

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

August 2021

COVID-19 August Update

For the latest information, [view the COVID-19 section of our website](#).

Office Remains Closed to General Public:

Please remember, the BLLC requests that all applications, correspondence, and related materials be **mailed in to the office at 1 North Charles St., Suite 1500, Baltimore, MD, 21201**. Phone lines will remain open from 8:30am to 4:30pm each day, though no one will be available in person at the offices.

COVID-19 Restrictions

On August 6, 2021, the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City (BLLC) released guidance for Baltimore City's licensed establishments concerning the Baltimore City Health Department's updated Order as it establishes an indoor mask mandate. To see a copy of the Health Department's Order, please click [here](#). To see a copy of the BLLC's guidance, please click [here](#). Aside from the masking requirement, both Governor Hogan and Mayor Scott have lifted nearly all other COVID-19 restrictions. Normal operations have now resumed, and licensees should be aware of any efforts they must make to be current with licensing and permits.

Virtual Hearings:

The BLLC held its first virtual hearing on May 7, 2020. All hearings are available for [viewing on CharmTV](#). The next hearing will be September 2nd, 2021, [click here for more information](#).

National Night Out

The BLLC would like to recognize the efforts of so many communities across the City in putting on numerous National Night Out (NNO) events. National Night Out is "an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live," as defined by the [NNO website](#). BLLC Deputy Executive Secretary Nicholas Blendy, Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis, and Community Liaison Matt Achhammer joined NNO events across the City hosted by the following organizations: Hilltop 4100 Community Association, No Boundaries Coalition, Greater Greenmount Community Association, Mt. Clare Community Council, Oliver Community, Bayview Community Association, and Highlandtown Community Association.

BLLC Board and staff support and encourage these types of events that foster community-wide partnerships. We are always available to join communities in these efforts. If your community is holding safety walks or community resource events in areas where there are licensed liquor establishments, please don't hesitate to invite us to join you on the walk, by emailing matt.achhammer@baltimorecity.gov with information and details.



Left to right: NNO events from Hilltop 4100, Greater Greenmount, and Highlandtown Community Associations.

Community Questions

Each month our Community Liaison receives questions from neighborhood associations and business organizations across the City. This month, a community member asked about a neighborhood licensed establishment that converted its license from a Class BD-7 to a Class A, effectively changing from an on and off premise format to an off-premise, packaged goods location. State law allows for this conversion: Per Alc. Bev. Art. § 12-902.1, licensee(s) may request to exchange their current Class "BD7" Beer, Wine, and Liquor License with a Class "A-7"; 7-day Beer, Wine & Liquor (Package Goods) license if the licensed premises: (1) was issued on or before July 1, 2018; and (2) obtains approval by resolution of the Baltimore City Council. There is an application and issuance fee of \$100. The process does not require a public hearing for the exchange, instead a City Council resolution is passed and then the exchange occurs through the administrative process.

Any communities or licensees that are interested in this conversion can contact the Liquor Board for questions or concerns. [The application](#) can be found on our website, here: <https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/application-process>