# WEST VIRGINIA CODE CHAPTER 60 ARTICLE 8

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## §60-8-1. Construction and application of article.

(a) Every supplier must use a distributor to distribute wine for retail sale in this state, except for such sales that occur by wineries, farm wineries or suppliers holding a direct shipper's license or farm wineries holding a multicapacity farm winery license. The provisions of Part II of this article shall have general application to the distribution and retail sale of wine in this state. The provisions of Part III of this article shall relate solely to the distribution and the regulation of suppliers and distributors of such wines as may be permitted to be sold at retail pursuant to the provisions of this article. The provisions of Part IV of this article shall relate solely to the retail sale of wine in grocery stores as the term "grocery store" is defined in this article and the retail sale of wine in wine specialty shops as defined in this article. In the event of any inconsistency of any provisions of Part II and the provisions of either Part III or Part IV of this article, the provisions of either Part III or Part IV shall prevail to the extent of such inconsistency.

(b) In the event of any inconsistency between any of the provisions of this article and provisions of any other article of this chapter or of this code, the provisions of this article shall prevail to the extent of any such inconsistency.

(c) To the extent the provisions of this chapter exclusive of this article may be given application without creating an inconsistency with the provisions of this article, the provisions of this chapter, exclusive of this article, shall apply to the same extent as if this article did not exist.

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**§60-8-2. Definitions.**

Unless the context in which used clearly requires a different meaning, as used in this article:

"Commissioner" or "commission" means the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Commissioner.

"Distributor" means any person whose principal place of business is within the State of West Virginia who makes purchases from a supplier to sell or distribute wine to retailers, grocery stores, private wine bed and breakfasts, private wine restaurants, private wine spas, private clubs, or wine specialty shops and that sells or distributes nonfortified dessert wine, port, sherry, and Madeira wines to wine specialty shops, private wine restaurants, private clubs, or retailers under authority of this article and maintains a warehouse in this state for the distribution of wine. For the purpose of a distributor only, the term "person" means and includes an individual, firm, trust, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, or corporation. Any trust licensed as a distributor or any trust that is an owner of a distributor licensee, and the trustee or other persons in active control of the activities of the trust relating to the distributor license, is liable for acts of the trust or its beneficiaries relating to the distributor license that are unlawful acts or violations of this article, notwithstanding the liability of trustees in §44D-10-1 *et seq*. of this code.

"Fortified wine" means any wine to which brandy or other alcohol has been added where the alcohol content by volume does not exceed 24 percent, and includes nonfortified dessert wines where the alcohol content by volume is greater than 17 percent and does not exceed 24 percent.

"Grocery store" means any retail establishment, commonly known as a grocery store, supermarket, delicatessen, caterer, or party supply store, where food, food products, and supplies for the table are sold for consumption off the premises with average monthly sales (exclusive of sales of wine) of not less than $500 and an average monthly inventory (exclusive of inventory of wine) of not less than $500. The term "grocery store" also includes and means a separate and segregated portion of any other retail store which is dedicated solely to the sale of food, food products, and supplies for the table for consumption off the premises with average monthly sales with respect to the separate or segregated portion, exclusive of sales of wine, of not less than $500 and an average monthly inventory, exclusive of inventory of wine, of not less than $500.

"Hard Cider" means a type of wine that is derived primarily from the fermentation of apples, pears, peaches, honey, or another fruit, or from apple, pear, peach, or another fruit juice concentrate and water; contains no more than 0.64 grams of carbon dioxide per 100 milliliters; contains at least one half of one percent and less than 12 and one-half percent alcohol by volume; and is advertised, labeled, offered for sale, or sold, as hard cider or cider containing alcohol, and not as wine, wine product, or as a substitute for wine.

"Hard Cider Distributor" means any person whose principal place of business is within the

State of West Virginia who makes purchases from a supplier to sell or distribute hard cider, but not other types of wine, to retailers, grocery stores, private wine bed and breakfasts, private wine restaurants, private wine spas, private clubs, or wine specialty shops under authority of this code and maintains a warehouse in this state for the distribution of hard cider, but not other types of wine. For the purpose of a hard cider distributor, the term "person" means and includes an individual, firm, trust, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, or corporation. Any trust licensed as a distributor or any trust that is an owner of a distributor licensee, and the trustee, or any other person or persons in active control of the activities of the trust relating to the distributor license, is liable for acts of the trust or its beneficiaries relating to the distributor license that are unlawful acts or violations of this article, notwithstanding the liability of trustees in §44D-10-1 *et seq*. of this code.

"Licensee" means the holder of a license granted under the provisions of this article.

"Nonfortified dessert wine" means a wine that is a dessert wine to which brandy or other alcohol has not been added, and which has an alcohol content by volume of at least 15.6 percent and less than or equal to 17 percent.

"Person" means and includes an individual, firm, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, or corporation.

"Private wine bed and breakfast" means any business with the sole purpose of providing, in a residential or country setting, a hotel, motel, inn, or other such establishment properly zoned as to its municipality or local ordinances, lodging and meals to its customers in the course of their stay at the establishment, which business also: (1) Is a partnership, limited partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or other business entity which as part of its general business purpose provides meals on its premises to its members and their guests; (2) is licensed under the provisions of this article as to all of its premises or as to a separate segregated portion of its premises to serve wine to its members and their guests when the sale accompanies the serving of food or meals; and (3) admits only duly elected and approved dues-paying members and their guests while in the company of a member and does not admit the general public.

"Private wine restaurant" means a restaurant which: (1) Is a partnership, limited partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or other business entity which has, as its principal purpose, the business of serving meals on its premises to its members and their guests; (2) is licensed under the provisions of this article as to all of its premises or as to a separate segregated portion of its premises to serve wine to its members and their guests when the sale accompanies the serving of food or meals; and (3) admits only duly elected and approved dues-paying members and their guests while in the company of a member and does not admit the general public. Private clubs that meet the private wine restaurant requirements in this definition shall be considered private wine restaurants: *Provided*, That, a private wine restaurant shall have at least two restrooms: *Provided, however*, That the two restroom requirement may be waived by a written waiver provided from a local health

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department to the commissioner: *And provided further*, That a private wine restaurant located in an historic building may also be relieved of the two restroom requirement if a historic association or district with jurisdiction over a historic building provides a written waiver of the requirement to the commissioner: *And provided further*, That in no event shall a private wine restaurant have less than one restroom: *And provided further*, That a winery or farm winery holding a private wine restaurant license or a multi-capacity winery or farm winery license is not subject to the food service requirements of this subdivision.

"Private wine spa" means any business with the sole purpose of providing commercial facilities devoted especially to health, fitness, weight loss, beauty, therapeutic services, and relaxation, and may also be a licensed massage parlor or a salon with licensed beauticians or stylists, which business also: (1) Is a partnership, limited partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, or other business entity which as part of its general business purpose provides meals on its premises to its members and their guests; (2) is licensed under the provisions of this article as to all of its premises or as to a separate segregated portion of its premises to serve up to two glasses of wine to its members and their guests when the sale accompanies the serving of food or meals; and (3) admits only duly elected and approved dues-paying members and their guests while in the company of a member, and does not admit the general public.

"Retailer" means any person licensed to sell wine at retail to the public at his or her established place of business for off-premises consumption and who is licensed to do so under authority of this article.

"Supplier" means any manufacturer, producer, processor, winery, farm winery, national distributor, or other supplier of wine who sells or offers to sell or solicits or negotiates the sale of wine to any licensed West Virginia distributor.

"Table wine" means a wine with an alcohol content by volume between 0.5 percent and 15.5 percent.

"Tax" includes within its meaning interest, additions to tax, and penalties.

"Taxpayer" means any person liable for any tax, interest, additions to tax, or penalty under the provisions of this article, and any person claiming a refund of tax.

"Varietal wine" means any wine labeled according to the grape variety from which the wine is made.

"Vintage wine" or "vintage-dated wine" means wines from which the grapes used to produce the wine are harvested during a particular year, or wines produced from the grapes of a particular harvest in a particular region of production.

"Wine" means any alcoholic beverage obtained by the natural fermentation of the natural content of grapes, other fruits, or honey or other agricultural products containing sugar to

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which no alcohol has been added and includes table wine, hard cider, nonfortified dessert wine, wine coolers, and other similar wine-based beverages. Fortified wine and any product defined as or contained within the definition of nonintoxicating beer under the provisions of §11-16-1 *et seq.*, of this code are excluded from this definition of wine.

"Wine specialty shop" means a retailer who deals principally in the sale of table wine, nonfortified dessert wines, wine accessories, and food or foodstuffs normally associated with wine and: (1) Who maintains a representative number of wines for sale in his or her inventory which are designated by label as varietal wine, vintage, generic, and/or according to region of production and the inventory shall contain not less than 15 percent vintage or vintage-dated wine by actual bottle count; and (2) who, any other provisions of this code to the contrary notwithstanding, may maintain an inventory of port, sherry, and Madeira wines having an alcoholic content of not more than 24 percent alcohol by volume and which have been matured in wooden barrels or casks. All wine available for sale shall be for off-premises consumption except where wine tasting or wine sampling is separately authorized by this code.

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## §60-8-3. Licenses; fees; general restrictions.

(a) No person may engage in business in the capacity of a winery, farm winery, supplier, distributor, retailer, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, private wine spa, or wine specialty shop without first obtaining a license from the commissioner, nor shall a person continue to engage in any activity after his or her license has expired, been suspended, or revoked. No person may be licensed simultaneously as a distributor and a retailer. No person, except for a winery or farm winery, may be licensed simultaneously as a supplier and a retailer. No person except for a winery or farm winery holding a multi-capacity winery or farm winery license may be licensed simultaneously as a supplier and a private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, or a private wine spa. No person may be licensed simultaneously as a distributor and a private wine bed and breakfast, a private wine restaurant, or a private wine spa. No person except for a winery or farm winery or holding a multi-capacity winery or farm winery license may be licensed simultaneously as a retailer and a private wine bed and breakfast, a private wine restaurant, or a private wine spa. Any person who is licensed to engage in any business concerning the manufacture, sale, or distribution of wine may also engage in the manufacture, sale, or distribution of hard cider without obtaining a separate hard cider license.

(b) The commissioner shall collect an annual fee for licenses issued under this article as follows:

(1) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a supplier’s license;

(2) Two thousand five hundred dollars per year for a distributor’s license and each separate warehouse or other facility from which a distributor sells, transfers, or delivers wine shall be separately licensed and there shall be collected with respect to each location, the annual license fee of $2,500 as provided in this subdivision;

(3) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a retailer’s license;

(4) Two hundred fifty dollars per year for a wine specialty shop license, in addition to any other licensing fees paid by a winery or retailer holding a license. Except for the amount of the license fee and the restriction to sales of winery or farm winery wines, a winery, or farm winery acting as a wine specialty shop retailer is subject to all other provisions of this article which are applicable to a wine specialty shop retailer as defined in §60-8-2 of this code;

(5) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a wine tasting license;

(6) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a private wine bed and breakfast license. Each separate bed and breakfast from which a licensee sells wine shall be separately licensed and there shall be collected with respect to each location the annual license fee of $150 as provided in this subdivision;

(7) Two hundred fifty dollars per year for a private wine restaurant license. Each separate

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restaurant from which a licensee sells wine shall be separately licensed and there shall be collected with respect to each location the annual license fee of $250 as provided in this subdivision;

(8) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a private wine spa license. Each separate private wine spa from which a licensee sells wine shall be separately licensed and there shall be collected with respect to each location the annual license fee of $150 as provided in this subdivision;

(9) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a wine sampling license issued for a wine specialty shop under subsection (n) of this section;

(10) No fee for a special one-day license under subsection (p) of this section or for a heritage fair and festival license under subsection (q) of this section;

(11) One hundred fifty dollars per year for a direct shipper's license for a licensee who sells and ships only wine and $250 per year for a direct shipper's license who ships and sells wine, nonfortified dessert wine, port, sherry, or Madeira wines;

(12) Three hundred fifty dollars per year for a multi-capacity winery or farm winery license which enables the holder to operate as a retailer, wine specialty shop, supplier, and direct shipper without obtaining an individual license for each capacity; and

(13) Two hundred fifty dollars per year for a hard cider distributor's license. Each separate warehouse or other facility from which a distributor sells, transfers, or delivers hard cider shall be separately licensed and there shall be collected with respect to each location the annual license fee of $250 as provided in this subdivision: *Provided*, That if a licensee is licensed as a nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating beer distributor, then there is no additional license fee to distribute hard cider.

