

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

February 2021

COVID-19 February 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 Newest Restrictions

On February 19, 2021 the BLLC released guidance for Baltimore City's licensed establishments concerning Mayor Scott's Revised Executive Order and restrictions on indoor and outdoor dining, effective February 22, 2021. To see a copy of Governor Hogan's Executive Order, please click [here](#). To see a copy of Mayor Scott's Executive Order click [here](#). To see a copy of the BLLC's guidance, please click [here](#). To see a copy of the Contract Tracing Restaurant Sign-In Sheet provided by the Baltimore City Health Department and Mayor Scott, please click [here](#).

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 March 4th, 2021, [click here for more information](#).

2021 License Renewal

Every year license holders are required to submit a renewal application in order to continue operating for the new license year. The renewal period is from March 1 – March 31. New licenses are issued for the license year which starts on May 1 and ends April 30 of each year. In 2020, the Governor extended licensing deadlines and the BLLC ended the licensing year on December 31, 2020. In order to get back to a regular timeline, the Board voted that the 2021 renewal period would proceed as scheduled.

The BLLC website offers information and assistance on the renewal process, including the following documents:

- [Renewal Letter to Licensees 2021](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions for Renewal 2021](#)
 - [Application for Renewal 2021](#)
 - [License Fee List 2021](#)
- [Food Form Class "B" 46th District 2021](#)
- [Class "A" BWL Camera Affidavit](#)
- [Vendor Renewal Form 2021](#)
- [Request for Previous Year Application Form](#)

Community Questions – Protests of Renewal

The BLLC has created a [presentation about the Protest of Renewal process](#).

Additionally, the following resources may be helpful:

- Previous years' Protest of Renewal hearings are archived on Charm City TV's Citizens' Hub, located here: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHAa8zfKf5XO-mNimsy6FfCOD5wbgXNLU>
- This archive will correspond with the dockets for each hearing, in April of each year, found here: <https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/hearings-schedule/archives>

Some important notes and a brief summary of the Protest of Renewal process:

- The protest must be received by the BLLC or be postmarked by March 31, 2021.
- The protest of renewal must be signed by 10 individual signatories within immediate vicinity of the establishment. These cannot be license holders or applicants for a license.
- At the public hearing, parties must present a case in a two phase process:
 - Phase one: The protest must be based on a specific complaint (violations, etc., excluding zoning issues) within the previous license year.
 - Phase two: The Board will consider other evidence and must determine that there is "substantial evidence" that merits non-renewal of the license.

Reminder – Pub Crawls Remain Prohibited



As we approach St. Patrick's Day, the BLLC would like to remind licensees and the public that according to Executive Orders issued by both the Governor and the Mayor, pub crawls remain prohibited. If you see a Pub Crawl advertised, please know it may be a scam, and please contact us so we can further investigate.