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JON M. DAVINE
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

TO: Proprietors of restaurants, nightclubs, bars, and discotheques
FROM: Jon M. Davine, State Fire Marshal
DATE: January 6, 2026
RE: Sparklers and other pyrotechnics

Please be advised that sparklers and other pyrotechnic devices, including so-called "cold spark" pyrotechnics, are illegal for possession, sale, and use in Massachusetts without professional licensing, certification, and permitting. This includes small sparklers that have been sold as novelties or party favors to accompany champagne bottles, which are believed to have caused the New Year's Eve fire that claimed 40 lives and injured more than 100 people in Crans-Montana, Switzerland.

The unlawful use of sparklers and related devices in restaurants, nightclubs, bars, and discotheques would constitute a violation of the Massachusetts General Laws and the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code. It could lead to severe consequences for any licensed establishment. More to the point, it would pose a grave life safety hazard to patrons and staff.

Under no circumstances should they be used as decorations, party favors, or any other form of entertainment in such a venue.

If your establishment is in possession of such devices, please notify your local fire department immediately so they can safely dispose of the hazard.

Sincerely,

Jon M. Davine
State Fire Marshal

RETAIL LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Without exception, all annual alcoholic beverages **licensees** are required to renew their alcoholic beverages license by **November 30th** of each year.

All retail license renewal applications must be signed by an authorized corporate officer, individual or partner and filed with the Local Licensing Authority between November 1st and November 30th. Licensees who are in the process of transferring their licenses are required to file the renewal application until the transfer has occurred and they are no longer the licensee of record.

Licensees are responsible for correcting any differences between their files and the ABCC license file on the renewal application in red ink. An LLA Certification Form / Form 43 verifying these changes have been ABCC approved must be attached to the license renewal application in order to change the official ABCC license file. Please mail those corrections along with the renewal packet to the ABCC.

All on-premises M.G.L. c. 138, §12 licensees must provide proof of the required liquor liability insurance and a copy of the required Fire Safety Inspection Certificate to the Local Licensing Authorities. Please do not forward the Fire Safety Certificates, Insurance Certificates, or License Certificates to the ABCC. You should keep these forms for your records.

Please **mail** the completed below form, all completed renewal certificate forms, and any corrective forms to the ABCC no later than February 6th with no staples included.

ABCC
c/o Licensing Department
95 Fourth Street, Suite 3
Chelsea, MA 02150

Any renewal application not signed and filed by November 30th will be treated as a NEW License.

If a renewal application becomes a new license for failure to meet the November 30th signing deadline, it will be subject to all the procedures set forth under Chapter 138, §15A.

Any questions regarding the above guidelines should be directed to
Ryan Melville at ext 718.

Ralph Sacramone, Executive Director