(c) The license period begins on July 1 of each year and ends on June 30 of the following year and if granted for a less period, the fee shall be computed semiannually in proportion to the remainder of the fiscal year.

(d) No retailer may be licensed as a private club as provided by §60-7-1 *et seq*. of this code, except as provided by subsection (k) of this section.

(e) No retailer may be licensed as a Class A retail dealer in nonintoxicating beer as provided by §11-16-1 *et seq*. of this code: *Provided*, That a delicatessen, a caterer, or party supply store, which is a grocery store as defined in §60-8-2 of this code, and which is licensed as a Class A retail dealer in nonintoxicating beer may be a retailer under this article: *Provided, however*, That any delicatessen, caterer, or party supply store licensed in both capacities shall maintain average monthly sales exclusive of sales of wine and nonintoxicating beer which exceed the average monthly sales of nonintoxicating beer.

(f) A wine specialty shop under this article may also hold a wine tasting license authorizing



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the retailer to serve complimentary samples of wine in moderate quantities for tasting. The wine specialty shop shall organize a wine taster's club, which has at least 50 duly elected or approved dues-paying members in good standing. The club shall meet on the wine specialty shop's premises not more than one time per week and shall either meet at a time when the premises are closed to the general public, or meet in a separate segregated facility on the premises to which the general public is not admitted. Attendance at tastings shall be limited to duly elected or approved dues-paying members and their guests.

(g) A retailer who has more than one place of retail business shall obtain a license for each separate retail establishment. A retailer's license may be issued only to the proprietor or owner of a bona fide grocery store or wine specialty shop.

(h)(1) The commissioner may issue a license for the retail sale of wine at any fair or festival which is endorsed or sponsored by the governing body of a municipality or a county commission. The license shall be issued for a term of no longer than 10 consecutive days and the fee for the license is $250 regardless of the term of the license. The application for the license shall contain information required by the commissioner and shall be submitted to the commissioner at least 30 days prior to the first day when wine is to be sold at the any fair or festival.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, if the applicant for the fair or festival license is the manufacturer of the wine, a winery, or a farm winery as defined in §60-1-5a of this code, and the event is located on the premises of a winery or a farm winery, then the license fee is $50 per fair or festival.

(3) A licensed winery or a farm winery, which has the fair or festival licensee's written authorization and approval from the commissioner, may, in addition to, or in conjunction with the fair and festival licensee, exhibit, conduct complimentary tastings, or sell samples not to exceed six, three-fluid ounce, tastings or samples per patron, or serve wine by the glass for consumption on the premises during the operation of a fair or festival only; and may sell wine by the bottle for on-premises consumption, when consumed by the glass, and sealed bottles of wine for off-premises consumption: *Provided*, That for licensed wineries or farm wineries at a licensed fair or festival; tastings, samples, on-premises sales, and off-premises sales shall occur under the hours of operation as required in this article, except on Sunday, tastings, samples, and off-premises sales are unlawful between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

(4) A fair or festival license may be issued to a "wine club" as defined in this subdivision for a license fee of $250. The festival or fair committee or the governing body shall designate a person to organize a club under a name which includes the name of the fair or festival and the words "wine club". The license shall be issued in the name of the wine club. A licensee may not sell wine as provided in this subdivision until the wine club has at least 50 dues-paying members who have been enrolled, and to whom membership cards have been issued. Thereafter, new members may be enrolled and issued membership cards at any time during the period for which the license is issued. A wine club licensed under the provisions of this

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subdivision may sell wine only to its members, and in portions not to exceed eight ounces per serving. The sales shall take place on-premises or in an area cordoned or segregated so as to be closed to the general public, and the general public shall not be admitted to the premises or area. A wine club licensee under the provisions of this subdivision may serve complimentary samples of wine in moderate quantities for tasting. A wine club may not make wine purchases from a direct shipper where the wine may be consumed on the licensed premises of any Class A private wine retail licensee or private club licensee. A wine club which violates the provisions of this subdivision is subject to the penalties in this article.

(5) A licensed winery or farm winery approved to participate in a fair or festival under the provisions of this section and the licensee holding the license, or the licensed winery or farm winery approved to attend a licensed fair or festival, is subject to all other provisions of this article and the rules and orders of the commissioner relating to the license: *Provided*, That the commissioner may by rule or order provide for certain waivers or exceptions with respect to the provisions, rules, or orders required by the circumstances of each fair or festival, including, without limitation, the right to revoke or suspend any license issued pursuant to this section prior to any notice or hearing notwithstanding the provisions §60-8-27 and §60-8-28 of this code: *Provided, however*, That under no circumstances shall the provisions of §60-8-20(c) or §60-8-20(d) of this code, be waived nor shall any exception be granted with respect to those subsections.

(6) A license issued under the provisions of this section and the licensee holding the license are not subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of this section.

(7) An unlicensed winery temporarily licensed and meeting the requirements set forth in subsection (q) of this section may conduct the same sampling and sales set forth in subsection (q) of this section at a licensed fair and festival upon approval of the licensee holding the fair and festival license and temporary and limited licensure by the commissioner. An unlicensed winery is subject to the same limits, fees, requirements, restrictions, and penalties set forth in subsection (q) of this section: *Provided*, That the commissioner may by rule or order provide for certain waivers or exceptions with respect to the provisions, rules, or orders required by the circumstances of each fair or festival. The commissioner may revoke or suspend any license issued pursuant to this section prior to any notice or hearing notwithstanding the provisions §60-8-27 and §60-8-28 of this code: *Provided, however*, That under no circumstances shall the provisions of §60-8-20(c) or §60-8-20(d) of this code be waived nor shall any exception be granted with respect to those subsections.

(i)(1) The commissioner may issue a special license for the retail sale of wine in a professional baseball stadium. A license to sell wine granted pursuant to this subsection entitles the licensee to sell and serve wine for consumption in a professional baseball stadium. For the purpose of this subsection, “professional baseball stadium” means a facility constructed primarily for the use of a major or minor league baseball franchisee affiliated with the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, Inc., or its successor, and used as a major or minor league baseball park. Any special license issued pursuant to this



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subsection shall be for a term beginning on the date of issuance and ending on the next following June 30, and its fee is $250 regardless of the length of the term of the license. The application for the special license shall contain information required by the commissioner and must be submitted to the commissioner at least 30 days prior to the first day when wine is to be sold at the professional baseball stadium. The special license may be issued in the name of the baseball franchisee or the name of the primary food and beverage vendor under contract with the baseball franchisee. These sales must take place within the confines of the professional baseball stadium. The exterior of the area where wine sales may occur shall be surrounded by a fence or other barrier prohibiting entry except upon the franchisee's express permission, and under the conditions and restrictions established by the franchisee, so that the wine sales area is closed to free and unrestricted entry by the general public.

(2) A license issued under this subsection and the licensee holding the license are subject to all other provisions of this article and the rules and orders of the commissioner relating to the special license: *Provided*, That the commissioner may by rule or order grant certain waivers or exceptions to those rules or orders required by the circumstances of each professional baseball stadium. The commissioner may revoke or suspend any license issued pursuant to this section prior to any notice or hearing notwithstanding §60-8-27 and §60-8-28 of this code: *Provided, however*, That under no circumstances may §60-8-20(c) or §60-8-20(d) of this code be waived nor shall any exception be granted concerning those subsections.

(3) The commissioner may propose legislative rules for promulgation in accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code to implement this subsection.

(j) A license to sell wine granted to a private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, private wine spa, or a private club under the provisions of this article entitles the operator to sell and serve wine, for consumption on the premises of the licensee, when the sale accompanies the serving of food or a meal to its members and their guests in accordance with the provisions of this article: *Provided*, That a licensed private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, private wine spa, or a private club may permit a person over 21 years of age to purchase wine, consume wine, and recork or reseal, using a tamper resistant cork or seal, up to two separate bottles of unconsumed wine in conjunction with the serving of food or a meal to its members and their guests in accordance with the provisions of this article and in accordance with rules promulgated by the commissioner for the purpose of consumption of the wine off premises: *Provided, however*, That a licensed private wine restaurant or a private club may offer for sale, for consumption off-premises, sealed bottles of wine to its customers provided that no more than one bottle is sold per each person over 21 years of age, as verified by the private wine restaurant or private club, for consumption off-premises. The licensees may keep and maintain on its premises a supply of wine in quantities appropriate for the conduct of operations thereof. Any sale of wine is subject to all restrictions set forth in §60-8-20 of this code. A private wine restaurant may also be licensed as a Class A retail dealer in nonintoxicating beer as provided by §11-16-1 *et seq*. of this code.

(k) With respect to subsections (h), (i), (j), (o), and (p) of this section, the commissioner shall



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propose legislative rules for promulgation in accordance with §29A-1-1 *et seq*. of this code, including, but not limited to, the form of the applications and the suitability of both the applicant and location of the licensed premises.

(l) The commissioner shall propose legislative rules for promulgation in accordance with the provisions of §29A-1-1 *et seq*. of this code to allow restaurants to serve wine with meals and to sell wine by the bottle for off-premises consumption as provided in subsection (j) of this section. Each licensed restaurant shall be charged an additional $100 per year fee.

(m) The commissioner shall establish guidelines to permit wines to be sold in all stores licensed for retail sales.

(n) Wineries and farm wineries may advertise off premises as provided in §17-22-7 of this code.

(o) A licensed wine specialty shop under this article may also hold a wine sampling license authorizing the wine specialty shop to conduct special wine sampling events at its location during regular hours of business. The wine specialty shop may serve up to six complimentary samples of wine, consisting of no more than three fluid ounces each, to any one consumer per day. Persons serving the samples shall be 21 years of age or older and an authorized representative of the licensed wine specialty shop, winery, farm winery, or a representative of a distributor or registered supplier. Distributor and supplier representatives attending wine sampling events shall register with the commissioner. No licensee, employee, or representative may furnish, give, sell, or serve samples of wine to any person less than 21 years of age or to a person who is physically incapacitated due to the consumption of alcoholic liquor or the use of drugs. The wine specialty shop shall notify and secure permission from the commissioner for all wine sampling events 30 days prior to the event. Wine sampling events may not exceed six hours per calendar day. Licensees shall purchase all wines used during these events from a licensed farm winery or a licensed distributor.

