



October 3, 2016

Re: Extension of Hours for 2017 Inaugural Week

Dear Licensee,

The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) is informing licensees that eligible restaurants, taverns, nightclubs, hotels and multipurpose facilities can register with ABRA to participate in extended hours during Inaugural Week.

Under the law, eligible on-premises establishments can apply to ABRA to sell and serve alcoholic beverages until 4 a.m. and operate 24 hours a day during Inaugural Week (§ 25-723), which is from **January 14-22, 2017** and includes two weekends.

In order to register to participate in Inaugural Week, a licensee must complete and return the attached form to ABRA along with a public safety plan by **Monday, January 9, 2017**. The application can also be found on ABRA's website at www.abra.dc.gov. The daily fee to register is as follows and is based on license class:

- \$250 for a nightclub with a class C license (CN);
- \$100 for a restaurant with a class C license (CR);
- \$100 for a tavern with a class C license (CT); and
- \$50 for all other on-premises license classes.

It is important to note that on-premises retailer licensees are only eligible to participate in the Inaugural Week extension of hours if the licensee does not have a settlement agreement, or the settlement agreement does not contain any restrictions on closing hours.

In addition, a licensee would only be eligible to operate 24 hours a day as well as sell and serve alcohol until 4 a.m. on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, occurring on January 16, 2017, if the licensee is also registered to extend hours on January 16, 2017 as part of Inaugural Week.

Once a licensee is registered for Inaugural Week, ABRA will provide the licensee with an inaugural license, which must be posted in a visible location at the establishment for the nine-day period.

Under the law, an establishment's permitted hours of entertainment cannot be extended under an inaugural license. As a result, an establishment would need to obtain approval for a separate one-day substantial change application in order to extend entertainment hours. In addition, the law does not alter the two-hour kitchen requirement for restaurants. As such, restaurants serving alcoholic beverages until 4 a.m. will be required to serve food until 2 a.m.

Any licensee that does not want to participate in the extension of hours during Inaugural Week is not required to do so. If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact ABRA's Licensing Division at abc@dc.gov or (202) 442-4423.

Sincerely,

Fred P. Moosally
Director

www.abra.dc.gov