

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

**ADVISORY NOTICE TO THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE INDUSTRY  
ADDRESSING 2019-2020 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS**

The 2019-2020 Liquor License Renewal Application for alcoholic beverage licensees in the State of New Jersey currently requires applicants to provide a “yes” or “no” answer to the following questions in order to complete the renewal application:

- 3) Is the license directly or indirectly subject to any pledge, lien, levy, attachment, right of execution, seizure for debts, reversion, encumbrance, right of first refusal, buy-back, security interest, non-governmental[,] [sic] restraint regarding its location, or any other device (regardless of name) that limits the licensee’s control over the license in any way or is the stock of any stockholder held in escrow or pledged in any way?
  
- 4) During the last license term, was the licensee a defendant in a dram shop lawsuit or a lawsuit alleging that the licensee served alcohol to a visibly intoxicated person?

While these questions attempt to address valid and legitimate concerns of the State of New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, as presented the questions may be confusing and have caused concern within the Industry. Due to technological issues, the Division is unable to remove these questions from the 2019-2020 Liquor License Renewal Application. For these reasons, I am providing notice that no enforcement action will be initiated or predicated on an applicant’s response to the above-listed questions on the 2019-2020 License Renewal Application.

It is the Division’s intention to include similar questions that address these issues for future renewal terms. In the coming months I will be working with the Industry to revise these questions. During this process, I may convene the Industry’s Advisory Committee and request a subcommittee to aid the Division in revising questions that address these specific issues.

  
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JAMES B. GRAZIANO  
ACTING DIRECTOR

DATED: 6 May, 2019