(p) The commissioner may issue special one-day licenses to duly organized, nonprofit corporations and associations allowing the sale and serving of wine, and may, if applicable, also allow the charitable auctioning of certain sealed bottles of wine for off-premises consumption only, when raising money for athletic, charitable, educational, or religious purposes. “Auction or auctioning”, for the purposes of this subsection, means any silent, physical act, or verbal bid auction, whether or not the auction requires in-presence bidding or online Internet-based electronic bidding through a secure application or website, but shall not include any action in violation of §47-20-10, §47-20-11, or §61-10-1 *et seq*. of this code. The license application shall contain information required by the commissioner and shall be submitted to the commissioner at least 30 days prior to the event. Accompanying the license application, the applicant shall submit a signed and notarized statement that at least 80 percent of the net proceeds from the charitable event will be donated directly to the nonprofit corporation or organization. Wines used during these events may be donated by, or purchased from, a licensed retailer, a distributor, winery, or a farm winery. A licensed winery or farm winery which is authorized in writing by a representative of the duly

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organized, nonprofit corporation or association which has obtained the one-day license; is in good standing with the state; and obtains the commissioner's approval prior to the one-day license event may, in conjunction with the one-day licensee, exhibit, conduct complimentary tastings, sell samples not to exceed six, three-fluid ounce tastings or samples per patron, sell wine by the glass or by the bottle, when consumed by the glass, for consumption on-premises during the operation of the one-day license event and may sell certain sealed wine bottles manufactured by the licensed winery or farm winery for off-premises consumption: *Provided*, That for a licensed winery or farm winery at a licensed one-day event, the tastings, samples, on-premises sales, and off-premises sales of its wine shall occur under the hours of operation permitted by this article, except on Sunday, tastings, samples, on-premises sales, and off-premises sales of its wine are unlawful between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., from the one-day licensee's submitted floor plan for the event subject to the requirements in the code and rules. Under no circumstances may the provisions of §60-8-20(c) or §60-8-20(f) of this code be waived nor may any exception be granted with respect to those subsections.

(q)(1) In addition to the authorization granted to licensed wineries and farm wineries in subsections (h) and (p) of this section, an unlicensed winery, regardless of its designation in another state, that is duly licensed in its domicile state, may pay a $150 nonrefundable and non-prorated fee and submit an application for temporary licensure on a one-day basis for temporary sampling and sale of wine in sealed containers for off-premises consumption at a special one-day license nonprofit event.

(2) The application shall include, but is not limited to, the person or entity's name, address, taxpayer identification number, and location; a copy of its licensure in its domicile state; a signed and notarized verification that it produces 50,000 gallons or less of wine per year; a signed and notarized verification that it is in good standing with its domicile state; copies of its federal certificate of label approvals and certified lab alcohol analysis for the wines it desires to temporarily provide samples and temporarily sell wine in sealed containers for off-premises consumption at a special one-day license for a nonprofit event issued under subsection (p) of this section; and any other information as the commissioner may reasonably require: *Provided*, That the background investigation requirement set forth in §60-8-16 of this code is inapplicable to licenses authorized by this subdivision.

(3) The applicant winery shall include a list of all wines proposed to be temporarily sampled and temporarily sold by the glass or bottle, when consumed by the glass, for on-premises consumption or in sealed containers for off-premises consumption at a special one-day license for a nonprofit event so that the wines may be reviewed in the interest of public health and safety. Once approved, the submitted wine list creates a temporary wine brand registration for up to two special one-day licenses for a nonprofit event for no additional fee.

(4) An applicant winery that receives this temporary special one-day license for a nonprofit event shall provide the commissioner a signed and notarized written agreement acknowledging that the applicant winery understands its responsibility to pay all municipal, local, and sales taxes applicable to the sale of wine in West Virginia.

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(5) An application must be submitted for each special one-day license for a nonprofit event the applicant winery desires to attend, and the license fee shall cover up to two special one-day licenses for nonprofit events before an additional fee is required. In no circumstance would the winery be permitted to attend more than four special one-day licensed events. Any applicant or unlicensed winery desiring to attend more than four special one-day license for nonprofit events per year or otherwise operate in West Virginia would need to seek appropriate licensure as a winery or a farm winery in this state.

(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this article and requirements for licensure, wine brand registration, payment of wine liter tax, and the winery's appointment of suppliers and distributors, this temporary special one-day license for a nonprofit event, once granted, permits a winery to operate in this limited capacity only at the approved specific, special one-day license for a nonprofit event subject to the limitations contained in this section.

(7) The applicant winery shall also apply for and receive a transportation permit to legally transport wine in the state per §60-6-12 of this code.

(8) The applicant winery is subject to all applicable violations and/or penalties under this article and the legislative rules that are not otherwise excepted by this subsection: *Provided*, That the commissioner may by rule or order provide for certain waivers or exceptions with respect to the provisions, rules, or orders required by the circumstances of each fair or festival. The commissioner may revoke or suspend any license issued pursuant to this article, prior to any notice or hearing.

(r) The commissioner may issue special licenses to heritage fairs and festivals allowing the sale, serving, and sampling of wine from a licensed farm winery. The license application shall contain information required by the commissioner and shall be submitted to the commissioner at least 30 days prior to the event. Wines used during these events may be donated by or purchased from a licensed farm winery. Under no circumstances may the provision of §60-8-20(c) of this code be waived nor may any exception be granted with respect thereto. The commissioner shall propose rules for legislative approval in accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code to implement the provisions of this subsection.

(s)(1) The commissioner may issue a special license for the retail sale of wine in a college or university stadium. A license to sell wine granted pursuant to this subsection entitles the licensee to sell and serve wine for consumption in a college or university stadium. For the purpose of this subsection, "college stadium" means a facility constructed primarily for the use of a Division I, II, or III college or university that is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, or its successor, and used as a football, basketball, baseball, soccer, or other Division I, II, or III sports stadium. A special license issued pursuant to this subsection shall be for a term beginning on the date of its issuance and ending on the next following June 30, and its fee is $250 regardless of the length of the term of the license. The application for the special license shall contain information required by the commissioner and must be submitted to the commissioner at least 30 days prior to the first day when wine is to be sold. The special license may be issued in the name of the National Collegiate

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Athletic Association Division I, II, or III college or university or the name of the primary food and beverage vendor under contract with that college or university. All sales must take place within the confines of the college or university stadium: *Provided*, That the exterior of the area where wine sales may occur shall be surrounded by a fence or other barrier prohibiting entry except upon the college or university's express permission, and under the conditions and restrictions established by the college or university, so that the wine sales area is closed to free and unrestricted entry by the general public.

(2) A license issued under this subsection and the licensee are subject to the other requirements of this article and the rules and orders of the commissioner relating to the special license: *Provided*, That the commissioner may by rule or order grant certain waivers or exceptions to those rules or orders as required by the circumstances of each the college or university stadium. The commissioner may revoke or immediately suspend any license issued pursuant to this section prior to any notice or hearing notwithstanding §60-8-27 and §60-8-28 of this code: *Provided, however*, That §60-8-20(c) or §60-8-20(d) of this code may not be waived, nor shall any exception be granted concerning those subsections.

(3) The commissioner may propose legislative rules for promulgation in accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code to implement this subsection.

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**§60-8-3a. Certain wine specialty shops operating as grocery stores authorized to deliver wine curbside, mobile applications, or web-based sales allowed; permits; fees.**

A wine specialty shop which is licensed to sell wine off premises and which operates a grocery store containing over $100,000 of fresh produce and saleable food and food products fit for human consumption in a combination of displayed and stored inventory may apply for a Class B license privilege granting the licensee the ability to complete the sale of such wine in the original sealed container for off-premises consumption to a person purchasing wine ordered via a mobile application or web-based software program and picking up the wine from the licensee while in a vehicle:

(a) If the vehicle is parked in a licensed parking area which is contiguous to the Class B licensee's licensed premises; or

(b) If the vehicle is parked in a licensed parking area which is within 500 feet of the Class B licensee's licensed premises;

(c) The parking area referenced in subdivision (b) of this section shall be designated by signage solely for the use of persons who have previously ordered items, including, but not limited to, wine using a mobile application or web-based software program;

(d) No wine may be loaded into a vehicle under this section unless the wine specialty shop or the licensee's staff have verified that both the person placing the order and the person picking up the order, if different from the person placing the order, is 21 years of age or older and is not noticeably intoxicated;

(e) To operate under this section a wine specialty shop must be in good standing with the commissioner, apply, qualify, pay the Class B license privilege fee, and obtain the permit for the Class B licensee privilege for wine at a designated parking area. The Class B license privilege permit is nonrefundable and a nonprorated annual fee is $250;

(f) The licensee is subject to all requirements, penalties, and sanctions of this article.

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**§60-8-4. Liter tax.**

There is hereby levied and imposed on all wine sold after July 1, 2007, by suppliers to distributors, and including all wine sold and sent to persons 21 years of age or older who reside in West Virginia from direct shippers, except wine sold to the commissioner, a tax of twenty-six and four hundred six-thousandths cents per liter. Effective July 1, 2021, hard cider is excepted from this per liter tax and is taxed pursuant to §60-8A-3 of this code.

Before the 16th day of each month thereafter, every supplier, distributor and direct shipper shall make a written report under oath to the Tax Commissioner and the commissioner showing the identity of the purchasing person, the quantity, label and alcoholic content of wine sold by the supplier to West Virginia distributors or the direct shipper to persons 21 years of age or older who reside in West Virginia during the preceding month and at the same time shall pay the tax imposed by this article on the wine sold to the distributor or to persons 21 years of age or older who reside in West Virginia during the preceding month to the Tax Commissioner.

The reports shall contain other information and be in the form required by the Tax Commissioner. For purposes of this article, the reports required by this section shall be considered tax returns covered by the provisions of §11-10-1 *et seq.* of this code. Failure to timely file the tax returns within five calendar days of the 16th day of each month also subjects a supplier, distributor, and direct shipper to penalties under §60-8-18 of this code.

No wine imported, sold, or distributed in this state or sold and shipped to this state by a direct shipper shall be subject to more than one liter tax.

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## §60-8-5. Refund or credit of taxes.

The Tax Commissioner shall refund, or credit on a subsequent return, any tax which has been erroneously or illegally collected. In the event that a licensee, while the owner of wine on which the tax imposed by this article has been paid, loses such wine through fire or casualty, other than breakage occurring on the premises of the licensee because such wine has been declared by the commissioner to be unfit for sale and the amount of tax paid exceeds $50, the Tax Commissioner shall refund the tax paid. The commissioner shall promulgate regulations establishing the procedure and nature of proof required in case of any claim for refund or credit.

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## §60-8-6. License or registration required for sale or shipment of wine; shipment of limited quantities of wine to adult residents permitted.

