

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

June 2019

Legislative Updates



The Baltimore City Council and the Maryland General Assembly have recently passed legislation concerning the adult entertainment industry operating within Baltimore City. BLLC is responsible for licensing and regulation of the adult entertainment industry within Baltimore City and would like to share the following updates:

Human trafficking legislation passed by Baltimore City Council will require all licensed adult entertainment establishments to post signage concerning how to identify and report human trafficking. The legislation can be found at [this link](#).

The **MD General Assembly** passed House Bill 959 that will go into effect on July 1, 2019. The law requires anyone entering an adult entertainment establishment within Baltimore City to be at least 21 years of age. The law makes exemptions for employees of the establishment as well as active duty members of the US Armed Forces, where the age remains 18.

Special Announcement

BLLC emails have resumed functionality following the recent ransomware attack. Please use the previous City email addresses for online correspondence with the agency. *The BLLC will no longer monitor the temporary Gmail addresses after July 2019.* The main office remains accessible by phone at 410-396-4377, and fax at 410-396-4382. The main web page remains accessible at <http://www.llb.baltimorecity.gov>

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Community Questions

Each month our Community Liaison receives questions from neighborhood associations and business organizations across the City. In May, the BLLC visited 5 community associations, engaged with 263 people, and answered 15 questions from citizens on a wide range of topics.

The question of how BLLC staff works with other agencies to conduct enforcement measures outside of BLLC jurisdiction is a common question posed to our agency. The BLLC partners with other City agencies through the Social Club Task Force which consists of BLLC staff and personnel from the Health Department, Fire Department, Housing Code Enforcement Division, and the Baltimore City Police Department. The Task Force visits establishments concurrently to ensure compliance in the many different areas of licensing and regulation.

The BLLC also works with other City agencies through the Mayor's Violence Reduction Initiative meetings and walks. BLLC staff attend these meetings and scheduled walks in specific neighborhoods, coordinating with other City partners concerning issues which may include licensed liquor establishments.

Fun Fact: One of the reasons Maryland is often referred to as "The Free State" is that it refused to participate in Prohibition, allowing the use and sale of alcohol within the State while it remained illegal in the rest of the Country.