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MARYLAND ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND CANNABIS COMMISSION

INFORMATION AND TRAINING ADVISORY 23-009

****Effective July 1, 2023, retail alcoholic beverage licensees within the State of Maryland shall cease and desist from selling or providing beer, wine, or spirits, to include mixed drinks or cocktails, in sealed or closed containers to patrons for off premise consumption or delivery****

On March 19, 2020, then Governor Lawrence J. Hogan issued Executive Order 20-03-19-01, which amended, revised, and clarified COVID-19 pandemic related privileges provided to retail alcoholic beverage licensees within the State of Maryland. Specifically, Executive Order 20-03-19-01 authorized retail alcoholic beverage licensees (“retail licensee”) to sell or provide beer, wine, or spirits, to include mixed drinks or cocktails, in sealed or closed containers to patrons for off premise consumption or delivery.

As per Executive Order 21-06-15-01 issued on June 15, 2021, this temporary authority granted to retail licensees was to cease on August 15, 2021, which marked the termination of the state of emergency and rescission of the proclamation of a catastrophic health emergency, to include a 45-day administrative enforcement grace period.

Authorization to sell or provide beer, wine, or spirits, to include mixed drinks or cocktails, for off premise consumption was extended past August 15, 2021, pursuant to House Bill 12/Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2021. This law provided local alcoholic beverage licensing Boards or Commissions with the authority to this authorization to retail licensees until June 30, 2023.

Please let this advisory serve as notice that any authority provided by a local alcoholic beverage Board or Commission to their respective retail licensees to sell or provide beer, wine, or spirits, to include mixed drinks or cocktails, in sealed or closed containers to patrons for off premise consumption or delivery terminates effective July 1, 2023.

Beginning July 1, 2023, any retail licensee that sells or provides beer, wine, or spirits, to include mixed drinks or cocktails, in sealed or closed containers to patrons for off premise consumption or delivery is subject to violation and sanction by their local alcoholic beverage Board or Commission and the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this advisory, please do not hesitate to contact the ATCC at 443-300-6990 and ask to speak with someone in our Trade Practices Division.