(a) Except as to the commissioner and except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person may offer for sale or sell wine in this state, or offer wine for shipment into this state, except to a distributor who is duly licensed under this article. Every person, whether resident or nonresident in this state, who is engaged in or desires to engage in the sale or shipment of wine to a distributor for resale under this article shall, prior to engaging in such activities, register with the commissioner. If any such person violates the provisions of this article, he shall not be permitted to sell, ship or deliver any wine to a distributor or to the commissioner, or otherwise engage in the wine business in this state for a period of one year from the date a notice is mailed to such person by the commissioner of the fact that such person has violated the provisions of this article. During such one-year period, it shall be unlawful for any distributor within this state to buy or receive wine from such person or to have any dealings with such person with respect thereto. Hearings and appeals on such notices may be had in the same manner as in the case of revocations of licenses under this article.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter or any other law to the contrary, any person or winery that is currently licensed and in good standing in its domicile state as a winery, farm winery, supplier or retailer of wine and who obtains a direct shipper's license from the commissioner, as provided in this chapter, may ship up to a maximum of two cases of wine per month directly to adult West Virginia residents who are twenty-one years of age or over, for such adult resident's personal use and consumption and not for resale. Licensed direct shippers must maintain accurate records of all shipments sent to West Virginia residents. All shipments of wine into West Virginia by licensed direct shippers shall be made by a licensed and bonded shipping carrier. Direct shippers and their carriers shall not ship wine to areas of West Virginia where wine may not be lawfully sold by county, local or municipal law. Any holder of a direct shipper's license must collect all taxes, sales taxes, municipal taxes and the liter tax due to West Virginia, remit all sales, municipal taxes and the liter tax to the Tax Commissioner at the close of each month and file a monthly return reflecting the taxes paid for all sales and shipments to residents in West Virginia. The commissioner shall prescribe the forms to be used to file the monthly returns. The shipping container of any wine sent into or out of this state under this subsection shall be clearly and conspicuously labeled to indicate that the package cannot be delivered to: (1) Any person under the age of twenty-one; (2) to an intoxicated person; or (3) to a person physically incapacitated due to the consumption of nonintoxicating beer, wine or alcoholic liquors or the use of drugs; and (4) the carriers are required to obtain a written or electronic signature upon delivery of an adult resident who the carrier verifies is at least twenty-one years of age or older and if the carrier is not able to obtain a signature of a verified adult resident at least twenty-one years of age or older, then the carrier may not complete the delivery of the wine shipment. Failure of any holder of a direct shipper's license or such licensee's carrier to abide by the provisions of this chapter and the commissioner's rules may subject the direct shipper to the penalties available to the commissioner under section eighteen of this article.

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**§60-8-6a. Direct shipper's license.**

(a) Before sending any shipment of wine to a resident of West Virginia, the direct shipper must first:

(1) File a license application with the commissioner with the appropriate background check information, using forms required by the commissioner. Criminal background checks will not be required of applicants licensed in their state of domicile who can provide a certificate of good standing from their state of domicile;

(2) Pay to the commissioner either the $150 license fee to ship and sell only wine, the $250 license fee to ship and sell wine and nonfortified dessert wine, port, sherry or Madeira wines, or the $300 multicapacity winery or farm winery license fee;

(3) Obtain a business registration number from the Tax Commissioner;

(4) Register with the office of the Secretary of State, if a corporation;

(5) Provide the commissioner a true copy of its current alcoholic beverage license issued in the state of domicile, proving that the direct shipper is licensed in its state of domicile as a winery, farm winery, supplier or retailer of wine;

(6) Obtain from the commissioner a direct shipper's license;

(7) Submit to the commissioner a list of all brands of wine to be shipped to West Virginia residents; and

(8) Meet all other licensing requirements of this chapter and provide any other information that the commissioner may reasonably require.

(b) All direct shipper licensees shall:

(1) Not ship more than two cases of wine per month to any person. A case is defined as any combination of packages containing not more than nine liters of wine;

(2) Not ship to any address in an area identified by the commissioner as a "dry" or local option area where it is unlawful to sell wine or alcoholic liquors;

(3) Not ship to any licensed suppliers, distributors, retailers, private wine bed and breakfasts, private wine restaurants, private wine spas or wine specialty shops;

(4) Not ship wine from overseas or internationally unless it is first shipped to a licensed supplier or distributor;

(5) Ensure that all containers of wine shipped directly to a resident in this state are clearly and conspicuously labeled with the words "CONTAINS ALCOHOL: SIGNATURE OF PERSON

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21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY";

(6) File monthly returns to the commissioner and the Tax Commissioner showing the total of wines, by type, sold and shipped into West Virginia for the preceding month;

(7) Pay to the Tax Commissioner all sales taxes, municipal taxes and the liter tax due on sales and shipments to residents of West Virginia in the preceding month, the amount of such taxes to be calculated as the sales were made in West Virginia at the location where delivery is made;

(8) Permit the Tax Commissioner or commissioner or their designees to perform an audit of the direct shipper's records upon request;

(9) Be deemed to have consented to the jurisdiction of the commissioner or any other state agency, the Kanawha County circuit court located in Charleston, West Virginia, concerning enforcement of this article and any other related laws, rules; and

(10) Provide proof or records to the commissioner, upon request, that all direct shipments of wine were purchased and delivered to an adult resident of West Virginia over the age of twenty-one years of age.

(c) The direct shipper may annually renew its license with the commissioner by application, paying the direct shipper license fee and providing the commissioner with a true copy of a current alcoholic beverage license from the direct shipper's domicile state.

(d) The commissioner may promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this law.

(e) The commissioner may enforce the requirements of this section by administrative proceedings to suspend or revoke a direct shipper's license, and the commissioner may accept payment of a penalty or an offer in compromise in lieu of suspension, at the commissioner's discretion.

(f) Shipments of wine direct to consumers in West Virginia from persons who do not possess a current direct shipper's license or other permit or license from the commissioner are prohibited. Any person who knowingly makes, participates in, transports, imports or receives such an unlicensed and unauthorized direct shipment is guilty of a felony and, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined in an amount not to exceed $10,000 per violation or shall be imprisoned in jail for a period not to exceed seventy-two hours. Without limitation on any punishment or remedy, criminal or civil, any person who knowingly makes, participates in, transports, imports or receives such a direct shipment constitutes an act that is an unfair trade practice.

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**§60-8-6b. Deliveries by licensed wine specialty shop.**

(a) A wine specialty shop with a current active license and in good standing with the commissioner may apply for the additional license privilege of delivering wine with a gift basket, to the purchaser or other person designated by the purchaser, as provided in this section.

(b) The wine specialty shop:

(1) May only deliver in the county where the wine specialty shop is located with all sales and municipal taxes accounted for and paid, as long as such county is not a dry county or such county does not contain dry local option areas. The delivery of wine is not permitted in a dry county or the dry local option areas;

(2) Shall ensure that all wine delivered is sealed in the original container and is clearly and conspicuously labeled with the words "CONTAINS ALCOHOL: SIGNATURE OF PERSON 21 OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY";

(3) Shall provide proof or records to the commissioner by filing monthly returns to the commissioner, on a form as prescribed by the commissioner, and the Tax Commissioner of all deliveries of wine which were purchased by and delivered to a person at least 21 years of age in the wine specialty shop's county of operation;

(4) Shall only deliver wine with a gift basket to addresses within the State of West Virginia and within the requirements noted in this subsection;

(5) Shall not deliver in excess of two cases of wine with a gift basket per month to any person or address;

(6) Shall not deliver wine to any private club, private wine restaurant, wine retailer, private wine bed and breakfast, or private wine spa; and

(7) May only deliver wine with a gift basket for personal use and not for resale to a person. The wine shall not be delivered and left at any address without verifying a person's age and identification as required in this section.

(c) The nonprorated, nonrefundable fee for the additional wine specialty shop delivery license privilege is $250.

(d) The wine delivered by the authority of this section may be ordered or purchased by telephonic, electronic, mobile, or web-based wine ordering when the purchaser is verified to be 21 years of age or older, and must be delivered by an officer or employee of the wine specialty shop licensee who is 21 years of age or older. If the person receiving the delivery is not the purchaser, the licensee must verify that the person receiving the wine is 21 years of age or older and not noticeably intoxicated prior to completing the delivery. Nonlicensed third parties may not deliver wine with a gift basket on behalf of a licensed wine specialty

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shop.

(e) Any vehicle delivering wine in a gift basket shall meet the permit requirements set forth in this chapter.

(f) The commissioner may propose rules for promulgation in accordance with §29A-3-1 et seq. of this code to effectuate the purposes of this section.

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**§60-8-6c. Winery and farm winery license to sell wine growlers and provide samples prior to purchasing a wine growler.**

(a) Legislative findings. — The Legislature hereby finds that it is in the public interest to regulate, control, and support the brewing, manufacturing, distribution, sale, consumption, transportation, and storage of wine and its industry in this state to protect the public health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of this state, and promote hospitality and tourism. Therefore, this section authorizes a licensed winery or farm winery with its principal place of business and manufacture located in this state to have certain abilities to promote the sale of wine manufactured in this state for the benefit of the citizens of this state, the state's growing wine industry, and the state's hospitality and tourism industry, all of which are vital components for the state's economy.

(b) Sales of wine. — A licensed winery or farm winery with its principal place of business and manufacture located in the State of West Virginia may, when licensed under this section, offer only wine manufactured by the licensed winery or farm winery for retail sale to customers from the winery or farm winery's licensed premises for consumption off-premises only in the form of original container sealed wine kegs, wine bottles, or wine cans, or also a sealed wine growler for personal consumption, and not for resale. A licensed winery or farm winery may not sell, give, or furnish its wine for consumption on the premises of the principal place of business and manufacture located in the State of West Virginia, except for the limited purpose of samples as permitted in subsection (c) of this section, for on-premises sales in accordance with §60-4-3b of this code, or for on-premises sales when separately licensed as a private wine restaurant or a private manufacturer club.

(c) Samples. — A licensed winery or farm winery with its principal place of business and manufacture located in the State of West Virginia may offer samples of wine as set forth in §60-4-3b of this code.

(d) Retail sales. — Every licensed winery or farm winery under this section shall comply with all the provisions of this article as applicable to wine retailers when conducting wine growler sales and is subject to all applicable requirements and penalties in this article.

(e) Payment of taxes and fees. — A winery or farm winery licensed under this section shall pay all taxes and fees required of licensed wine retailers, in addition to any other taxes and fees required, and shall meet applicable licensing provisions as required by this chapter and by rule of the commissioner.

(f) Advertising. — A licensed winery or farm winery under this section may advertise a particular brand or brands of wine produced by the licensed winery or farm winery and the price of the wine subject to state and federal requirements or restrictions. The advertisement may not encourage intemperance or target minors.

(g) Wine Growler defined. — For purposes of this section and section §60-8-6d of the code, "wine growler" means a container or jug that is made of glass, ceramic, metal, or other

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material approved by the commissioner, that may be no larger than 128 fluid ounces in size and is capable of being securely sealed. The growler may be used by an authorized licensee for purposes of off-premises sales only of wine for personal consumption, and not for resale. The wine served and sold in a sealed wine growler may include ice or water mixed with the wine to create a frozen alcoholic beverage. Any frozen alcoholic beverage machine used for filling wine growlers shall be sanitized daily and shall be under control and served by the licensee from the secure area. Notwithstanding any other provision of this code to the contrary, a securely sealed wine growler is not an open container under state and local law. A wine growler with a broken seal is an open container under state and local law unless it is located in an area of the motor vehicle physically separated from the passenger compartment. For purpose of this article, a secure seal means using a tamper evident seal, such as: (1) A plastic heat shrink wrap band, strip, or sleeve extending around the cap or lid of wine growler to form a seal that is broken when the container is opened; or (2) A screw top cap or lid that breaks apart when the wine growler is opened.

(h) Wine Growler requirements. — A winery or farm winery licensed under this section shall prevent patrons from accessing the secure area where the winery or farm winery fills a wine growler and prevent patrons from filling a wine growler. A licensed winery or farm winery under this section shall sanitize, fill, securely seal, and label any wine growler prior to its sale. A licensed winery or farm winery under this section may refill a wine growler subject to the requirements of this section. A winery or farm winery shall visually inspect any wine growler before filling or refilling it. A winery or farm winery may not fill or refill any wine growler that appears to be cracked, broken, unsafe, or otherwise unfit to serve as a sealed beverage container.

