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**BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS FOR BALTIMORE CITY ISSUES WARNING FOR
2021 LICENSEES WITH CLOSED LOCATIONS – POSSIBLE LICENSE EXPIRATION**

“Establishments closed for 180 consecutive days at risk of license expiration, encouraged to take action.”

Baltimore, MD – The Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City (BLLC) is issuing a warning to licensees who are closed and not operating, noting that their license may be in danger of expiration if they fail to take action. As of July 1, 2021, all legal orders that suspended license timelines were lifted, which started the clock on a period of 180 days that runs out on December 28th, 2021. If a licensee has not been open since July 1st, their license is at risk of permanent expiration, even if they have renewed for this year.

From the outset of the disruptions the COVID-19 Pandemic has imposed on bars, restaurants, and businesses at large, the BLLC has worked tirelessly to maintain flexibility and to ensure that all of the nearly 1200 license holders in Baltimore City are made aware of and in compliance with all laws, rules and regulations. The BLLC understands that these times present particularly difficult challenges for business, but without taking action, there are licenses that are at risk to permanently expire, for businesses that intend to reopen but have not yet been able to do so.

BLLC Executive Secretary Douglas Paige implored license holders to pay attention, remarking, “While the BLLC can be flexible and work with you, the law on this particular timeline offers us no wiggle room. We urge you to contact our office so that we may help you avoid permanent expiration of your license.”

Board Chair Albert J. Matricciani added, “We understand that amidst difficulties of financial burdens, employment challenges, and other circumstances some licensees may not be aware of the impending expiration. It is important you contact our office to allow our staff to help.”

If you are a licensee that closed during the COVID-19 Pandemic and have not yet reopened, you are urged to contact the BLLC office as soon as possible by calling 410-396-4377.

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