

BLLC Community Connection

A Community Engagement Newsletter from the Baltimore City Liquor Board

October 2021

COVID-19 October Update

For the latest information, [view the COVID-19 section of our website](#).

Office Remains Closed to General Public

Currently, the BLLC requests that all applications, correspondence, and related materials be **mailed in to the office at 1 North Charles St., Suite 1500, Baltimore, MD, 21201**. Phone lines will remain open from 8:30am to 4:30pm each day, though no one will be available in person at the offices. **A new drop box is available for documents, [please click here for more information](#).**

COVID-19 Restrictions

On August 6, 2021, the BLLC released guidance for Baltimore City's licensed establishments concerning the Baltimore City Health Department's updated Order as it establishes an indoor mask mandate. To see a copy of the Health Department's Order, please click [here](#). To see a copy of the BLLC's guidance, please click [here](#). Aside from the masking requirement, both Governor Hogan and Mayor Scott have lifted nearly all other COVID-19 restrictions. Normal operations have now resumed, and licensees should be aware of any efforts they must make to be current with licensing and permits.

Virtual Hearings:

The BLLC held its first virtual hearing on May 7, 2020. All hearings are available for [viewing on CharmTV](#). The next hearing will be November 4th, 2021, [click here for more information](#).

Halloween 2021 – BLLC, City Agencies Collaborating to Address Safety Concerns

Halloween is one of the busiest times of the year for the BLLC Inspection Division, this year occurring on and around Sunday, October 31st. Though the celebration of Halloween in 2020 was more restrained due to the state of the pandemic, 2021 is expected to be more festive and back to the atmosphere of previous years, and we can expect to see many celebrations across the City.

The BLLC Inspection Division is working in collaboration with City agencies to prepare for Halloween festivities in multiple neighborhoods. In Fell's Point, for example, BLLC is working with Council Member Cohen's office (District 1) and a group comprised of the Baltimore Police Department, Department of Transportation, Department of Public Works, and others, to coordinate preparations for a safe Halloween.

On October 29th, 30th, and 31st BLLC Inspectors, along with Executive Staff, will be present across the City, particularly in Fells Point and Federal Hill, to monitor licensed establishments and compliance with safe operations requirements and COVID-19 Regulations. Inspectors will visit establishments and remind licensees about concerns such as proper ID checking, noise levels, crowd control, and abiding by protective face covering requirements.



Pictures from previous Halloween celebrations in Baltimore.

Community Questions Using 311 to Contact the Liquor Board

The BLLC encourages citizens to submit complaints for licensed liquor establishments using the 311 system. These complaints may include, but are not limited to, concerns such as: noise, overcrowding, operating beyond allowed hours, general disturbances. Other criminal concerns such as loitering, prostitution, and drug dealing should be directed to 911 and the BPD. *In the case of an immediate threat to public safety, call 911.*

You can **access 311** by phone (dial 3-1-1), online ([Click here](#)), or by using the app ([Click here](#)). **After 10 pm, no calls, but you can use the online form or the app 24 hours a day.**

Please note the following as they apply to BLLC and 311:

---Our agents take each request seriously. They would be happy to talk to you to get more information, and if this is the case, **please don't forget to include your phone number and/or email when filing your complaint.**

---**Inspectors file a response for each 311 complaint**, call in to 3-1-1 to retrieve this.

---**Timing:** We advise community members to enter 311 complaints in a timely fashion at or as close to the time of occurrence as possible.

---**Two important reminders:** Keep a record of your SR# (Service Request #) and make sure the complaint is directed to the Liquor Board.