

# BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

March 2024

## BLLC Proposed 2024 Rules and Regulations

On Monday, March 18th, 2024, The Board announced the publication of its proposed 2024 Alcoholic Beverages Rules and Regulations as well as its 2024 Adult Entertainment Rules and Regulations, and formally opened the 30 days public comment as required by both state and local law. The Alcoholic Beverages Rules and Regulations, based on and guided by State law, were previously posted for 30 days in August of 2023. The current version reflects any feedback incorporated during that initial comment period and [can be found here](#).

The Adult Entertainment Rules and Regulations are required by Baltimore City Code, and therefore the draft rules were published in the Code of Baltimore Regulations Annotated Register (COBRA) on Friday, March 15, 2024. They can be accessed on the [COBRA website](#).

The public may submit comments on both sets of draft Rules and Regulations to [BLLC Email](#). At 11:59 pm on April 17th, 2024, the BLLC will close the comment period to the public and review all suggested amendments, modifications, and additions to the proposed rules and regulations. Upon receipt and review of the comments regarding the proposed Rules and Regulations, the Board will make a determination as to the final version of its proposed rules and regulations to be adopted at the April 18th hearing of the Board.

[Read the full Press Release here](#).

## 2024 BLLC License Renewal

Every year license holders are required to submit a renewal application to continue operating for the new license year. (*Renewal period: March 1 – 31*). Applications filed after March 31 will be subject to a late penalty of \$50 per day. [BLLC's Renewal Webpage](#)

## St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

As Baltimore celebrated St. Patrick's Day this year, pub tour events were permitted to be held in Federal Hill, Fells Point, and Canton. BLLC inspection staff, Deputy Executive Secretary, and Community Liaison were present for the Baltimore Shamrock Crawl in Fells Point and the Federal Hill Irish Stroll, both on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, and monitored the Canton Irish Stroll on March 9<sup>th</sup>.



## BLLC Recognized by The Baltimore Banner for Openness and Transparency

On March 12, The Baltimore Banner published an article titled ["Sunshine Week: Maryland's best and worst agencies for open records and government transparency."](#) Banner Editor In Chief Kimi Yoshino applauded the BLLC as one of four agencies with a "commitment to making it easier for the public to obtain information." BLLC appreciates the spotlight and looks forward to continuing to provide all stakeholders with access.

**Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City:** The board makes records, specifically liquor license applications, available in a consistent and timely manner while also protecting the privacy of businesses. Detailed [hearing schedules](#) are posted online and communicated to the public via email.

## BLLC Welcomes New Staff Members

BLLC is pleased to welcome two new staff members to the team: **Sophia Reid-Marsh** is joining as the Liquor Board Accountant. Ms. Reid-Marsh is originally from Jamaica, now a Baltimore City resident, bringing with her over 15 years of professional experience in accounting. **Nazir Zain** joins the inspections division at the level of Inspector I. Mr. Zain has 6 plus years of experience in the retail commercial profession, and also speaks Urdu, Punjabi, and Hindi. **We are excited to welcome them both to the team!**

