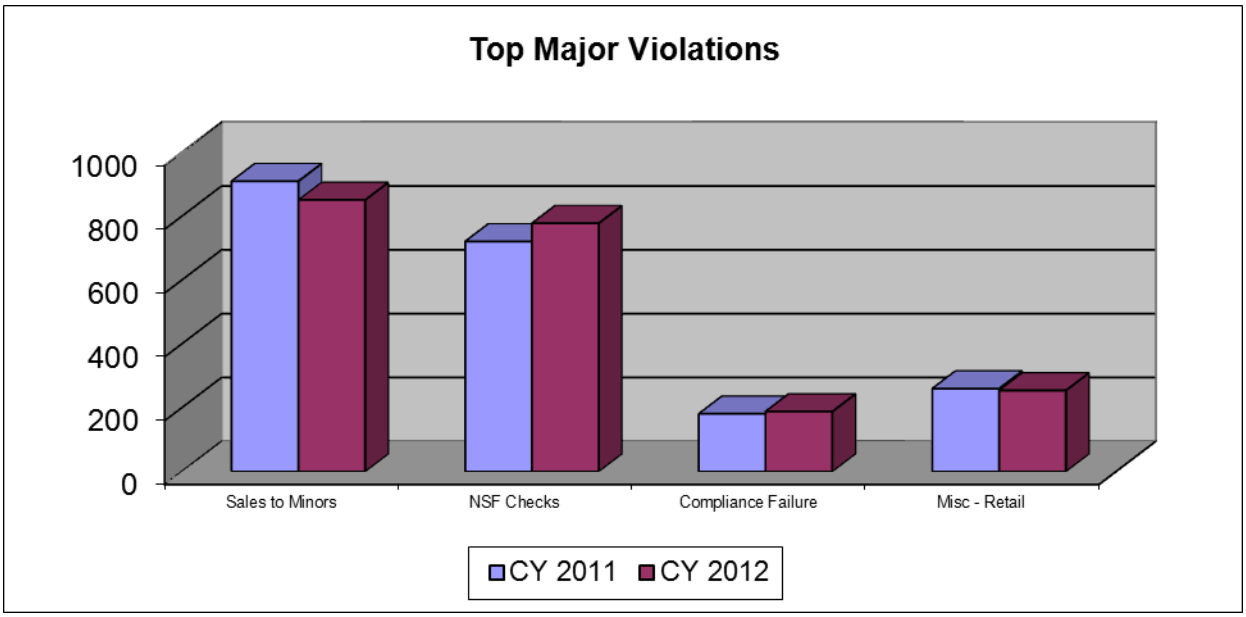
Enforcement

The Enforcement staff is involved in training programs to meet the needs of retail licensees, beer and wine wholesalers, and law enforcement agencies.

The MLCC's enforcement officers regularly conduct surveillance operations in licensed premises as part of their efforts to ensure that the state's liquor laws and MLCC rules are being adhered to by liquor licensees. Their efforts to serve the citizens of the state often go unnoticed due to the nature of their job.

The Enforcement staff is responsible for investigating applicants for liquor licenses and assisting local, county and state law enforcement agencies with the enforcement of Michigan's liquor laws. Local law enforcement agencies submitted 786 liquor law violation reports in Fiscal Year 2011-2012. MLCC enforcement investigators submitted 1,484 violation reports in Fiscal Year 2011-2012.



The violations that the Enforcement Division administers are varied. In addition to the top violations listed in the chart above, some of the other violations that Enforcement handles are as follows: Sales to intoxicated persons, illegally obtain or transfer license, licensee or employee convicted of illegal act, nudity, operating other than legal hours, failure to cooperate with law enforcement officers, gambling or possession of gaming equipment, and controlled substances/drugs paraphernalia.

Enforcement & Underage Drinking

In an effort to minimize underage drinking, the Enforcement Division conducts controlled buy operations, also called decoy sting operations. During a controlled buy operation, a minor will attempt to purchase alcohol from a retailer while the transaction is observed by an undercover enforcement officer. A sale results in a violation of the liquor law and subsequent fine. The Commission has a policy of zero tolerance for sale of alcohol to minors and uses the controlled buy operation as a tool to reinforce this commitment.