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STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
FOR BALTIMORE CITY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 16, 2020

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**BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS FOR BALTIMORE CITY REITERATES
COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE'S PROHIBITION ON THE CLOSURE OF ALL BARS AND
RESTAURANTS FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION**

Baltimore, MD – As per Governor Lawrence J. Hogan's Executive Order, effective March 16, 2020 at 5:00pm all restaurants, bars, taverns, and other similar establishments within the State, including Baltimore City, shall cease and desist from selling food and beverages for on-premises consumption to the general public.

In accordance with any "social distancing" recommendations of the Maryland Department of Health, food and beverages may be: (1) sold if such food or beverages are promptly taken from the premise, i.e. on a carry out or drive through basis; and (2) delivered to customers off the premises. Generally speaking, this means that Class A, Class B, Class D, and Class BD7 licensed establishments may, if applicable, continue to make sales of food and alcoholic beverages for off-premise (package goods) consumption only.

Establishments will be monitored by the Baltimore City Police Department and Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) to ensure compliance with the Governor's Executive Order. In addition to sanctions from the BLLC, please note that a licensee and/or individual who knowingly and willfully violates the Executive Order is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

Chairman Matricciani stated that "The Board has directed agency personnel to work with State and local law enforcement officials to ensure that licensees are in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order as it relates to COVID-19." He added, "The BLLC stands ready to assist our State and City partners to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 within Baltimore City."

Please view our website for additional information regarding agency matters: lb.baltimorecity.gov. Additional questions or concerns about this matter should be directed to Thomas R. Akras Deputy Executive Secretary at 410-396-4377 or Thomas.Akras@baltimorecity.gov.