



MEMORANDUM

TO: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board DATE: June 21, 2022
FROM: Carrie Craig, Records and Licensing Supervisor RE: Licensing Report

As you know, I had the honor to serve as AMCO's Acting Director in the interim after former Director Klinkhart resigned and Director Wilson came onboard. The experience was challenging, as I expected it to be, and I was way outside of my comfort zone, but I love a good challenge and a chance to gain more knowledge and skills. I am deeply grateful for the trust that was given to me by the governor, my supervisors/peers and by members of the alcohol and marijuana industries. Thank you for the opportunity and thank you to staff for assisting me and putting up with all my questions.

Staff Changes

I am pleased to report that there have been no staff changes in Licensing since the April board meetings. That said, with the passing of Senate Bill 9, Licensing will gain a new examiner position in the next fiscal year which will give us three alcohol examiners and three marijuana examiners. Director Wilson and I have already been working with our Administrative Officer, Maya, to get the position posted as soon as we are able. Per Director Wilson's report, AMCO will be onboarding a specialist to assist with SB 9 regulations implementation this fiscal year (July 1, 2022).

Additionally, we are looking at bringing on a long-term, non-permanent position to handle application intake for a limited period of time (four to six months). Intake is different than the thorough review and processing an examiner completes. Performing intake consists of processing fees, creating files, data entry, a quick review of the application documents to verify the bare minimum requirements have been met and so forth. Staff can attest that managing intake is a full-time task which strips away valuable time that the examiners could be utilizing to process applications that have already secured their place in the queue.

Again, big thanks to the Licensing and Administrative staff for their hard work, dedication and excellent sense of humor over the last few months. In the letter attached to this report, you will find praise for AMCO staff which I am very proud of. This year has been busy and will only get busier for all staff in the coming months with Senate Bill 9 coming into fruition.

Alcohol License Application Statistics

Renewals

In September 2021, there were a total of 926 licenses that were due to renew for the 2022-2023 cycle. Wrapping this season up, we have determined there were approximately 30 licenses that chose not to renew or failed to renew this year. There is a wide range of different license types that were expired, mostly 1 to 4 licenses each, however there were 18 REPLs that were not renewed.

To date we have received and reviewed 899 renewal applications and out of that total there are only 16 applications that are still pending corrections from licensees. I anticipate you will see these 16 renewals at our September meeting in Fairbanks. These licenses are still operating under temporary renewals until your consideration.

On today's agenda, there are 2 reinstatement and renewal requests and 191 other renewal applications for the board's consideration. For comparison, at the June 2021 meeting I reported there were 79 renewals and 2 reinstatement requests on that agenda for the board to review.

New/Transfer Applications

Since January 1, 2022 to the date of this report, we have received a total of 141 new and transfer applications. At our previous meeting, I reported 103 had been received. For comparison, in 2021 AMCO received 88 new and transfers within the same timeframe. Currently there are 19 of these applications in the queue waiting for review by an examiner. At the previous meeting, I stated we had 69 applications in this queue.

On today's agenda, you will see there are approximately 80 new and transfer applications for the board's consideration.

As described in Director Wilson's report, AMCO will also schedule a meeting with licensees and their legal counsel to identify ways to address the backlog in the queue, including reorganizing review based on industry interest and board consent.

Permit Application Statistics

In addition to managing the front desk, phones and walk-ins, Jennifer has continued to be very busy with permit applications. Since January 1, 2022 to the date of this report, AMCO received 541 permit applications and out of that total, issued approximately 506 permits.

In 2021 during the same time frame, 236 permit applications were submitted to our office and we issued approximately 228 permits. However, a better comparison would be pre-pandemic 2019 when we had received 691 applications and issued 669 permits from January 1st to May 16th of that year.

Reminders

Licensing questions/concerns/applications may be submitted via email to alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov, except for fingerprints and payments, or you may call 907-269-0350 and follow the necessary prompts.

Permit questions/concerns/applications may be sent to amco.permits@alaska.gov or you may call 907-269-0350 and follow the necessary prompts.

AMCO staff continues to work diligently to keep wait times as short as possible.



May 2, 2022

Honorable Mike Dunleavy
Governor, State of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Dunleavy:

Thank you so much for taking the time to visit *Mardi Gras* on your recent trip to Florida. I enjoyed meeting with you. I write today to offer my sincere thanks to several State of Alaska employees that were extremely supportive in helping the tourism industry in Alaska.

Both Carnival Spirit and Carnival Splendor are deployed to Alaska this season, after having a very long pause of operations. It was good for both Carnival and for the people of Alaska that these two ships were sent to Alaska, as they will bring tens of thousands of guests to your wonderful State. Because of the last-minute nature of their deployment, neither of the ships had a current Alaska liquor license.

The Alaska Marijuana and Alcohol Control Office (AMCO) was professional, responsive and they worked tirelessly so we could receive the licenses necessary to operate. We cannot tell you how much we appreciate their work to ensure a successful season for both ships as well as the communities and businesses that depend on the tourism economic activity that these ships will generate.

A special thanks to Licensing Examiners Regina Cruz and Audrey Saylor as well as Criminal Justice Technician Jason Davies for their extra efforts on this matter. And an extra special thanks to Acting Director Carrie Craig. Without all of their efforts we would not have had a successful effort to begin the season on time.

We understand the importance that AMCO has in ensuring that licensing goes smoothly and that the licensees are appropriately regulated. We cannot thank AMCO staff enough for their extra efforts on this issue.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Duffy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Christine Duffy
President, Carnival Cruise Line

cc: Julie Sande, Commissioner, Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development
Carrie Craig, Acting Director, Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
Dana Walukiewicz, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Chair
Diane Thompson, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Vice-Chair
David Koch, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Member
Doug Moore, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Member
Janice Hill, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Member