



Best Practice Guidance for Alcohol Sales and Deliveries During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic

A National Liquor Law Enforcement Association Guidance Document

December 2020

This document is intended to provide background and guidance on best practices for the enforcement of laws related to sales and delivery of alcohol both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.¹

State alcohol policies during the COVID-19 pandemic have been temporarily – and in some cases permanently – changed to expand consumers' access to and ability to acquire alcohol through drinks-to-go, home delivery, and curbside delivery. Some of these policies are being implemented by local jurisdictions, making the policy landscape more complicated.²

The pandemic is creating unprecedented shifts and changes in the alcohol marketplace adding additional challenges for Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE).³ In 2005, there were an average of 54 ALE agents per state tasked with monitoring 14,112 alcohol outlets. This problem has only worsened over the years.⁴ The harms from alcohol have been further exacerbated by recent shifting policies⁵ in the U.S., which have made alcohol more accessible and available. Making alcohol more widely available and accessible increases alcohol consumption and related harms.^{6,7} This may occur when there is an increase in the hours⁸ or days of sale,⁹ an increase in outlet density,¹⁰ or – as is the case during the COVID-19 pandemic – an expansion of home delivery laws.

 Drinks-To-Go Restaurants or bars selling a single serving of alcoholic beverages (usually distilled spirits) for consumption off the premises.	 Home Delivery Restaurants, bars, or retailers delivering alcohol to consumers' homes through either the use of their own employees or through a third-party delivery service.	 Curbside Delivery Consumers purchasing alcohol from a restaurant, bar, or retailer and having the business bring it to the consumers without them having to leave their car.
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A list of all of the references cited in this document can be found on the NLLEA website: www.nllea.org

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AZ-Frontwoman in ex-mobster's Rascal Flatts restaurant scheme forced to close Phoenix eatery

Arizona liquor regulators are taking the lead. They appeared to force the closure of Tawny Costa's Parma Italian Roots restaurant in Phoenix this month and are now investigating the "legality of her ownership" in a sister restaurant in Scottsdale.

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AL-ILLEGAL WINERY FOUND IN WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

DeKalb County Sheriff Nick Welden said it was one of the biggest illicit operations uncovered in the county “and possibly our state”. According to **Waff 48**, the 62-year-old supervisor of the plant has been suspended without pay following the discovery. He has been arrested and charged with unlawful possession of an illegally manufactured alcoholic beverage, a misdemeanor and use of an official position for personnel gain.

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OK-Open bar: Judge grants restraining order against Governor Kevin Stitt, ABLE Commission

Stallings made clear her restraining order applied specifically to the six plaintiffs, and not every bar and restaurant in the state. However, after the hearing, ABLE Commission Director Keith Burt told The Oklahoman the agency would not be enforcing the curfew on any alcohol-serving establishments until after the court makes a final determination on the matter.

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51 suspected members arrested in Turkey over producing illegal alcohol

Ihlas news agency reported Friday that more than 51 people were arrested by Turkish police for manufacturing and selling illegal alcohol in wide-scale operations via the nation. The operation were carried out by the Istanbul Police Department's anti-smuggling units targeting 63 suspected members of an banned alcohol network in seven provinces together with Istanbul.

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Pennsylvania, New Jersey Casinos Get 16K in Counterfeit Currency, Three Arrests Made

On the counterfeit cases, following an investigation by the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office and Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Gaming Enforcement, each suspect faces charges of forgery, theft by deception, possessing instruments of crime, and conspiracy. Their cases will be heard in Bucks County Court.

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Indiana law enforcement agencies receive new device to identify drug-impaired drivers

This month, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) provided 52 Indiana law enforcement agencies with a new roadside tool to identify and keep drug-impaired drivers off the road. The device is called the SoToxa Mobile Testing System. It is a handheld analyzer that uses an oral fluid swab to detect the presence of six kinds of drugs: cocaine, methamphetamine, opiates, cannabis (THC), amphetamine and benzodiazepines.

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NHTSA Releases 2019 Crash Fatality Data

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration today released its annual **2019 traffic fatality data** from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). Traffic deaths decreased nationwide during 2019 as compared to 2018, and alcohol-impaired driving fatalities decreased to the lowest percentage since 1982, when NHTSA started reporting alcohol data.

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- **Fake ID Trends and Detection Methods** – Mark Baxter, Howard County MD
- **Controlling Community Events** – Leo Sokoloski, PA Bloomburg University
- **Alcohol Delivery Services and Underage Persons** – Matt Stemple, NC
- **High in the Cloud: Fake IDs, Online Sales, and Delivery of Cannabis and Alcohol** – Susan Dworak - RealIdentities
- **Source Investigations/Sales to Intoxicated Persons (SIP)/Place of Last Drink (POLD)** – Todd Merlina, PA

In order to access the trainings you must be a NLLEA member or member agency and have your login (email address) and password, if you forgot your password, click on **Forgot Password** from the nllea home page and a new temporary password will be emailed to you. If you have any questions or trouble logging in please contact carrie.christofes@nllea.org

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If you have Alcohol Law Enforcement news to share, please send it to Carrie Christofes, Executive Director at carrie.christofes@nllea.org. Thank you,

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