



## Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement

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December 12, 2020

RE: Liquor Industry Advisory Letter

Dear Licensee:

The purpose of this letter is provide the liquor industry with further information related to Governor Walz's Executive Order 20-99 *Implementing a Four Week Dial Back on Certain Activities to Slow the Spread of COVID-19* (EO-99) and to issue an advisory to licensees who choose to violate this Order.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to (EO-99), all restaurants and bars are **prohibited** from selling alcohol for on-premises consumption from Friday, November 20, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. through Friday, December 18, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. Establishments with on-sale liquor licenses are, however, **allowed** to sell beer and wine with takeout orders pursuant to legislation signed by Governor Walz in April of this year.

The Department of Public Safety's Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division (AGED) is aware of social media campaigns urging bars and restaurants to reopen their businesses in violation of EO-99. Please be advised that any liquor licensee found to be in violation of EO-99 may be issued a misdemeanor citation for the violation. A second violation shall result in our issuing a 60-day liquor license suspension. A third violation or subsequent violation shall result in our imposing a five-year revocation of the liquor license and the subsequent revocation of the establishment's retail identification card (buyer's card). Minn. Stat. § 340A.415.

AGED recognizes the many challenges establishments are facing during this difficult time, and we are working with the Governor and state leaders on potential economic relief to those affected. While we are working through this process, we urge all licensees to work with us as they comply with the Executive Orders and continue to uphold the integrity of the liquor industry.

Sincerely,

Carla Cincotta  
Director

<sup>1</sup>EO-99 has "the full force and effect of law" during a peacetime emergency. Minnesota Statutes section 12.32 (2020).