

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

November 2018

In the Community



BLLC Agent Chrissomallis on the recent VRI walk in Reservoir Hill.

BLLC is one of many City agencies working together as part of the Mayor's Violence Reduction Initiative (VRI). Weekly walks are held in neighborhoods across the City, and BLLC staff are always in attendance.

On Wednesday, November 7th, Deputy Executive Secretary Thomas Akras, Agent John Chrissomallis, and Community Liaison Matt Achhammer joined the walk in the Reservoir Hill community.

The VRI walks give agencies a greater chance to communicate with each other and the community on code enforcement and quality of life issues. The BLLC focuses on the licensed establishments within and around the area of the walk.

To learn more, visit: <https://moss-citistatsmart.baltimorecity.gov/mayors-violence-reduction-initiative>

311 – On the Record



We encourage community members across the City to use 311 to submit complaints regarding licensed establishments. This enables our inspectors to see a record of complaints and actions, and allows citizens to have follow up by referencing the Service Request (SR) number. 311 can be accessed via phone call, [online submission](#), or using the [Mobile 311 App](#).

One Day Licenses?

Hosting a fundraiser for your organization, a block party, or a festival? You may need a one-day license and we can help:

<https://llb.baltimorecity.gov/application-process>

Good Neighbors?

Does your community have a good relationship with a Liquor Store, Bar, or Restaurant owner? We want to hear about it. Email Matt with your story:

matt.achhammer@baltimorecity.gov

Community Questions

Each month, our Community Liaison takes questions from Neighborhood Associations across the city. In October, we visited 13 Associations, engaged with 342 people, and answered 52 questions from citizens on a wide range of topics.

At the October 3rd meeting of the York Road Partnership a community member inquired as to what an inspector does when a routine inspection is performed. Agent Darryl Clark responded by giving a narrative on how an inspection is conducted from the first step of taking photos upon arrival, to a walkthrough of the whole establishment which includes checking for operating restrooms, making sure alcohol stock is purchased through distributors, reviewing 911 call logs, verifying all licenses are up to date, and much more.

In visits with various community stakeholders over the past few months, Matt has been asked how the community can engage licensees and establish a relationship to ensure that there are open lines of communication between both parties. Though it may seem simple, his answer has been to reach out by visiting, emailing, or calling the licensee. Many communities have had great success with the first call or email, others may take a little longer, but when communication happens, it can lead to an improved relationship for both the licensee and the community members. Please feel free to reach out to Matt and BLLC for help in contacting licensees.

Fun Fact: Special Sunday Licenses: Packaged Goods "A" licensees may open on Sundays from Thanksgiving to Christmas upon application with the Liquor Board. Approved licensees are required to display a "Supplemental Sunday" License.