



Working with your Liquor Control Agent

Illinois Higher Education Center Webinar
January 26, 2012

Training Objectives

- Understand the role of the Illinois Liquor Control Commission (ILCC) and Local Liquor Control
- Review the Units within ILCC
- Understand the responsibilities of the state agent and how they may impact your community
- Discuss benefits of their involvement
- Review ways to get them involved in your community

ILCC Mission Statement



STATE OF ILLINOIS

LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION

NEWS

“To protect the health, safety and welfare of the people of Illinois through careful control and regulation of the manufacture, distribution and sale of alcoholic liquors and through the development of strategies to reduce youth access to tobacco products.”

About the Commission - Divisions

- Licensing
 - Manages approximately 28,000 licenses in the state
 - Processes 200 new licenses and 2000 renewals a month
 - Licensing offices in Chicago and Springfield
 - Illinois is dual licensing so a license must be first issued by the local licensing authority.



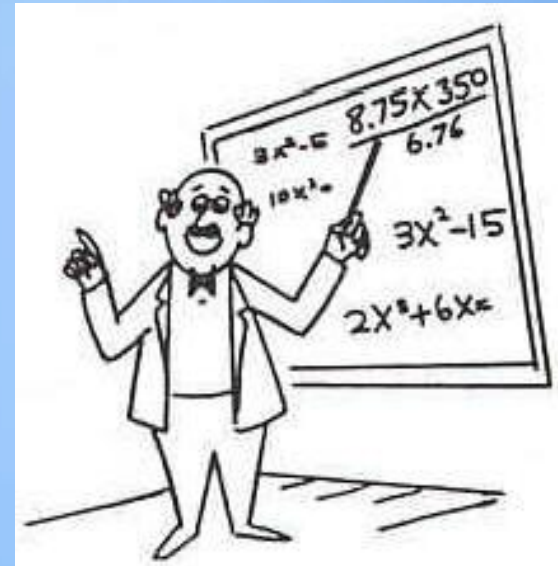
About the Commission - Divisions



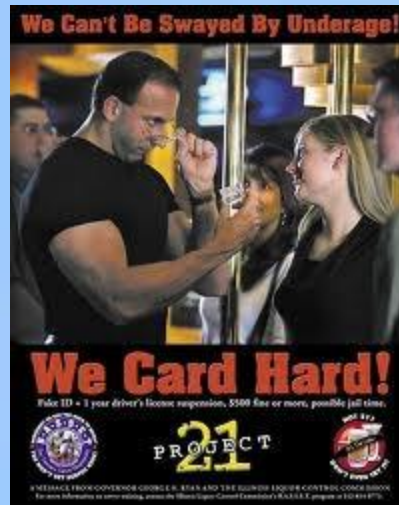
- Legal
 - Interprets Illinois Liquor Control Act and Rules and Regulations of the commission for commission and the general public
 - Reviews and prepares cases for hearing.

About the Commission - Divisions

- Industry Education
 - Educates the liquor industry on laws that govern liquor and tobacco sales
 - Provides a variety of informational materials to licensees and the public on alcohol related issues.



About the Commission - Divisions



- Industry Education
 - Promotes and manages specific programs
 - *Kids Can't Buy 'Em Here* Tobacco Program
 - Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education and Training (BASSET)
 - *Don't Be Sorry* Under 21 Program

About the Commission - Divisions

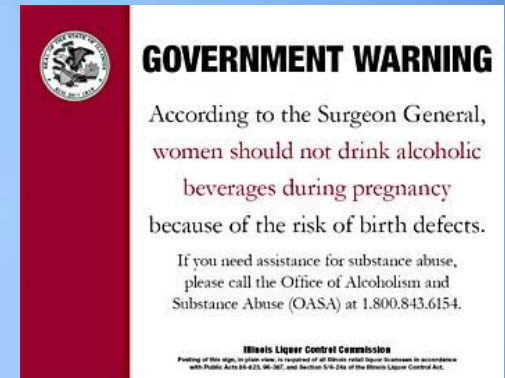
- Investigations
 - 24 agents through out the state
 - Conducts over 26,000 routine inspections of licensed premises
 - Conducts both alcohol and tobacco compliance checks often with the assistance of local police.
 - Assists local police in conducting investigations of licensee misconduct.
 - Serves as a liaison to local liquor commissioners and law enforcement agencies.

State Agents – What do they do?

- Specifically trained to address and enforce the Illinois Liquor Control Act
- Regulatory only...no police powers
- May issue notices of violations to businesses however would need state or local support to address criminal violations
- Has ability to inspect at a broader level than most local law enforcement officers

Routine Inspections

- What are they looking for???
- Cleanliness of business as a whole
- Warning Signs
- Cleaning of Dispensing Equipment
- Pre-Mix alcoholic beverages
- Shot glass and auto dispensing equipment
- Refilling of bottles and containers
- Bottle testing / condition of bottles



Routine Inspections

- What are they looking for???
 - Taps and Tap Handles
 - Availability of Advertised Brands
 - Prohibition of Happy Hour
 - Sales to Minors and Intoxicated Patrons
 - Licenses displayed
 - Tax stamps and other permits



Your Local Liquor Control Commissioner

- Who is the Local Liquor Control Commissioner?
 - By law, the mayor, president of the Board of Trustees for city, town or village or for unincorporated areas, the president or chairman of the County Board.
 - May delegate a deputy liquor commissioner to assist in handling responsibilities.

Your Local Liquor Control Commissioner

- Local Liquor Commissioners may:
 - Determine the number, kind and classification of licenses
 - Set the hours of operation and restrict Sunday sales
 - Establish license fees
 - Enact further regulations and restrictions applicable to local liquor licenses
 - Investigate applicants before issuing or renewing licenses

Your Local Liquor Control Commissioner

- Local Liquor Commissioners may:
 - Determine age of employment and age of entry to licensed establishments
 - Impose fines, suspend or revoke for violations of state and local codes
 - Inspect licensed premises and examine financial records
 - Some actions may require the approval of the council, board or committee.

Benefits of Working Together

- By working with your state agent you bring in the resources of the state.
- Licensing issues can be more completely investigated since there are two separate files (state and local)
- Charging options are expanded as you can work cases from a state or local aspect.
- There is no double jeopardy if both agencies decide to charge.

Benefits of Working Together

- You can get a more defined understanding of the laws since cases are typically appealed to the state commission.
- Statute requires both a local and state license, delinquent fee's and fines are more likely to be collected.
- Easier to file a complaint against a licensee.
- Information sharing.

Building the Relationship

- Get to know your local agent
- Find out what they are doing in your area and who they see as problem locations
- Find out what he or she is willing to bring to the table.
- Get them involved in your liquor control issues.
- Invite them to participate in your enforcement efforts

Building the Relationship

- Most agents are more than willing to work with local communities.
- Since they are regulatory only, they may need to have contacts with in the local community and it's law enforcement.

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