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## BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

FOR BALTIMORE CITY

6TH FLOOR, 231 E. BALTIMORE STREET

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21202-3258

(410) 396-4377

October 1, 2007

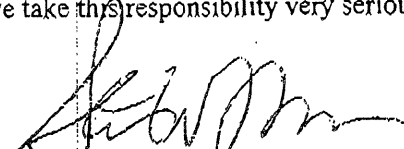
Dear Community Leader:

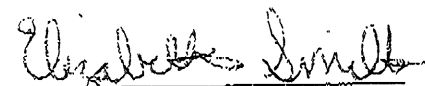
In April, Governor Martin O'Malley appointed us to the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City. Since then we have been listening to community members about transfers and problem establishments. We have learned that we need to hear from the community when a license is transferring in your area. If the establishment is open and operating, it is not usually possible for us to stop the transfer, but we can put a new owner on notice of problems concerning the licensed premises.


Our staff has been instructed to tell all applicants for transfer that they must contact the community organization in the area where their business is located. If the license is for a new business or the present business is transferring from a creditor, moving to a new location, or has been closed for more than 90 days, state law requires us to consider several factors which include the impact of the license on the general health, safety and welfare of the community including issues relating to crime, traffic, parking or convenience. We ask that you meet with applicants when they contact you, but we also suggest that you not hesitate to contact our office and request to meet with the applicants before the transfer is considered by the Board.

**Effective October 15, 2007, if you are having problems with an establishment in your neighborhood, please call Baltimore City's 311 line.** Our inspectors will respond based on your complaints to that number. We think that this change will help our inspectors respond more efficiently and effectively to your complaints. You also do not have to wait for renewal to request a hearing concerning a problem business. A petition outlining specific problems and signed by ten people with the request for a hearing is an option available anytime during the license year. Call our office for more details on how to do this; our staff will assist you in meeting the requirements of this section of state law.

Our current notice of transfers and our schedule of hearings are always posted on the City's website at [www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/liquor/index.php](http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us/government/liquor/index.php). If you want to contact us individually, our email addresses are as follows: [Stephan.fogleman@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Stephan.fogleman@baltimorecity.gov), [Elizabeth.smith@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.smith@baltimorecity.gov) & [Harvey.jones@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Harvey.jones@baltimorecity.gov). or you can always leave a message at the number listed above for one of us to contact you. You may not always agree with our decisions, but we will always listen and consider your testimony in making those decisions. State law requires us to administer and enforce the liquor laws of the State of Maryland for the City of Baltimore; we take this responsibility very seriously and look forward to working with you in the coming months.


  
Stephan Fogleman, Chairman


  
Elizabeth C. Smith, Commissioner


  
Harvey E. Jones, Commissioner