
Empire State Restaurant & Tavern Association

Report From The Executive Director...Scott Wexler

November 2023

Year-End Retailer Inventory Replenishment Approved - At the request of wine and liquor wholesalers, the Liquor Authority has approved relief from posted price schedules to facilitate year-end retailer inventory replenishment. While traditionally viewed as a benefit for off-premises licensees, this authorization allows all licensees with sufficient time to restock their liquor and wine inventories using wholesalers' traditionally lower December prices.

Wholesalers of liquor & wine may accept retailer orders until 6:00 pm on Thursday, January 4, 2024 utilizing December 2023 prices. All orders placed from Friday, December 29, 2023 until 6:00 pm on Thursday, January 4, 2024 at December 2023 prices must be delivered to retailers no later than January 9, 2024 (Thursday, January 11, 2024 for licensees located North of Westchester County).

State Liquor Authority Launches Technological Upgrades - The SLA announced new technological upgrades were launched last month to the Authority's Licensing and Compliance database. The Liquor Authority also launched an updated online portal to apply for permits. The SLA has not made major changes in the license application or renewal process yet, but here are some important changes to note:

- The agency's primary means of communication with applicants, licensees, attorneys, etc. will now be via email (you will need an email address to conduct business with the agency).
- License certificates will now be issued via email. Licensees will be required to print their certificates and post them on the licensed premises as required by law.
- New applicants will receive an Application ID when their application is received. They will be assigned a License ID once their application is approved.
- Existing licensees have been assigned a new License ID automatically by the Liquor Authority. You will receive your new License ID at renewal.

The new Permit Portal can be accessed via the New York Business Express website, using the "Search Applications" option. The portal offers the option to apply for a new permit or to renew/amend an existing permit. These technological upgrades should simplify and expedite processing many of the tasks you need to undertake as a licensee.