

**BUYERS, SELLERS & APPLICANTS FOR LIQUOR LICENSES**

- 1) Approval of an application by the Local Board (Board of Selectmen) is only the first step in the approval process. The second step is the approval of the State Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC). If the ABCC approves, the final step is issuance of the license by the Local Board.
- 2) Until and unless a license is issued the new owner may not take part in the operation of the premises and the old owner, if any, is still liable for operation of the premises.
- 3) After the initial local approval the application goes to the ABCC. The ABCC immediately sends it to the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR). If DOR determines one or more parties owe taxes they will notify the ABCC and the seller. The ABCC will also notify the buyer. The ABCC will not approve the license until DOR signs off. It is up to the parties, not the ABCC, to resolve tax questions.
- 4) The ABCC will also have an investigator visit or telephone the applicant to ask certain information about the people involved and the financing. It is important that the parties respond promptly to investigators inquiries.
- 5) Therefore, applicants should know that there is a possibility that a license may not be issued. Operation without a license can be considered evidence of the applicant's unfitness for a license. It can also lead to revocation of the existing license and possible civil and criminal liability for both buyer and seller if something goes wrong before a license is issued.

I have read and understand the information above.

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Buyer's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seller's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date