



Department of Commerce

Division of Liquor Control
Sheryl Maxfield, Director

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Direction for Liquor Permit Holders Regarding COVID-19 Closure Orders

In response to COVID-19, also known as coronavirus, Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH issued an order prohibiting the sale of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption and restricting all alcohol sales to those in sealed containers for off-premises consumption, effective 9 p.m. March 15.

The Division wants all permit holders to know that sales for on-premises consumption are now prohibited and failure to comply with the order may subject a permit holder to administrative action against their liquor permit, which could include emergency order of suspension, citation, rejection of a renewal or transfer application, or revocation.

Permit holders should look at their permit. It will tell them what privileges they have, and which products can be sold for carry out, if any. Only state Contract Liquor Agencies have the ability to sell high-proof spirituous liquor for carry out.

The Division appreciates permit holders' cooperation and looks forward to getting back to business as usual in Ohio.

Order Violation Investigations

The Division's Investigative Service Section is coordinating with the Ohio Department of Public Safety's Ohio Investigative Unit to investigate any violations of this order. If you have any questions regarding this order or would like to report a violation, you may contact the following individuals.

Please note, neither entity has the authority over food service at a bar or restaurant, and only has jurisdiction over serving alcohol at the premise.

Contact information for the Division of Liquor Control's Investigative Services Supervisors and Legal Counsel:

- Frank Chung, Eastern Ohio Region, 614-546-8492, Frank.Chung@com.state.oh.us
- Shaun Powers, Western Ohio Region, 614-546-5658, Shaun.Powers@com.state.oh.us
- Andre Smith, Eastern and Western Regions, 614-419-9876, Andre.Smith@com.state.oh.us
- Dominic Panzera, Legal Counsel, Ohio Division of Liquor Control, 614-644-2489, Dominic.Panzera@com.state.oh.us

Contact information for the Department of Public Safety's Ohio Investigative Unit District Supervisors and Legal Counsel:

- George Pitre, Akron AIC, 330-497-5411, gjpitre@dps.ohio.gov
- Erik Lockhart, Athens AIC, 740-357-5840, eglockhart@dps.ohio.gov
- Adam Johnson, Cincinnati AIC, 513-942-0610, asjohnson@dps.ohio.gov
- Greg Croft, Cleveland AIC, 216-898-1870, gacroft@dps.ohio.gov
- Sam Love, Columbus AIC, 614-644-2413, hslove@dps.ohio.gov
- Sawn Tatter, Toledo AIC, 419-866-9907, STatter@dps.ohio.gov
- Michelle Thourot, Central Office AIC, 614-644-2415, mlthourot@dps.ohio.gov
- Anne Vitale, Associate Legal Counsel, Department of Public Safety, 614-387-0414, apvitale@dps.ohio.gov