March 20, 2019

Substitute House Bill 522 (Eff. 3.22.19), modifies current law and the issuance of temporary permits. The law becomes effective March 22, 2019. The changes to the law define how temporary liquor permit events may participate in a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA). The following list of frequently asked questions is designed to assist Division of Liquor Control employees in answering questions received from customers.

Q: May an organization obtain a temporary liquor permit for an area that entirely overlaps a DORA?
A: A temporary liquor permit premises may not block the ingress/egress to other liquor permit businesses within a DORA nor can it block all ingress/egress access points to a DORA.

Q: Must my organization be the holder of a certain type of temporary liquor permit to participate in a DORA?
A: All temporary liquor permit holders within a DORA may participate in a DORA so long as the liquor permit has an outdoor refreshment area designation on it.

Q: May a person attend my event (temporary permit premises) that is located within a DORA with alcohol purchased elsewhere?
A: Ohio open container law prohibits a person from having an opened container of alcohol on a permit premises that was not purchased from that permit holder even if the permit premises are within a DORA.

Q: May I participate in a DORA if I am the holder of a D-6 or D-8 liquor permit?
A: A permit holder who is issued a D-6 or D-8 permit, but no other permit that authorizes on premises sale and general consumption has never been authorized to participate in a DORA. This has been clarified by the Ohio legislature in Sub. H.B. 522.

Q: Must a B class permit holder obtain a temporary liquor permit to sell beer, wine, or mixed beverages at an event held by and at the premises of a B permit holder?
A: Generally, a B permit holder does not qualify for most temporary liquor permits. A B permit holder is authorized to sell beer, wine, or mixed beverages under its B liquor permit at events taking place on its permit premises so long as the event is either not open to the public or the event is organized for a charitable, benevolent, cultural, educational, or political purpose.