

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

December 2021

COVID-19 December Update

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

Office Remains Closed to General Public

Currently, 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.

A new drop box is available for documents, please click here for more information.

COVID-19 Restrictions

On August 6, 2021, the 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 January 13th, 2022, [click here for more information](#).

New Year's Eve Hours?

For New Year's Eve in Baltimore City, the law allows for licensed establishments to remain open past 2am and for the remainder of the day on January 1st. This does not apply to Package Goods, who hold a Class "A" License. Class "A" licenses must close at midnight as they would on their normal business days. Expect to see your favorite bar or restaurant remaining open beyond 2am if they choose to do so. The BLLC Inspections division will be working all night into the early morning hours to monitor establishments and respond to any concerns.

Please have a safe and happy New Year!

BLLC Warning on Possible License Expiration

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.

BLLC Executive Secretary Douglas Paige implores 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."

Read the full Press Release [here](#).

Any licensee that closed during the COVID-19 Pandemic and has not yet reopened, is urged to contact the BLLC office as soon as possible by calling 410-396-4377.

Happy Holidays from BLLC!

The Board and Staff of BLLC would like to wish all of our stakeholders safe, healthy, and happy holidays and a happy new year! We encourage all of you to reach out to your neighbors, local businesses, friends, and family to see what you can do to support them - remember to patronize and support your licensed establishments as you celebrate!

Chairman of the Board, Albert J. Matricciani, shared the following message: "I would like to thank the staff and all partners for their continued dedication. We hope that you and yours remain safe and healthy during this time. We wish the staff, community, and all of our stakeholders Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!"

