Frequently Asked Questions - Refillable Containers (Growlers) and Wine Corkage

1. Refillable Containers (Growlers) Information

Effective July 1, 2012, the BLLC may issue a refillable container license to the holders of any class of alcoholic beverage license except Class "C" or Class MG (Municipal Golf Course) license to sell draft beer for consumption off the premises in a certain refillable container. The Board may issue a refillable container license under the following conditions:

- a) The Refillable Container must:
 - (i) Have a capacity of not less than 32 ounces and not more than 128 ounces
 - (ii) Be sealable
 - (iii) Be Branded with an identifying mark of the license holder
 - (iv) Bear the federal health warning statement required for containers of alcoholic beverages
 - (v) Display instructions for cleaning the container
 - (vi) Bear a label concerning cleaning the container and that the contents are perishable, must be refrigerated and should be consumed within 48 hours of purchase.
- b) The hours of sale for a refillable container begin at the same time as those for the license already held by the licensee but sales must end at midnight.
- c) A license holder may refill only a refillable container that bears his identifying mark.
- d) Receipts collected under the refillable container license must be included in the calculation of average daily receipts from the sale of alcohol for those licensees who must provide this information.
- e) For a licensee who holds a license that allows off premises sale of alcohol, the applicant must complete a form provided by the Board and pay an annual fee of \$50.
- f) For a licensee whose alcoholic beverage license does not permit off-premise sales of alcohol, the licensee must file an application with the Board so that request may be advertised, posted, and considered at a public hearing. The annual fee for the refillable container license for these licensees will be \$500.

2. Wine Corkage

Effective July 1, 2012, the Board may authorize the holders of Class "B" restaurants and hotel licenses or Class "C" clubs licenses to allow a patron to bring wine onto the licensed premises under the following circumstances:

- a) The patron receives the approval of the licensee to bring wine onto the licensed premises. We suggest that you post a conspicuous notice outlining your rules concerning wine corkage.
- b) The consumer must be at least 21 years of age and it remains your responsibility not to serve alcohol to an intoxicated person even if you have not provided the wine.
- c) The patron must order a meal in order to consume the wine.
- d) The wine brought onto your premises must not be available through your wine list.
- e) The hours that wine corkage is allowed are the same as the hours for your license.
- f) A licensee may charge a corkage fee to which the State Sales tax will apply. If you have questions concerning the sales tax, contact the State Comptroller's Office at 1-800-638-2937.
- g) Either the licensee must dispose of any wine that remains after a meal or the patron may take the unused wine if the bottle is re-corked or capped.
- h) There is no charge to the licensee for the permit to allow wine corkage. However, there is an application fee of \$20.00 to process the request of a licensee to add the corkage privilege to the license if approved.