(i) Wine Growler labeling. — A winery or farm winery licensed under this section selling wine growlers shall affix a conspicuous label on all sold and securely sealed wine growlers listing the name of the licensee selling the wine growler, the brand of the wine in the wine growler, the alcohol content by volume of the wine in the wine growler, and the date the wine growler was filled or refilled. All labeling on the wine growler shall be consistent with all federal labeling and warning requirements.

(j) Wine Growler sanitation. — A licensed winery or farm winery authorized under this section shall clean and sanitize all wine growlers it fills or refills in accordance with all state and county health requirements prior to its filling and sealing. In addition, the licensed winery or farm winery shall sanitize, in accordance with all state and county health requirements, all taps, tap lines, pipelines, barrel tubes, and any other related equipment used to fill or refill growlers. Failure to comply with this subsection may result in penalties under this article.

(k) Fee. — There is no additional fee for a licensed winery or farm winery authorized under this section to sell wine growlers, but the licensee shall meet all other requirements of this section.

(l) Limitations on licensees. — To be authorized under this section, a licensed winery or farm



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winery may not produce more than 10,000 gallons of wine per calendar year at the winery or farm winery's principal place of business and manufacture located in the State of West Virginia. A licensed winery or farm winery authorized under this section is subject to the applicable penalties under this article for violations of this section.

(m) Rules. — The commissioner, in consultation with the Bureau for Public Health, may propose legislative rules concerning sanitation for legislative approval, pursuant to §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code, to implement this section.

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**§60-8-6d. Wine retailer, wine specialty shop, private wine restaurant, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine spa, Class B retail dealer, private club restaurant, private manufacturer club, Class A retail licensee, and Class B retail licensee's authority to sell wine growlers.**

(a) *Legislative findings*. — The Legislature hereby finds that it is in the public interest to regulate, control, and support the brewing, manufacturing, distribution, sale, consumption, transportation, and storage of wine and its industry in this state to protect the public health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of this state and promote hospitality and tourism. Therefore, this section authorizes a licensed wine retailer, wine specialty shop, private wine restaurant, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine spa, private club restaurant, private manufacturer club, Class A retail licensee, or Class B retail licensee to have certain abilities in order to promote the sale of wine manufactured in this state for the benefit of the citizens of this state, the state's growing wine industry, and the state's hospitality and tourism industry, all of which are vital components for the state's economy.

(b) *Sales of wine*. — A licensed wine retailer, wine specialty shop, private wine restaurant, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine spa, private club restaurant, private manufacturer club, Class A retail licensee, or Class B retail licensee who pays the fee in subsection (h) of this section and meets the requirements of this section may offer wine for retail sale to patrons from the licensed premises in a sealed wine growler for personal consumption off of the licensed premises, and not for resale. Prior to the sale, the licensee shall verify, using proper identification, that any patron purchasing wine is 21 years of age or over and that the patron is not visibly intoxicated. The nonprorated, nonrefundable annual fee to sell wine growlers is $100.

(c) *Retail sales.* — Every licensee authorized under this section shall comply with all the provisions of this article as applicable to wine retailers when conducting sales of wine in a wine growler and is subject to all applicable requirements and penalties in this article.

(d) *Payment of taxes and fees*. — A licensee authorized under this section shall pay all taxes and fees required of licensed wine retailers, in addition to any other taxes and fees required, and meet applicable licensing provisions as required by this chapter and by rule of the commissioner.

(e) *Advertising*. — A licensee authorized under this section may advertise a particular brand or brands of wine and the price of the wine, subject to state and federal requirements or restrictions. The advertisement may not encourage intemperance or target minors.

(f) *Wine Growler defined and requirements*. — A licensee authorized under this section shall use the wine growler definition and requirements in §60-8-6c(g) and §60-8-6c(h) of this code.

(g) *Wine Growler labeling and sanitation*. — A licensee authorized under this section shall label and sanitize wine growlers as set forth in §60-8-6c(i) and §60-8-6c(j) of this code.

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(h) *Complimentary samples*. — A licensee authorized under this section may provide complimentary wine growler samples to a person intending to purchase a wine growler which may be no greater than two fluid ounces per wine growler sample and a wine growler sampling shall not exceed three complimentary two fluid ounce samples per patron per day. A licensee authorized under this section providing complimentary wine samples shall, prior to providing any samples, verify that the patron sampling wine is 21 years of age or older and that the patron is not visibly or noticeably intoxicated.

(i) *Limitations on licensees*. — A licensee under this section may only sell wine growlers during the hours of operation set forth in this article. Any licensee licensed under this section shall maintain a secure area for the sale and filling of wine in a wine growler. The secure area shall only be accessible by the licensee. Any licensee licensed under this section is subject to the applicable penalties under this article for violations.

(j) *Non-applicability of certain statutes*. — Notwithstanding any other provision of this article to the contrary, licensees under this section are permitted to break the seal of the original container for the limited purpose of filling a wine growler or providing complimentary wine samples as provided in this section. Any unauthorized sale of wine or any consumption not permitted on the licensee's licensed premises is subject to penalties under this article.

(k) *Rules*. — The commissioner may propose legislative rules for legislative approval, pursuant to §29A-3-1 *et seq*. of this code, to implement this section.

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**§60-8-6e. Private wine delivery license for a licensed Class A wine licensee or a third party; requirements; limitations; third party license fee; private retail transportation permit; and requirements.**

(a) A Class A wine licensee who is licensed to sell wine for on-premises consumption may apply for a private wine delivery license permitting the order, sale, and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles or cans, or sealed wine growlers, when separately licensed for wine growler sales. The order, sale, and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles or cans, or sealed wine growlers is permitted for off-premises consumption when completed by the licensee or the licensee's employees to a person purchasing the wine through a telephone, mobile ordering application, or web-based software program, authorized by the licensee's license. There is no additional fee for a Class A wine licensee to obtain a private wine delivery license. The order, sale, and delivery process must meet the requirements of this section. The order, sale, and delivery process is subject to the penalties of this article.

(b) A third party, not licensed for wine sales or distribution, may apply for a private wine delivery license for the privilege of ordering and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles, or cans, or sealed wine growlers, from a licensee with a wine growler license. The order and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles or cans, or sealed wine growlers is permitted by a third party licensee when sold by a Class A wine licensee to a person purchasing the wine through telephone orders, mobile ordering application, or web-based software program for off-premises consumption. The private wine delivery license non-prorated, nonrefundable annual fee is $200 per third party entity, with no limit on the number of drivers and vehicles.

(c) The private wine delivery license application shall comply with licensure requirements in this article and shall contain any information required by the commissioner.

(d) *Sale Requirements*. —

(1) The wine purchase shall accompany the purchase of prepared food or a meal and the completion of the sale may be accomplished by the delivery of prepared food or a meal, and sealed wine by the licensee or third-party licensee.

(2) Any purchasing person shall be 21 years of age or older, shall not be visibly or noticeably intoxicated at the time of delivery, and shall meet the requirements set forth in this article for the sale of wine.

(3) "Prepared food or a meal" for this article, means food that has been cooked, grilled, fried, deep-fried, air-fried, smoked, boiled, broiled, twice baked, blanched, sautéed, or in any other manner freshly made and prepared, and does not include pre-packaged food from the manufacturer.

(4) An order, sale, and delivery may consist of no more than 384 fluid ounces of wine per

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delivery order; and

(5) A third-party private wine delivery licensee may not have a pecuniary interest in a Class A wine licensee, as set forth in this article. A third-party private wine delivery licensee may only charge a convenience fee for the delivery of wine as provided in this section. The third-party private wine delivery licensee may not collect a percentage of the delivery order for the delivery of alcohol but may collect a percentage of the delivery order directly related to prepared food or a meal. The convenience fee charged by the third-party private wine delivery licensee to the purchasing person may be no greater than $20 per delivery order where wine is ordered by the purchasing person. For any third-party private wine delivery licensee also licensed for nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating craft beer growler delivery as set forth in §11-16-6d of the code or craft cocktail growler delivery as set forth in §60-7-8f of the code, the total convenience fee of any order, sale, and delivery of a sealed growler, wine growler, or craft cocktail growler shall not exceed $20.

(e) *Private Wine Delivery Requirements*. —

(1) Delivery persons employed for the delivery of sealed wine shall be 21 years of age or older. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or a Class A wine licensee shall file each delivery person's name, driver's license, and vehicle information with the commissioner;

(2) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or the Class A wine licensee shall train delivery persons on verifying legal identification and in identifying the signs of intoxication. The third-party private wine delivery licensee shall submit certification of the training to the commissioner;

(3) The third party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee shall hold a retail transportation permit for each vehicle delivering sealed wine per subsection (g) of this section: *Provided*, That a delivery driver may retain an electronic copy of his or her permit as proof of licensure;

(4) Delivery of food or a meal, and sealed wine orders by a third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee may occur in the county or contiguous counties where the wine licensee is located;

(5) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee may only deliver prepared food or a meal and sealed wine to addresses located in West Virginia. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee shall account for and pay all sales and municipal taxes;

(6) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee may not deliver prepared food or a meal, and sealed wine to any other wine licensees;

(7) Deliveries of food or a meal, and sealed wine are only for personal use, and not for resale; and

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(8) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee shall not deliver and leave deliveries of prepared food or a meal, and sealed wine any address without verifying a person's age and identification as required by this section.

(f) Telephone, mobile ordering application, or web-based software requirements. —

(1) The delivery person shall only permit the person who placed the order through a telephone order, a mobile ordering application, or web-based software to accept the prepared food or meal, and wine delivery which is subject to age verification upon delivery with the delivery person's visual review and verification;

(2) Any mobile ordering application or web-based software used shall include the delivery driver's name and vehicle information and delivery shall be subject to legal identification verification;

(3) Any telephone ordering system shall maintain a log or record of the purchasing person's identification and details of the sale, accessible by the delivery driver for verification, shall include the delivery driver's name and vehicle information, and delivery shall be subject to legal identification verification;

(4) All records are subject to inspection by the commissioner, and the third-party private wine delivery licensee and Class A wine licensee shall retain the records for inspection for three years. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class A wine licensee may not unreasonably withhold the records from the commissioner's inspection; and

(5) Each vehicle delivering wine shall be issued a private wine retail transportation permit per subsection (g) of this section.

(g) *Private Wine Retail Transportation Permit*. —

(1) A Class A wine licensee or a third-party private wine delivery licensee shall obtain and maintain a retail transportation permit for the delivery of prepared food and sealed wine.

(2) A Class A wine licensee or a third-party private wine delivery licensee shall provide vehicle and driver information, requested by the commissioner. Upon any change in vehicles or drivers, the licensee shall update the driver and vehicle information with the commissioner within 10 days of the change.

(3) In conjunction with §60-6-12 of this code, a private wine retail transportation permit shall meet the requirements of a transportation permit authorizing the permit holder to transport wine subject to the requirements of this chapter.

(h) *Enforcement*. —

(1) The licensee or the third-party private wine delivery licensee are responsible for any violations committed by their employees or independent contractors under this article, and

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more than one violation may be issued for a single violation involving multiple licensees, employees, or independent contractors.

(2) Any license or permit granted by this section is subject to the penalties of probation, monetary fines, suspension, and revocation, as set forth in this article, for violations committed by the licensee, its employees, or independent contractors.

