

# BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

January 2019

## In the Community



(Photos Courtesy Mark Dennis, Baltimore City Photographer)

The Liquor Board continues to be fully active in Mayor Pugh's Violence Reduction Initiative. On January 17, BLLC Executive Secretary Douglas Paige, Agent John Chrissomallis, and Community Liaison Matt Achhammer all joined the VRI Walk in the Upton neighborhood, walking along Pennsylvania Ave. and Dolphin St. (Shown in the pictures above).

Through continued participation in the VRI plan efforts coupled with increased presence of our inspectors in the community, the Liquor Board has seen a 76% increase in violation hearings held, and a 46% increase in convictions from 2017 to 2018.

For more on the VRI Plan, visit the following link:  
<https://www.baltimorecity.gov/mayor-pughs-violence-reduction-plan>

## Happy New Year!



The Liquor Board Commissioners and Staff wish all of you a Happy New Year! We hope to see you in your communities across the City. Please be in touch with our Community Liaison Matt Achhammer to have him come to your meeting for a brief presentation and question and answer session.

## Schedule of Hearings?

Hearings for transfer, violations, and other issues before the Board are announced in advance and available on our website:

<https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/hearings-schedule>

## Board Decisions?

Missed a hearing and want to know the outcome? Find all past hearings and results at the following link:

<https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/hearings-dispositions>

## Community Questions

Each month our Community Liaison takes questions from Neighborhood Associations across the City. In December 2018, we visited 8 Associations, engaged with 210 people, and answered 30 questions from citizens on a wide range of topics.

One topic raised through questions at recent meetings concerned Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs). MoUs are agreements between two parties that work to achieve a mutually beneficial arrangement, such as between a liquor store and a community association. Our community liaison is currently working on pulling together some sample MoUs from those that currently exist. These sample MoUs will be posted to our website in February.



In December, Executive Secretary Paige visited with the Irvington Community Association. Ms. Dorothy Cunningham, President of the Association, was presented with a citation by Maryland State Delegate Keith Haynes in recognition of the association's work to improve the community. We at BLLC congratulate Ms. Cunningham and the many others across the City working to improve their communities.

**Fun Fact:** Since June 2018, Community Liaison Matt Achhammer has visited with over 80 associations and talked with more than 2000 community members.