March 23, 2020

To All Interested Licensees,

In further response to actions taken by Governor Stitt as well as local officials to the Covid-19 pandemic, wherein some on-premise retail establishments such as bars and restaurants have been ordered to close for various periods, the Oklahoma ABLE Commission provides the following guidance, together with previous direction provided on this date, in an effort to aid affected licensees.

1. A licensed beer distributor, small brewer self-distributor, or brewpub self-distributor may accept the return of original unopened packages of beer products from any on-premise beer and wine, mixed beverage, or cater/mixed beverage licensee that will expire or fall outside the manufacturer’s recommended use date during the period of any governmentally mandated closure of such licensee. All such returns shall be documented on customary invoices and be available for inspection according to applicable record retention rules of the Commission.

2. Mixed beverage, caterer/mixed beverage, and on-premise beer and wine licensees whose primary purpose is that of a restaurant, qualifying as a “Type-2” establishment wherein persons under 21 are allowed to enter, may sell closed original packages of beer and wine only when ancillary to and in conjunction with food sales, and when such sales are completed in a curbside pick-up or drive through manner only. Deliveries of alcoholic beverages to consumers shall remain prohibited. Authorized hours for sales pursuant to this section shall be made during regularly authorized hours pursuant to the license held, unless restricted by federal, state, or municipal order.

The authorities granted above shall expire on April 17, 2020 unless amended or revoked on a prior date. Any questions on this issue should be directed to Steven Barker at 405-522-3050, or by email at steven.barker@able.ok.gov.

Respectfully,

A. Keith Burt
Director

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