(3) It is a violation for any licensee, its employees, or independent contractors to break the seal of a wine bottle, wine can, or wine growler. A person who violates the provisions of this subdivision is subject to the maximum penalties available in this article.

(4) For purposes of criminal enforcement of the provisions of this article, persons ordering, purchasing, and accepting delivery of orders are considered to be purchasers.

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**§60-8-6f. Private wine delivery license for a licensed Class B wine licensee or a third party; requirements; limitations; third party license fee; private retail transportation permit; and requirements.**

(a) A Class B wine licensee who is licensed to sell wine for on-premises consumption may apply for a private wine delivery license permitting the order, sale, and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles or cans, or sealed wine growlers, when separately licensed for wine growler sales. The order, sale, and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles, cans, or sealed wine growlers is permitted for off-premises consumption when completed by the licensee or the licensee's employees to a person purchasing the wine through a telephone order, a mobile ordering application, or web-based software program, as authorized by the licensee's license. There is no additional fee for a Class B wine licensee to obtain a private wine delivery license. The order, sale, and delivery process shall meet the requirements of this section, and subject to the penalties of this article.

(b) A third party, not licensed for wine sales or distribution, may apply for a private wine delivery license for the privilege of the ordering and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles, or cans, or sealed wine growlers, from a licensee with a wine growler license. The order and delivery of wine in the original container of sealed bottles or cans, or sealed wine growlers is permitted for off-premises consumption by a third party licensee when sold by a Class B wine licensee to a person purchasing the wine through telephone orders, mobile ordering application, or web-based software program. The private wine delivery license non-prorated, nonrefundable annual fee is $200 per third party entity, with no limit on the number of drivers and vehicles.

(c) The private wine delivery license application shall comply with licensure requirements in this article and shall contain any information required by the commissioner.

(d) *Sale Requirements*. —

(1) The wine purchase may accompany the purchase of food and the completion of the sale may be accomplished by the delivery of food and sealed wine by the licensee or third-party private wine delivery licensee.

(2) Any purchasing person must be 21 years of age or older, shall not be visibly or noticeably intoxicated at the time of delivery, and shall meet the requirements set forth in this article for the sale of wine.

(3) Food, for purposes of this section, means food that has been cooked, microwaved, or that is pre-packaged food from the manufacturer;

(4) An order, sale, or delivery consisting of food and any combination of sealed wine bottles, cans, or growlers shall not be in excess of 384 fluid ounces of wine; and

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(5) A third-party private wine delivery licensee shall not have a pecuniary interest in a Class B wine licensee, as set forth in this article. A third-party private wine delivery licensee may only charge a convenience fee for the delivery of wine. The third-party private wine delivery licensee may not collect a percentage of the delivery order for the delivery of alcohol but may collect a percentage of the delivery order directly related to food only. The convenience fee charged by the third-party private wine delivery licensee to the purchasing person shall be no greater than $20 per delivery order where wine is ordered by the purchasing person. For any third-party licensee also licensed for nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating craft beer delivery as set forth in §11-16-6f of the code, the total convenience fee of any order, sale, and delivery shall not exceed $20.

(e) *Private Wine Delivery Requirements*. —

(1) Delivery persons employed for the delivery of sealed wine shall be 21 years of age or older. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or a Class B wine licensee shall file each delivery person's name, driver's license, and vehicle information with the commissioner;

(2) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee shall train delivery persons on verifying legal identification and in identifying the signs of intoxication and certification. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee shall submit certification of the training to the commissioner;

(3) The third party delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee must hold a retail transportation permit for each vehicle delivering sealed wine as required by subsection (g) of this section: *Provided*, That a delivery driver may retain an electronic copy of his or her permit as proof of licensure;

(4) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee may only deliver food and sealed wine orders by a third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee in the county where the wine licensee is located;

(5) The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee may only deliver food and sealed wine to addresses located in West Virginia with all sales and municipal taxes accounted for and paid;

(6) A third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee may not deliver food and sealed wine to any other wine licensees;

(7) Deliveries of food and sealed wine are only for personal use, and not for resale; and

(8) A third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee shall not deliver and leave food and sealed wine at any address without verifying a person's age and identification as required by this section.

(f) Telephone, mobile ordering application, or web-based software requirements. —

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(1) The delivery person shall only permit the person who placed the order through a telephone, a mobile ordering application, or web-based software to accept the food and wine delivery which is subject to age verification upon delivery with the delivery person's visual review and verification;

(2) Any mobile ordering application or web-based software used shall include the delivery driver's name and vehicle information and delivery shall be subject to legal identification verification;

(3) Any telephone ordering system shall maintain a log or record of the purchasing person's identification and details of the sale, accessible by the delivery driver for verification, must include the delivery driver's name and vehicle information, and delivery shall be subject to legal identification verification;

(4) All records are subject to inspection by the commissioner. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee shall retain the records for inspection for three years. The third-party private wine delivery licensee or Class B wine licensee may not unreasonably withhold the records from the commissioner's inspection; and

(5) Each vehicle delivering wine shall be issued a private wine retail transportation permit under subsection (g) of this section.

(g) *Private Wine Retail Transportation Permit*. —

(1) A Class B wine licensee or third party private wine delivery licensee shall obtain and maintain a retail transportation permit for the delivery of food and wine.

(2) A Class B wine licensee or third party private wine delivery licensee shall provide vehicle and driver information requested by the commissioner. Upon any change in vehicles or drivers, the licensee shall update the driver and vehicle information with the commissioner within 10 days of the change.

(3) In conjunction with §60-6-12 of this code, a private wine retail transportation permit shall meet the requirements of a transportation permit authorizing the permit holder to transport wine subject to the requirements of this chapter.

(h) *Enforcement*. —

(1) The licensee or third-party private wine delivery licensee are each responsible for any violations committed by their employees or agents under this article, and more than one violation may be issued for a single violation involving multiple licensees, employees, or independent contractors.

(2) Any license or permit granted by this section is subject to the penalties of probation, monetary fines, suspension, and revocation, as set forth in this article, for violations committed by the licensee, its employees, or independent contractors.

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(3) It is a violation for any licensee, its employees, or independent contractors to break the seal of a wine bottle, wine can, or wine growler. A person who violates the provisions of this subdivision is subject to the maximum penalties available in this article.

(4) For purposes of criminal enforcement of the provisions of this article, persons ordering, purchasing, and accepting delivery of orders are considered to be purchasers.

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## §60-8-6g. Special privilege of Class A private wine restaurant licensee to operate separate, but connected, Class B wine specialty shop license.

A Class A private wine restaurant licensee may, in the commissioner's discretion, operate Class B wine specialty shop license for the off-premises sale of nonintoxicating beer and wine in a connected but separately operated area of the Class A private wine restaurant is licensed premises: *Provided*, That each business is licensed separately and operates separate cash registers and maintains separation barriers between the different licensed operations. A licensee who fails to license two inner-connected businesses subjects the licensee to the penalties under this article.

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## §60-8-7. Records; inspection.

Every person who sells or ships wine as a direct shipper to West Virginia adult residents or who sells or ships wine to a distributor, and every distributor shall maintain records of all sales, shipments and deliveries, including invoices, records, receipts, bills of lading and other pertinent papers required by the commissioner. All such records shall be preserved for at least two years. The Tax Commissioner or the commissioner, or both, may inspect the books, accounts and records of any licensee and examine, under oath, any officer, agent or employee of any licensee or any person engaged in the business of selling, shipping or delivering wine to a distributor. The Tax Commissioner or the commissioner, or both, may require the production, within this state at the time and place the Tax Commissioner or the commissioner, or both, may designate, of any books, accounts, papers or records kept within or without the state, or verified copies in lieu thereof, in order that an examination thereof may be made by the Tax Commissioner, the commissioner or their duly designated agents.

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## §60-8-8. Authorizing wineries and farm wineries to sell and serve wine at fairs and festivals.

All wineries and farm wineries also possessing a Class A wine license or private manufacturer club license may serve and sell wine as set forth in §60-4-3b and §60-8-3 of this code at any licensed fair or festival in the state of West Virginia, subject to the fair or festival licensee granting the winery or farm winery permission to do so in writing.

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**§60-8-9.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1991 Reg. Sess., Ch. 118.

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**§60-8-10.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1991 Reg. Sess., Ch. 118.

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**§60-8-11.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1991 Reg. Sess., Ch. 118.

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**§60-8-12.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1991 Reg. Sess., Ch. 118.

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**§60-8-13.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1991 Reg. Sess., Ch. 118.

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**§60-8-14.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1983 Reg. Sess., Ch. 9.

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**§60-8-15.**

Repealed.

Acts, 1991 Reg. Sess., Ch. 118.

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**§60-8-16. Application for license.**

(a) Any person desiring a license under this article shall file a written application for a license with the commissioner and in the application shall state under oath:

(1) The name of the applicant, including his or her trade name if any, his or her residence address and the length of his or her residence;

(2) The address of the place of business for which the license is desired, or other description that definitely locates it; and that the place of business conforms to all health and fire laws and regulations applicable thereto;

(3) The name of the owner of the premises upon which the business is to be conducted and, if the owner is not the applicant, that the applicant is the bona fide lessee of the business;

(4) If the application is for a retailer's license, that the applicant is the proprietor or owner of a bona fide grocery store, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, private wine spa, or wine specialty shop;

(5) That the applicant intends to carry on the business authorized by the license for himself or herself or under his or her immediate supervision or direction;

(6) That the applicant is a citizen of the United States;

(7) That the applicant shall include a manager on the applicant's license application, or a licensee's renewal application, and further that the manager shall meet all other requirements of an applicant for licensure set forth in this section, including, but not limited to, United States citizenship or naturalization, passing a background investigation, being at least 21 years of age, being a suitable person, being of good morals and character, and other requirements, all as set forth in the code and the legislative rules, in order for the manager to be able to meet and conduct any regulatory matters, including, but not limited to: Licensure or enforcement matters related to the applicant or licensee all in the interest of protecting public health and safety and being a suitable applicant or licensee. In order to maintain active licensure, any change by a licensee in any manager listed on an application must be made immediately to the commissioner, in order to verify that the new manager meets licensure requirements;

(8) That the applicant is not less than 21 years of age;

(9) That the applicant has not been convicted of a felony or other crime involving moral turpitude within the three years next preceding the filing of the application; and that he or she has not, within the two years next preceding the filing of the application, been convicted of violating the liquor laws of any state or of the United States;

(10) That the applicant has not during the five years next preceding the date of said application had any license revoked under this chapter or under the liquor laws of any other

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state;

(11) If the applicant is a firm, association, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, or corporation, the application shall state the matters required in subdivisions (6), (8), (9), and (10) of this subsection, with respect to each of the members and the manager thereof, and each of said members and the manager must meet all the requirements in said subdivisions;

(12) If the applicant is a corporation, organized or authorized to do business in this state, the application shall state the matters required in subdivisions (6), (8), (9), and (10) of this subsection, with respect to the manager and each of the officers and directors thereof, and any stockholder owning 20 percent or more of the stock of the corporation and any other persons who conduct and manage the licensed premises for the corporation. Each of said individuals must meet all the requirements provided in those subdivisions except that the requirements as to citizenship may not apply to the officers, directors, and stockholders of a corporation applying for a retailer's license; and

(13) If the applicant is a trust or has a trust as an owner, the trustees or other persons in active control of the activities of the trust relating to the license shall provide a certification of trust as described in §44D-10-1013 of this code. This certification of trust shall include the excerpts described in §44D-10-1013(e) of this code and shall further state, under oath, the names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and birth dates of the beneficiaries of the trust and certify that the trustee and beneficiaries are 21 years of age or older. If a beneficiary is not 21 years of age, the certification of trust must state that the beneficiary's interest in the trust is represented by a trustee, parent, or legal guardian who is 21 years of age and who will direct all actions on behalf of the beneficiary related to the trust with respect to the distributor until the beneficiary is 21 years of age. Any beneficiary who is not 21 years of age or older shall have his or her trustee, parent, or legal guardian include in the certification of trust and state under oath his or her name, address, Social Security number, and birth date.

