

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

January 2020

BLLC Staff News



Retired Chief Inspector Mark Fosler

Chief Inspector Mark Fosler retired in December. The BLLC would like to thank Mark for his many years of service to the agency. Mark had previously served as the Chairman of the Board in 2003-2007, continuing with the agency as Inspector in 2007 and Chief Inspector in 2016. We wish Mark well in his retirement!



Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis

The BLLC would like to congratulate John Chrissomallis on his promotion to Chief Inspector. Since joining the agency in 2015, John has served as Inspector, Agent, and Acting Chief. As Chief Inspector, he will take on responsibility for oversight and management of the inspection division.

Maryland General Assembly In Session



The Maryland General Assembly convened for the 2020 Session on January 8th. State law guides the operations of the BLLC. Each session, new legislation is passed which will affect alcoholic beverage licensing in the City and State. To follow along with the 2020 Session, visit the MD General Assembly website at: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/>

Community Engagement Initiative 6 Month Summary

The Community Engagement Initiative FY2020 6 Month summary is now available on our website: <https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/community-engagement-initiative>

The BLLC engaged with 45 associations across the City from July 2019 to December 2019. If you would like us to visit your association, please contact our Community Liaison at matt.achhammer@baltimorecity.gov

Community Questions

Each month our Community Liaison receives questions from neighborhood associations and business organizations across the City concerning the operations of licensed establishments. In December of 2019, the BLLC visited 5 community associations, 4 special presentations or meetings, engaged with 110 people, and answered 19 questions from citizens on a wide range of topics. The BLLC also participated in a Mayor's Safety Walk in the Southern and Southwestern Police Districts.

As renewal time approaches, the BLLC is often asked about the "Protest of Renewal" process. Every year, alcoholic beverages licensees are required to submit an application to renew the license by March 31st. Under Alcoholic Beverages Article 4-406, if ten or more residents and/or property owners in the immediate vicinity in which the licensed place of business is located object to the renewal of the license based on specific complaints, as per Alcoholic Beverages Article 12-185, to the licensees' establishment during the past license year, the Board may not renew the license until a public hearing has been held. These hearings are held before the April 30th deadline for license issuance.

The BLLC has created a presentation about the Protest of Renewal process: <https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/sites/default/files/Protest%20of%20Renewal%20-%20%20Informational%20Packet%202020.pdf>

Remember: *Petitions for Protest of Renewal are due no later than March 31st, 2020.*

Fun Fact: The Pink Boots Society (<https://www.pinkbootsociety.org/>), a national organization with a chapter in Baltimore City, is a non-profit organization dedicated to assisting, inspiring, and encouraging women beer professionals through education.