

LAST CALL



Alcoholic Beverage
Regulation Administration
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HOLIDAY PLANNING

Planning for a holiday celebration can be a daunting task. Here are a few tips to help you to stay in compliance with ABRA and to achieve your goal of hosting a perfect event without any regulatory issues.

* If you are hosting an event and your existing license does not support the venue you have in mind, please check with ABRA's licensing division as you may need a one day substantial change in order to hold such an event at your establishment.

* All one day permits or a one day substantial change require that you visit ABRA's office to submit an application to obtain a license so that you are in compliance. To obtain a permit of this kind, you will need to submit your application to ABRA at least seven (7) days prior to the event.

* A one day substantial change request with the Board allows a licensee to obtain permission to have entertainment, extended hours of operation, a cover charge, or dancing not permitted by the applicant's license as part of a specific event; unless the activities sought by the applicant are otherwise prohibited by the applicant's ABC license.

* Review your liquor license regarding your hours of operation and if you have a voluntary agreement, please check the language as well because there may be other restrictions.

* Please be sure to check IDs for underage drinking and encourage your patrons not to drink and drive.



HIGHLIGHTS:

- > HOLIDAY PLANNING
- > ABRA'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- > GEORGETOWN MORATORIUM
- > BOARD'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
- > EXTENDED HOURS
- > FILING QUARTERLY STATEMENTS

ABRA ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2010

Each year the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) along with other District government agencies, sets performance goals for the Fiscal Year. ABRA exceeded expectations for FY 2010. Here is a brief overview of some of ABRA's FY 2010 Accomplishments.

* Received the 2010 Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Program (OJJDP) Law Enforcement Agency of the Year Honorable Mention Award.

* Conducted 1,277 compliance checks at licensed establishments to ensure alcoholic beverages are not sold to individuals under the age of 21. This was a significant increase compared to the 752 compliance checks conducted for underage drinking in FY 2009.

* Successfully registered 74 licensees for the World Cup Extension of hours and 114 Retailers' Class A licensees to operate on Sunday, July 4. These two registration processes raised more than \$30,000 in revenue.

ONE LICENSE AVAILABLE IN GEORGETOWN MORATORIUM ZONE

On Wednesday, December 8, 2010, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) deemed Enriqueta's Inc. t/a Enriqueta's, 2811 M Street, NW, which has been in Safekeeping, abandoned and cancelled this license. By doing this an additional new Retailer's Class CR restaurant liquor license is now available on a first-come first-serve basis in the Georgetown Liquor License Moratorium Zone.

In June, 2010 the Board approved the request of Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2E and the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) to allow for seven (7) additional restaurant licenses in the Georgetown Moratorium Zone. This moratorium also allows the Board to replace licenses that have been cancelled. The Board's most recent decision takes the cap to sixty-eight restaurants in Georgetown.



For additional copies of the ABRA newsletter, please contact Cynthia Simms, Community Resource Officer at cynthia.simms@dc.gov or you may phone her at (202) 442-4496.

THE ABC BOARD'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

As this year comes to a close, the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board will take three weeks off for the Holiday Season; beginning, December 9, 2010 through January 4, 2011. The next group of cases will be heard before the Board on Wednesday, January 5, 2011. There will not be a Board Calendar posted on the ABRA website until their return.

All protested cases (roll call hearings) will continue to be heard throughout the month of December, 2010 by the Board appointed member of the ABRA Staff. The roll call hearings will take place each Monday during the month of December. For licensees, please be mindful that if you have not received notification of a roll call hearing prior to your roll call hearing date, that could mean that you were not protested and do not need to appear for a hearing. Please check with ABRA before making plans for the holidays to ensure that you do not miss a hearing. Those licensees that have been protested will receive notification as well as the protesting parties alerting each party that a roll call hearing will take place at an appointed date, time, and location.

ABRA's offices will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2010 and Friday, December 31, 2010 as the holidays fall on a Saturday. All other days, ABRA offices will be open to provide excellent customer service and assist you with your regulatory and licensing needs.

THE BOARD AND ABRA STAFF WISHES YOU A SAFE AND JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON!



UPCOMING EXTENDED HOURS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Extended hours reminder—Licensees may remain open one extra hour to sell and serve alcoholic beverages on the night before District of Columbia and Federal holidays. This holiday season eligible licensees are able to operate extended hours on three (3) occasions—these are the evenings of December 23, December 30, and December 31. On the evenings of December 23 and 30, 2010, you may remain open until 3:00 a.m. Friday morning.

Qualifying licensees may extend their hours on Friday December 31 until 4:00 a.m. Saturday morning January 1, 2011—New Year's Day.

On-premise 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. This policy does not extend an establishments permitted hours of entertainment, nor does it alter the two-hour kitchen requirement for restaurants prior to closing.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to call the ABRA Office at (202) 442-4423 or visit the ABRA website to review the entire 2010 and the 2011 Extended Hours Calendars at www.abra.dc.gov.



QUARTERLY STATEMENT DATES FOR 2011 FOR RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS

As part of ABRA's efforts to provide its licensees with excellent customer service, we have included a few reminders for the beginning of 2011 regarding documents that must be submitted. Restaurant and hotel licensees are required to file quarterly alcoholic beverage and food statements with ABRA in compliance with D.C. Official Code §§ 25-113(b)(2)(A) or 25-113(e)(4)(A). Listed below are the dates that quarterly statements must be filed:

1st Quarter—Jan through Mar 2011	Due—Apr 30, 2011
2nd Quarter—Apr through Jun 2011	Due—Jul 30, 2011
3rd Quarter—Jul through Sep 2011	Due—Oct 30, 2011
4th Quarter—Oct through Dec 2011	Due—Jan 30, 2012

Please do not forget to file your quarterly report statements by January 30, 2011 for the months of October, November, and December 2010. Failure to file these reports may result in civil penalties set forth in D.C. Official Code §§ 25-831(b) and (d). You may also file these reports electronically through ABRA's website www.abra.dc.gov, by following the E-Quarterly Statement link. If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact ABRA's Auditor Neal Adjunmobi at (202) 442-4453.