

Pine-O-Cleen barmaid fined \$3000

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A female bartender who served a customer Pine-O-Cleen disinfectant has escaped conviction in Melbourne Magistrates Court.

But she was fined \$3,000 and handed an 18-month good behaviour order.

The court heard that Emily Craig, 23, of Park Orchards, in Melbourne's north, served Matthew Papaluca, then 18, 10ml of Pine-O-Cleen in a shot glass mixed with 20ml of cola at 6.15am in the Evolution nightclub in inner city Prahran on March 4 last year.

Ms Craig's lawyer George Balot asked that his client not receive a conviction, saying she was cooperating with police, had written an apology to Mr Papaluca and was remorseful.

Ms Craig has agreed to assist police in their investigations into the actions of two security guards who the court heard had encouraged her to serve the cleaning disinfectant.

Mr Balot said his client had served the disinfectant as a joke and not in a vengeful or malicious way.

She lost her responsible service of alcohol licence and cannot serve alcohol again.

AAP