January— March, 2010 Volume 1, Issue 1

# LAST CALL



**Extended Hours of Operation** 

n March 25, 2009, an amendment to D.C. Law 17-361, the "Alcoholic Beverage Enforcement Amendment Act of 2008" allows licensees to remain open one extra hour and sell and serve alcoholic beverages on the night before District of Columbia and federal holidays.

Licensees are eligible for this extension if: (1) They do not have a voluntary agreement; or (2) Their voluntary agreement does not have any restrictions on hours. On-premise establishments with voluntary agreements containing restrictions on their operation, consumption, and service hours are not eligible for this holiday extended hour policy.

Please note that this policy does not extend an establishment's permitted hours of entertainment, which would require a separate one-day substantial change application. This policy does not alter the two-hour kitchen requirement

for restaurants for which the kitchen must remain open until two hours prior to closing.

DC Emancipation Day is Friday, April 16, therefore qualifying licensees may extend their hours on Thursday evening, April 15 until 3:00 am Friday morning.

Feel free to visit the ABRA website to review the entire 2010 Extended Hour Calendar at www.abra.dc.gov.

Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration 1250 U Street, NW, 3rd Floor Washington, DC 20009 (202) 442-4423 (202) 442-9463 — FAX www.abra.dc.gov

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

- > Extended Hours
- > Georgetown Moratorium
- > ABRA Renewals Due
- > ABRA's new Location
- > ABRA on Twitter

## Georgetown Moratorium Hearing, March 24, 2010

The Georgetown Moratorium is set to expire April 14, 2010. A request from the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E (ANC 2E) has been made with regard to renewing the existing moratorium with the addition of two ABC licenses. ANC 2E has requested that the Board expand the existing moratorium to add two new licenses to increase flexibility somewhat in recognition of the large number of licenses in safekeeping. ANC 2E believes that the moratorium has worked well and supports the continuation.

The Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) and ANC 2E also have requested to restrict new seating at existing retailer's class C and D licenses located in Georgetown Court/Prospect Place, NW. Retailers' Class CN, CR, CT, CX, DN, DR, DT and DX would be affected. There are approximately 3D retailers' class C and D in the proposed moratorium zone.

A hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 24, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at 1250 U Street, NW, Board Hearing Room, 2nd Floor, Washington, DC 20009. Individuals who wish to testify should contact Cynthia Simms at 202/442-4496 or by e-mail at cynthia.simms@dc.gov. E-mail contacts should include the full name, title, and affiliation — if applicable — of the persons testifying. Witnesses should bring seven (7) copies of their written testimony to the Board.

All hearings are open to the public and the Board meets every Wednesday unless otherwise advised.

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### ABRA Renewals Due March 31

It is that time of year again. The three year renewal period is in effect. All retailers' class CR licenses are due for payment by March 31, 2010. All license fees shall be paid by credit card, certified check, money order, business check, attorney's check, or personal check made payable to ABRA. **CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED.** 

Applicants and licensees must pay the annual fees specified by the Board. The fee for the first year payment is due at the time the application is filed but will be returned to an applicant, minus the prescribed processing fee if the application is denied, and the fees for the second

year payments are to be paid no later than one and two years respectively, from the date of the issuance of the license. The licensee may pay the second and third year fees when the first fee is paid. The second and third year license fees do not require the filing of a cleanhands certificate by the applicant. All renewal payments must be made in person at the ABRA Office.

If you have not received your notice regarding the renewal of your license, please contact Danielle Balmelle at danielle.balmelle@dc.gov or phone her at 202/442-4423.

#### ABRA Located in the Heart of the District

he Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) has moved. The new location is in the heart of the District of Columbia in the historic U Street corridor, directly across the street from the Lincoln Theater and the renown Ben's Chili Bowl.

ABRA occupies two floors at 1250 U Street, NW. The main office is located on the third floor, which houses the Licensing Division, Office of the Director, Office of the General Counsel, Office of Records and Documents, and the Administrative Office. The second floor accommodates the ABC Board hearing room and the Enforcement Division

ABRA will be occupying this space until the summer of 2010 and is slated to move to the Reeves Building at 14th and U Streets, NW as its permanent residence. Our phone numbers are the same: 202/442-4423; FAX is 202/442-9463; and the ABRA website is www.abra.dc.gov. Our hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and no applications are accepted after 3:30 p.m.

Come by and see our new and colorful space. Parking is limited but taking the Metro is easy, as our offices are directly over the Greenline Metro at the Cardozo U Street exit. That is at the corner of 13th and 11 Streets NW.

#### ABRA Now on Twitter



ABRA is now on Twitter. Come join us! All you need do is visit ABRA's webpage at www.abra.dc.gov and click on the Twitter icon to join. Twitter is monitored by ABRA Staff.

If you were not aware, ABRA has a Facebook page as well. You will find the Facebook icon on ABRA's webpage, click on it to view the page. Become a friend of ABRA's on Facebook.