Bulletin CL-LC-2010-3

Charitable or Non Profit Events

The Commercial Licensing and Racing & Athletics Division of the Department of Business Regulation ("Department") has been receiving inquiries related to charitable or non-profit events sponsored by certain alcoholic beverage licensees. The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide guidance to all licensees relating to these events, which provide a valuable public service in supporting charities and non-profit organizations.

The Department is hereby providing the following guidelines for these types of events.

1. Class A liquor stores are not allowed to directly conduct wine tasting events outside of their own store, unless in conjunction with a "Wine Dinner" event. However, since wine and food tasting at an event benefiting a charity or non-profit does not involve direct sales of liquor, the statute and related Wine Dinner Bulletin would not prohibit these events from being sponsored by an alcoholic beverage licensee.

2. Any Alcoholic beverage licensee is allowed to donate or supply its own product to a charitable or non-profit event.

3. Personnel serving alcohol at such events must be TIPS-trained, and must comply with all related server requirements.

4. The obtaining of a license (other than a Class P) to hold such events is within the jurisdiction of local municipal authorities.

Dated: 3/22/10

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