

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

January 2023

2023 CIAA Tournament



The BLLC would like to remind the public and our licensees about the upcoming CIAA Tournament to be held in Baltimore from February 21-25, 2023. To learn more about or apply for the CIAA Related Event Promoters Permit, see the links below:

---CIAA Related Event Promoter's Permit Application [\[PDF\]](#)

---CIAA Related Event Promoter's Permit Rules & Regulations [\[PDF\]](#)

---CIAA Related Event Promoter's Permit SOP's [\[PDF\]](#)

Staying Up to Date with BLLC

If you do not currently receive BLLC emails when Hearing Schedules are published, please be sure to [send your email to Kimberly Kerns](#), BLLC Executive Assistant, and ask to be added to the distribution list.

As a reminder, notices such as "Notice of Transfer" and "Hearing Schedules" may always be found on our website at <https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/baltimore-city-liquor-license-board>

Community Association Updates

If your community organization has a change in leadership or contact info, please let us know. Also, we would like to remind community associations or other stakeholder groups that Community Liaison Matt Achhammer is available for informational presentations.

Matt.Achhammer@baltimorecity.gov

Celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

BLLC Executive Secretary Douglas Paige participated in the Mayor's MLK Day Parade on January 16th: Seen below with Sean Stinnett, Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office of Minority and Women-Owned Businesses & Director of Baltimore Main Streets, and Sean with Dana Moore, Chief Equity Officer & Director of the Office of Equity and Civil Rights.



Maryland General Assembly Session

The Maryland General Assembly convened for the 2023 Session on January 11th. As you may know, State law guides the operations of the BLLC. Each session, new legislation is passed which may affect alcoholic beverage licensing in the City and State. To follow along with the 2023 Session, visit the MD General Assembly website at:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/>

Of particular note this year, Mayor Scott has included BLLC in the City's 2023 Legislative Priorities. [Press Release and info from the Mayor's office here](#). Highlights below:



Increase Board of Liquor License Commissioner Maximum Fines. Related to the Citation Authority Bill, currently, the BLLC is constrained in its enforcement actions, and the maximum fine the BLLC may impose for a violation committed by a bar, restaurant, or another establishment is low, in comparison to other boards throughout the State. The BLLC has found that imposing significant fines and lengthy suspensions are effective in correcting licensee behavior and compliance with our Rules, but the Board is unable to impose a fine of more than \$3,000. The Board seeks to alter this section to mirror the penalty authority for Montgomery County's Liquor License Board by issuing fines up to \$20,000. Lastly, the Board currently does not have the ability to adopt rules to carry out the penalty enforcement; language specifically authorizing this will allow the Board to be more efficient. **Local Bill.**

2023 BLLC License Renewal Coming Soon

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. Look for details and application materials coming soon on the BLLC website (<https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/renewal>) and in this newsletter.