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## MARYLAND ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION

### *Alcoholic Beverages Summit 2022 Summary*

To all Summit Attendees and Interested Stakeholders,

On October 6, 2022, the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission (ATC) hosted its inaugural Alcoholic Beverages Summit. During the Summit the ATC engaged its stakeholders in a question-and-answer session to address topical issues concerning the agency's rules and regulations. There were several complex issues regarding manufacturing, wholesaler, and retailer challenges and practices that were raised and discussed. The ATC is thankful for the license holders, local liquor board administrators and regulators, and industry representatives that participated in the event.

While there were many questions the ATC could answer, there were many topics that either merited further discussion or were not within the purview of the agency. Below is a summary of the topics that were discussed during the Summit.

#### **Alcoholic Beverages Summit Topics:**

- Credit Control process improvements
- Retailer, Wholesaler, and Distributor relations and trade practices
- Process to obtain Public Transportation Permits and Vehicle IDs
- Stock Rotation, including expiration of products and practices of seasonal business
- Price and Product availability and interactions between larger and smaller retailers
- Promotional Activities, including limits on advertising item costs
- Distributor appointment notification process and timelines

As mentioned during the Summit, the ATC will soon convene a workgroup composed of manufacturers, distributors, retailers, and local licensing administrators and regulators, to discuss these topics in greater detail. The core topics above will form the basis for the workgroup's agenda. The group will also provide feedback on other topics of interest to the ATC, such as special/promotional packaging and wine and distilled spirits distributorship appointments. This group will meet in the coming months to work on proposals to improve our regulations and identify legislative issues.



## **General Q&A:**

***Q: Who is the point of contact for tax questions and issues?***

**A:** Questions about tax calculations, reporting requirements, and tax requirements should continue to be directed to the Comptroller of the Treasury, rather than to the ATC. All inquiries should be directed to taxpayer services which can be reached at 1-800-638-2937 by phone and [taxhelp@marylandtaxes.gov](mailto:taxhelp@marylandtaxes.gov) by email.

***Q: Is the ATC hiring more agents to handle enforcement across the state?***

**A:** Yes, the ATC is actively recruiting new agents. Anyone interested in applying should visit [State of Maryland Job Openings - State of Maryland \(jobapscloud.com\)](http://StateofMarylandJobOpenings-StateofMaryland(jobapscloud.com)) and search for Alcohol and Tobacco Commission.

***Q: Are there regulations that govern whether an alcoholic beverages retailer can sell tobacco products on behalf of a third-party tobacco seller by installing a countertop humididor?***

**A:** There is no provision which would allow an alcohol beverages retailer to sell tobacco on behalf of an off-site tobacco retailer, using that tobacco retailer's license.

## **ATC Contact Information:**

If you have any further questions related to the Summit or topics during the Summit, do not hesitate to contact the ATC. For matters related to the Summit and workgroup, please directly email at the following email address: [AlcoholSummit2022@mdatc.gov](mailto:AlcoholSummit2022@mdatc.gov)

For other questions and topics, please refer to the following list of contact numbers and email addresses:

### **Maryland Alcohol & Tobacco Commission Contacts**

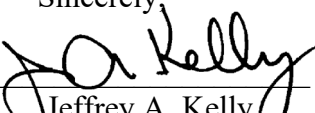
- General Information: 443-300-6990
- Alcohol & Tobacco Licensing: 410-260-7314 or [Licensing@MDATC.gov](mailto:Licensing@MDATC.gov)
  - All licensing and renewal inquiries, application status checks
- Credit Control Reporting Inquires: [Credit@MDATC.gov](mailto:Credit@MDATC.gov)
  - Wine & Distilled Spirits Credit Control Reporting System for MD Wholesalers/Retailers
- Beer Franchise Submissions or Inquiries: [BeerFranchise@MDATC.gov](mailto:BeerFranchise@MDATC.gov)
  - New beer registration, additional sizes, label changes, inquiries



- Alcohol Transportation Permit Inquiries: [TransportationPermit@MDATC.gov](mailto:TransportationPermit@MDATC.gov)
  - MD Public Transportation Permits & VIDS for transporting Alcohol in MD, inquiries, application status checks
- Planned Promotion Submissions or Inquiries: [PlannedPromotions@MDATC.gov](mailto:PlannedPromotions@MDATC.gov)
  - Wholesaler Promotional Activities Form submission, Sweepstakes and Contests approvals, Wholesaler monthly tastings submissions, Coupons, Package approvals, inquiries.
- Tips on Alcohol and Tobacco violations: [Tips@MDATC.gov](mailto:Tips@MDATC.gov)
  - Report any suspicious activity concerning MD Alcohol & Tobacco
- PACT Act Compliance Submissions: [PACTActCompliance@MDATC.gov](mailto:PACTActCompliance@MDATC.gov)
  - Submission of PACT (Prevent all Cigarette Trafficking) Act Registration Forms, inquires

In closing, I want to personally thank everyone who participated in this year's Summit. Please stay tuned for updates in the coming weeks as we convene the workgroup. Only with engagement and support of all our stakeholders can we achieve the ATC's mission to successfully regulate the alcoholic beverages industry in Maryland.

Sincerely,

  
Jeffrey A. Kelly  
Executive Director

