

LAST CALL

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2013

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POST ABRA WARNING SIGN BY NOV. 27

The deadline to pick up and post the new ABRA Warning sign is quickly approaching. ABC establishments must post the sign in an area that is visible to the public on the licensed premises by Wednesday, Nov. 27. Signs may be picked up at ABRA's office located at 2000 14th St., NW, Suite 400 South, 4th floor.

ABC BOARD RECESS

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board will be on recess during the following dates:

- Wednesday, Nov. 27
- Wednesday, Dec. 18
- Wednesday, Dec. 25
- Wednesday, Jan. 1

ABRA's office will also be closed in observance of the holidays on:

- Thursday, Nov. 28
- Wednesday, Dec. 25
- Wednesday, Jan. 1

ABRA's office will remain open and operate during regular business hours on all other days from:

- 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday
- 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (license processing hours)

Restrictions on Taverns Temporarily Lifted in Georgetown

Tavern licenses may be transferred in historic district for the first time in decades.

For the first time in nearly 20 years, restrictions have temporarily been lifted on alcoholic beverage licenses for taverns in the Georgetown Historic District. The change occurred after the number of licensed taverns in the historic area fell below a legislative cap of six.

As a result, taverns located in the Georgetown Historic District are permitted to transfer alcoholic beverage licenses to new owners and new locations within the historic area. An existing restaurant in the historic district will also be able to apply to become a tavern or nightclub in the neighborhood. Applications to make any of the changes would need to be filed with the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) for consideration by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board).

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act and Rules Reform Amendment Act of 1994 (D.C. law 10-122) freezes the transfer or sale of tavern and nightclub licenses in the Georgetown Historic District when there are six or more taverns and/or nightclubs licensed in the area. On Wednesday, Oct. 30, the number of taverns in Georgetown fell to five after the Board canceled the tavern license for Saloun—previously located at 3239 M St., NW—for not renewing its license by the deadline on Monday, Sept. 30. There are no nightclubs currently licensed in Georgetown.

The ability to transfer tavern licenses will end once the legislative cap of six taverns and/or nightclubs is reached in the Georgetown Historic District. Applications for alcoholic beverage licenses are available at www.abra.dc.gov.

Search Records on ABRA's New Website

ABC licensees and members of the public can now access a host of records on ABRA's new website, which launched in October.

A new tool on the site allows users to search a library of documents, including:

- Board orders,
- Board transcripts, and
- Settlement agreements.

Users can also download and review:

- Notices of public hearings,
- Board dispositions,
- A list of current license holders, and
- Court of Appeals decisions.

New documents are added to the site each week.

Plans to upgrade the search tool are already in the works to optimize search results. Check out the new site at www.abra.dc.gov. Members of the public that have feedback on the website are encouraged to contact ABRA at abra@dc.gov or 202-442-4423.



ABC Holiday Guide

New Year's Day Extended Holiday Hours

On-premises establishments that want to extend the New Year's celebration a little longer will need to register for extended holiday hours by Monday, Dec. 2.

Eligible restaurants, taverns, nightclubs, hotels and multipurpose facilities that register by the Dec. 2 deadline will be able to remain open until 4 a.m. on the morning of New Year's Day, Jan. 1. Enrolled licensees will also be eligible to participate in 13 holidays—including several holiday weekends—listed on the 2014 extended hours calendar.

Establishments that want to participate in extended holiday hours must register once each calendar year to do so. All 2013 extended holiday hour registrations will expire on Wednesday, Dec. 25.

Registration is still open for this year's Christmas holiday. The deadline to register is Monday, Nov. 25.

The extended holiday hours program allows registered establishments to sell and serve alcohol until

4 a.m. and to operate 24 hours a day during certain federal and District holidays and three-day holiday weekends. Registration is free of charge. Establishments that have settlement agreements restricting closing hours are not eligible to enroll. Visit www.abra.dc.gov to learn more.

Events

Establishments that want to host events that include entertainment, dancing, live music or other activities that are not already part of their ABC license, can apply to do so by filing a One-Day Substantial Change application. Forms are available on ABRA's website at www.abra.dc.gov.

In order to be considered by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, One-Day Substantial Change applications need to be filed at least:

- Seven days before an event that is to be held indoors;
- Fourteen days prior to an event that will be held outdoors on private property;
- Forty five days in advance of an event to be held on public property, which requires a Special Event License from the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. 

2 P.M., JAN. 23 NEW LICENSEE ORIENTATION

New ABC licensees and members of the public are invited to attend ABRA's orientation training on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2014 to review:

- District ABC laws and regulations,
- Working with ANCs,
- Settlement agreements,
- Expectations of licensees,
- Best practices, and
- Sound management.

Reservations for training and requests for interpreters must be made by Friday, Jan. 17, 2014. Contact ABRA at:

- 202-397-3971
- Sarah.Fashbaugh@dc.gov

Training will be conducted at ABRA's office.

ABRA OFFICE
2000 14th St., NW
Suite 400 S., 4th Floor,
Washington, D.C. 20009

East Dupont Circle Moratorium Decision Expected Nov. 20

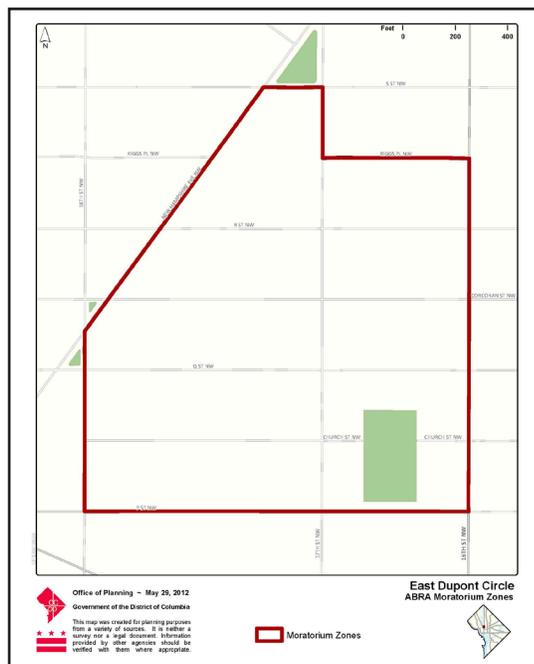
The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) will decide on the future of the East Dupont Circle Moratorium at a public hearing at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 20. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Board is considering two proposals in addition to public comment received on the issue at a hearing on Oct. 24. The first proposal was from Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2B, which recommended renewing the existing moratorium for another three-year period with certain modifications. A second proposal from the Dupont Circle Citizens Association suggested conducting further research on the issue.

The Board temporarily extended the moratorium for 120 days while it reviews whether its renewal is appropriate. The moratorium was set to expire on Sept. 23. During the extension period, the same limitations on ABC licensing apply in the zone.

The East Dupont Circle Moratorium Zone currently limits the number of alcoholic beverage licenses that can be issued in an area extending approximately 600 feet in all directions from the intersection of 17th and Q streets, NW to the following:

- Two licenses to retailers to sell liquor, wine and beer;
- Two licenses to retailers to sell wine and beer;
- Two licenses to taverns;
- Sixteen licenses to restaurants;



The East Dupont moratorium zone extends 600 feet in all directions from 17th and Q streets.

- No licenses may be issued to nightclubs; and
- No licenses may be issued to multipurpose facilities.

All hotels are exempt from the terms of the moratorium zone. Complete details may be reviewed in section 306 of DC Municipal Regulations Title 23. 



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