(14) Any other information that the commissioner may reasonably require of the applicant, or licensee, or the applicant or licensee's manager.

The foregoing statements required in an application are mandatory prerequisites for the issuance of a license.

The application must be verified by the owner, manager, or in the case of a firm, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, association, or trust, the members, officers, trustees, or other persons in active control of the activities of the limited liability company, association, or trust relating to the license. The application of a corporation applying for a retailer's license need be verified only by its president or vice president.

(b) In the case of an applicant that is a trust or has a trust as an owner, a distributor license may be issued only upon submission by the trustees or other persons in active control of the

activities of the trust relating to the distributor license of a true and correct copy of the written trust instrument to the commissioner for his or her review. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the copy of the written trust instrument submitted to the commissioner pursuant to this section is confidential and is not a public record and is not available for release pursuant to the West Virginia Freedom of Information Act codified in §29B-1-1 *et seq*. of this code.

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**§60-8-17. License issuance or refusal; terms of license.**

(a) Upon receipt of the completed application, fee, and bond if required, the commissioner shall conduct any investigation he or she considers necessary to determine the accuracy of the matters contained in the completed application for the applicant or manager. For the purposes of conducting such investigation, the commissioner may withhold the granting or refusal to grant a license for a period not to exceed 30 days or until the applicant has completed the conditions set forth in §60-8-16 of this code. If it appears that the applicant, and the manager in the application or a licensee and manager in the renewal application, subject to investigation set forth in this section, is a suitable person, is located at a suitable premise, there is no false statement, no material misrepresentations, no hidden ownership, no persons with an undisclosed pecuniary interest contained in the application, and that the issuance of the license would not be in conflict with any of the provisions of this chapter, the commissioner shall issue the license. Otherwise the commissioner shall refuse to issue the license.

(b) The commissioner shall refuse the license of any applicant if he or she finds that any such applicant or manager is not a suitable person, that the place of business of the applicant is not a suitable place, or that the applicant has not complied with the provisions of this chapter. Upon refusal to issue the license, the commissioner shall enter an order refusing such application. The refusal is final unless a hearing is requested in accordance with the provisions of §60-8-18 of this code. When the refusal becomes final the commissioner shall immediately refund to the applicant his or her fees and bond accompanying the application.

(c) The license expires on June 30 next following the date it was issued and may be renewed upon the same showing as required for the issuance of the initial license, together with the payment of fee and filing of any bond required by this article.

(d) A licensee that fails to complete a renewal application and make payment of its annual license fee in renewing its license on or before June 30 of any subsequent year, after initial application, shall be charged an additional $150 reactivation fee. The licensee must pay the applicable full-year annual license fee and the reactivation fee prior to the processing of any renewal application. A licensee who continues to operate upon the expiration of its license is subject to all fines, penalties, and sanctions available in §11-16-23 of this code, as determined by the commissioner.

(e) The license may not be transferred to another person, but the location of the premises to which the license relates may be changed with the written consent of the commissioner, if the new location satisfies the requirements of this article upon an initial application and payment of a new application fee.

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**§60-8-18. Revocation, suspension, and other sanctions which may be imposed by the commissioner upon the licensee; procedure for appealing any final order of the commissioner which revokes, suspends, sanctions, or denies the issuance or renewal of any license issued under this article.**

(a) The commissioner may on his or her own motion, or shall on the sworn complaint of any person, conduct an investigation to determine if any provisions of this article or any rule promulgated or any order issued by the commissioner has been violated by any licensee. After investigation, the commissioner may impose penalties and sanctions as set forth in this section.

(1) If the commissioner finds that the licensee has violated any provision of this article or any rule promulgated or order issued by the commissioner, or if the commissioner finds the existence of any ground on which a license could have been refused, if the licensee were then applying for a license, the commissioner may:

(A) Revoke the licensee's license;

(B) Suspend the licensee's license for a period determined by the commissioner not to exceed 12 months;

(C) Place the licensee on probation for a period not to exceed 12 months; or

(D) Impose a monetary penalty not to exceed $1,000 for each violation where revocation is not imposed.

(2) If the commissioner finds that a licensee has willfully violated any provision of this article or any rule promulgated or any order issued by the commissioner, the commissioner shall revoke the licensee's license.

(b) Whenever the commissioner refuses to issue a license, or suspends or revokes a license, places a licensee on probation, or imposes a monetary penalty, he or she shall enter an order to that effect and cause a copy of the order to be served in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, on the licensee or applicant.

(c) An applicant or licensee, as the case may be, adversely affected by the order has a right to a hearing before the commissioner if a written demand for hearing is served upon the commissioner within 10 days following the receipt of the commissioner's order by the applicant or licensee. Timely service of a demand for a hearing upon the commissioner operates to suspend the execution of the order with respect to which a hearing has been demanded, except an order suspending a license under the provisions of §60-8-29 of this code. The person demanding a hearing shall give security for the cost of the hearing in a form and amount required by the commissioner. If the person demanding the hearing does not substantially prevail in the hearing or upon judicial review thereof as provided in subsections (f) and (g) of this section, then the costs of the hearing shall be assessed against

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him or her by the commissioner and may be collected by an action at law or other proper remedy.

(d) Upon receipt of a timely served written demand for a hearing, the commissioner shall immediately set a date for the hearing and notify the person demanding the hearing of the date, time, and place of the hearing, which shall be held within 30 days after receipt of the demand. At the hearing, the commissioner shall hear evidence and thereafter enter an order supporting by findings of facts, affirming, modifying, or vacating the order. Any such order is final unless vacated or modified upon judicial review.

(e) The hearing and the administrative procedure prior to, during, and following the hearing shall be governed by and in accordance with the provisions of §29A-5-1 *et seq.* of this code.

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of §29A-5-4(b) of this code, an applicant or licensee adversely affected by a final order entered following a hearing has the right to judicial review of the order code in the Circuit Court of Kanawha County or the circuit court in the county where the proposed or licensed premises is located and will or does conduct sales: *Provided*, That in all other respects, the review shall be conducted in the manner provided in Chapter 29A of this code. The applicant or licensee shall file the petition for the review with the circuit court within 30 days following entry of the final order issued by the commissioner. An applicant or licensee obtaining judicial review is required to pay the costs and fees incident to transcribing, certifying, and transmitting the records pertaining to the matter to circuit court.

(g) The judgment of the circuit court reviewing the order of the commissioner is final unless reversed, vacated, or modified on appeal to the Supreme Court of Appeals in accordance with the provisions of §29A-6-1 of this code.

(h) Legal counsel and services for the commissioner in all proceedings in any circuit court and the Supreme Court of Appeals shall be provided by the Attorney General or his or her assistants and in any proceedings in any circuit court by the prosecuting attorney of that county as well, all without additional compensation.

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## §60-8-19. To whom licensed manufacturer may sell.

A licensed manufacturer who is licensed as a supplier of wine, as defined in this article, may sell such wines in this state only to the commissioner and to distributors as defined in this article. Such manufacturers may sell such wine outside of this state for use or resale outside this state. The provisions of this section shall not apply to farm wineries as defined by section five-a, article one of this chapter.

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**§60-8-20. Unlawful acts generally.**

It is unlawful:

(a) For a supplier or distributor to sell or deliver wine purchased or acquired from any source other than a person registered under the provisions of §60-8-6 of this code or for a retailer to sell or deliver wine purchased or acquired from any source other than a licensed distributor or a farm winery as defined in §60-1-5a of this code;

(b) Unless otherwise specifically provided by the provisions of this article, for a licensee under this article to acquire, transport, possess for sale, or sell wine other than in the original package;

(c) For a licensee, his or her servants, agents or employees to sell, furnish or give wine to any person less than 21 years of age, or to a mentally incompetent person or person who is physically incapacitated due to the consumption of alcoholic liquor or the use of drugs: *Provided*, That the provisions of section §60-3A-25a of this code shall apply to sales of wine;

(d) For a licensee to permit a person who is less than 18 years of age to sell, furnish or give wine to any person, except as provided for in subsection (g) of this section;

(e) For a supplier or a distributor to sell or deliver any brand of wine purchased or acquired from any source other than the primary source of supply of the wine which granted the distributor the right to sell the brand at wholesale. For the purposes of this article, "primary source of supply" means the vintner of the wine, the importer of a foreign wine who imports the wine into the United States, the owner of a wine at the time it becomes a marketable product, the bottler of a wine or an agent specifically authorized by any of the above-enumerated persons to make a sale of the wine to a West Virginia distributor: *Provided*, That no retailer shall sell or deliver wine purchased or acquired from any source other than a distributor or farm winery licensed in this state: *Provided*, however, That nothing herein is considered to prohibit sales of convenience between distributors licensed in this state wherein one distributor sells, transfers, or delivers to another distributor a particular brand or brands for sale at wholesale, of which brand or brands the other distributor has been authorized by a licensed supplier to distribute. The commissioner shall promulgate legislative rules necessary to carry out the provision of this subsection;

(f) For a person to violate any rule promulgated by the commissioner under this article;

(g) Nothing in this article, nor any rule or regulation of the commissioner, shall prevent or be considered to prohibit any licensee from employing any person who is at least 18 years of age to serve in any licensee's lawful employment, including the sale of wine or distribution of wine on behalf of a winery, farm winery, farm entity, supplier, or distributor under the provisions of this article. With the prior approval of the commissioner, a licensee may employ persons who are less than 18 years of age but at least 16 years of age: *Provided*, That the person's duties may include the sale of nonintoxicating beer or wine only when

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directly supervised by a person 21 years of age or older: *Provided, however,* That the authorization to employ persons under 18 years of age shall be clearly indicated on the licensee's license: *Provided, further,* That nothing in this article, nor any rule or regulation of the commissioner, shall prevent or be considered to prohibit any licensee from employing any person who is at least 21 years of age for the ordering and delivery of wine when licensed for the ordering and delivery of wine under the provisions of this article.

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**§60-8-20a. Unlawful acts by persons.**

(a) Any person under the age of twenty-one years who purchases, consumes, sells, possesses or serves wine or other alcoholic liquor is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed $500 or shall be incarcerated in the county jail for a period not to exceed seventy-two hours, or both fined and imprisoned, or, in lieu of such fine and incarceration, may, for the first offense, be placed on probation for a period not to exceed one year.

Nothing in this article, nor any rule or regulation of the commissioner, shall prevent or be deemed to prohibit any person who is at least eighteen years of age from serving in the lawful employment of any licensee, which may include the sale or delivery of wine as defined in this article. Further, nothing in this article, nor any rule or regulation of the commissioner, shall prevent or be deemed to prohibit any person who is less than eighteen but at least sixteen years of age from being employed by a licensee whose principal business is the sale of food or consumer goods or the providing of recreational activities, including, but not limited to, nationally franchised fast food outlets, family-oriented restaurants, bowling alleys, drug stores, discount stores, grocery stores and convenience stores: Provided, That such person shall not sell or deliver wine or alcoholic liquor.

Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a person who is at least eighteen years of age from purchasing or possessing wine or alcoholic liquor when he or she is acting upon the request of or under the direction and control of any member of a state, federal or local law-enforcement agency or the West Virginia alcohol beverage administration while the agency is conducting an investigation or other activity relating to the enforcement of the alcohol beverage control statutes and the rules and regulations of the commissioner.

(b) Any person under the age of twenty-one years who, for the purpose of purchasing wine or other alcoholic liquors from a licensee, misrepresents his or her age, or who for such purpose presents or offers any written evidence of age which is false, fraudulent or not actually his or her own, or who illegally attempts to purchase wine or other alcoholic liquors, is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed $50 or shall be imprisoned in the county jail for a period not to exceed seventy-two hours, or both such fine and imprisonment, or, in lieu of such fine and imprisonment, may, for the first offense, be placed on probation for a period not exceeding one year.

(c) Any person who shall knowingly buy for, give to or furnish wine or other alcoholic liquors from any source to anyone under the age of twenty-one to whom they are not related by blood or marriage, is guilty of a misdemeanor and, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined in an amount not to exceed $100 or shall be imprisoned in the county jail for a period not to exceed ten days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

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## §60-8-21. Sale in sealed, labeled packages required.

All wines sold pursuant to this article, except that sold pursuant to the provisions by article seven of this chapter, shall be sold only in sealed packages, bearing such seals and labels as the commissioner may require. A manufacturer of wine offered for sale by any licensee shall attach to each bottle a special label bearing an accurate description of the contents of the bottle in such form and detail as the commissioner may require.

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## §60-8-22. Sales on credit prohibited; exception.

It shall be unlawful for a distributor to sell or offer to sell, or a retailer to purchase or receive, any wine except on a cash basis and no right of action exists to collect any claims for credit extended contrary to the provisions of this subdivision: Provided, That nothing herein prohibits, as a credit on any subsequent sale, the crediting of the purchase price charged for wine returned by the purchaser because of damage, spoilage, erroneous shipments or orders and other such reasons customary in the trade: Provided, however, That a distributor may accept an electronic transfer of funds if the transfer of funds is initiated by an irrevocable payment order on the invoiced amount for the wine. The cost of the electronic fund transfer must be borne by the retailer and the distributor must initiate the transfer no later than noon of one business day after the delivery.

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**§60-8-23. Duties and powers of commissioner; rules.**

(a) The commissioner is authorized:

(1) To enforce the provisions of this article.

(2) To enter the premises of any licensee at reasonable times for the purpose of inspecting the premises and determining the compliance of the licensee with the provisions of this article and any rules promulgated by the commissioner.

(3) In addition to rules relating to the tax imposed by §60-8-4 of this code or otherwise authorized by this article, to promulgate reasonable rules as he or she deems necessary for the execution and enforcement of the provisions of this article, which may include, but shall not be limited to:

(A) The transport, use, handling, service and sale of wine;

(B) Establishing standards of identity, quality and purity to protect the public against wine containing deleterious, harmful or impure substances or elements and against spurious or imitation wines and wines unfit for human consumption; and

(C) Restricting the content of wine advertising so as to prohibit false or misleading claims, or depictions or descriptions of wine being consumed irresponsibly or immoderately, or advertising presentations designed to appeal to persons below the legal drinking age: *Provided,* That the commissioner shall not promulgate any rule which prohibits the advertising of a particular brand or brands of wine and the price thereof, or which prohibits or restricts the advertising medium used: *Provided, however,* That price shall not be advertised in a medium of electronic communication subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission.

(4) To issue subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum for the purpose of conducting hearings under the provisions of §60-8-12 of this code, which subpoenas and subpoenas duces tecum shall be issued in the time, for the fees, and shall be enforced in the manner specified in §29A-5-1 of this code with like effect as if said section was set forth in extenso in this subdivision.

(b) The authority granted in this subsection and subsections (a) and (d) of this section may also be exercised by the duly authorized or designated agents of the commissioner.

(c) Except as may be in this article to the contrary, the commissioner shall not have authority by rule or otherwise to regulate markups, prices, discounts, allowances or other terms of sale at which wine may be purchased or sold by wine distributors or licensees authorized to sell wine at retail but nothing herein shall be deemed to authorize or permit any discriminatory practice prohibited by §60-8-31(a), of this code or any other discriminatory practice.

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(d) All rules promulgated by the commissioner pursuant to this article shall be so promulgated in accordance with the provisions of chapter 29A of this code. The rules promulgated pursuant to the prior enactment of this article and not disapproved by the Legislature shall remain in full force and effect to the extent that such rules are not abrogated and made null and void by the reenactment of the sections of this article during the regular session of the Legislature for 1986. Any rule which is inconsistent or contrary in any way to any provision of this article now or hereafter enacted are null and void.

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## §60-8-24. Disposition of revenue.

(a) The first $200,000 of fees collected under the provisions of this article during each fiscal year shall be deposited into a special revolving fund designated the Tax Commissioner's Wine Tax Administration Fund, which fund is hereby created in the State Treasury. The Tax Commissioner's Wine Tax Administration Fund shall be used by the Tax Commissioner to administer and support direct and indirect costs of the Tax Division for administration, collection, including compliance enforcement, auditing and distribution of taxes on wine imposed by this code and for which the Tax Commissioner has administration, collection, compliance enforcement, auditing or distribution functions or responsibilities.

(b) After collection and deposit of the first $200,000, as specified in subsection (a) of this section, all fees collected by the Alcohol Beverage Control Commissioner under the provisions of this article shall next be deposited in the State Treasury and credited to a special fund to be known as the Wine License Special Fund. All moneys in the Wine License Special Fund may be expended only by the Alcohol Beverage Control Commissioner for the administration of the provisions of this article or, to the extent of any excess, for the administration of this chapter or as may be appropriate by law.

(c) The liter tax imposed and collected by the Tax Commissioner under the provisions of this article shall be paid into the State Treasury and deposited in the General Revenue Fund of the state.

(d) All moneys collected by the Alcohol Beverage Control Commissioner and the Tax Commissioner under the provisions of this article shall be remitted to the State Treasury monthly within fifteen days after the end of each month.

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## §60-8-25. Criminal penalties; public nuisances.

(a) Any person who violates any provision of this article or who makes any false statement concerning any material fact in submitting application for license or for a renewal of a license or in any hearing concerning the suspension or revocation thereof, or who commits any of the acts herein declared to be unlawful, is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall for each offense be fined not less than $100 nor more than $1,000, or imprisoned in the county jail not less than thirty days nor more than six months, or both fined and imprisoned. Magistrate courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court for the trial of all misdemeanors arising under this article.

(b) The provisions of sections sixteen and seventeen, article six of this chapter shall apply to persons violating the provisions of this article to the same extent as if such provisions were set forth in extenso herein.

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## §60-8-26. Forfeiture of bond.

On conviction of a violation of any provision of this article, upon the revocation of a license in accordance with section eighteen of this article or upon finding of failure of a taxpayer to pay all taxes prescribed by section four of this article, which conviction, revocation or finding has become final, the licensee, former licensee or company registered and licensed as a supplier or distributor, as the case may be, shall forfeit any bond required by section twenty-nine of this article. The penal sum of any bond forfeited shall forthwith be paid to the state Treasurer and credited to the General Revenue Fund of this state. Such sum may be collected by an action at law or other appropriate remedy.

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## §60-8-27. Local option elections.

The question "Shall the sale of alcoholic beverages under the West Virginia liquor control commission be permitted in ....."? stated in the petition and ballot under the provisions of sections three and five, article five of this chapter shall be deemed to include therein the sale of wine under the provisions of this article. Within thirty days after a "local option election" conducted under the provisions of article five of this chapter in which a majority has voted "No," the commission shall close all state stores and discontinue all agencies within the county or municipality as provided in section seven, article five of this chapter, and each retailer shall cease the sale of wine.

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## PART III. WINE DISTRIBUTION.

### §60-8-28. Wine brand licensing and registration and review of wine labels.

Every supplier offering wine for sale under this article shall register with the commissioner each wine brand offered for sale in the state and shall pay a fee of $100 for the registration of such wine brand for three years, such fee shall be returned to the supplier if the wine is not registered for sale. No wine brand may be sold under this article unless all of such wine brand's labels intended for sale in the state have been registered and reviewed by the commissioner. Every supplier offering various wine labels of a registered and reviewed wine brand for sale in the state shall submit all of the wine brand's labels intended for sale in the state for registration prior to the sale of such wine labels in the state for no additional fees. After the expiration of three years, the supplier may renew the registered wine brand by paying a $100 renewal fee for three more years and every three years thereafter. Prior to registration of any wine labels, the commissioner shall review the wine labels. This review shall include, but not be limited to, a review of the alcohol content, corporate or product information, marketing and advertising so that the wine label is not intended to be marketed to persons less than twenty-one years of age. The commissioner shall remove all nonrenewed wine labels and any licensee who sells wine with nonrenewed wine labels shall be subject to the penalties under section eighteen of this article. Failure to register, obtain certification and pay the annual fee for a wine brand and failure to register the wine brand's labels will subject the supplier to penalties under said section.

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## §60-8-29. Affidavit of compliance required of distributors and suppliers.

Each applicant for a distributor's license or a supplier's license shall furnish at the time of application an affidavit of compliance with federal and state laws regarding tied house laws, trade practice requirements, and furnishing things of value requirements set forth in the code and the rules. The commissioner shall suspend the licenses of licensed distributors and suppliers upon 10 days written notice by the commissioner, for failing to pay their taxes to the Tax Commissioner or who are not otherwise in good standing with the commissioner and other state agencies. If the licensed distributors and suppliers fail to pay their taxes or otherwise fail to take corrective actions to put the licensed distributors and suppliers in good standing within 30 days from the date of suspension of the licensee's license, then the commissioner shall revoke the licensee's license pursuant to the requirements of this article.

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## §60-8-30. Exclusive franchise agreements prohibited.

It shall be illegal for any manufacturer, winery, farm winery or supplier to enter into any exclusive franchise agreement with any distributor whereby any such distributor is given the exclusive right within this state or in any given territory within this state to distribute the product or products of such manufacturer which are to be sold or distributed pursuant to the provisions of this article. Further, all agreements between a manufacturer, winery, farm winery or supplier and a distributor must be in writing and on file with the commissioner and all such agreements must provide for termination of either party provided that notice of termination is provided in writing and by certified mail to the commissioner and all parties to the agreement ninety days prior to the termination date. Once the notice has been received by either party, the distributor shall: (1) Use the ninety-day period to deplete such distributor's affected wine inventory; or (2) reach some agreement with the manufacturer, winery, farm winery or supplier to return unused salable wine inventory or receive payment for unused salable wine inventory. No new distributor shall be appointed until the conclusion of the ninety days or as the parties have otherwise agreed to complete the termination. For the purposes of this article, "salable" shall mean inventory fit for human consumption or as otherwise determined by the commissioner.

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## §60-8-31. Other unlawful acts.

It is unlawful:

(a) For a distributor to discriminate in price, sales agreements, terms or services offered to retailers, licensees or to any licensee under article seven of this chapter and further it is unlawful for a supplier to discriminate against a distributor in price, sales agreements, terms or services. "Discriminate", as used in this section, means the granting of more favorable prices, agreements, terms or services to one person than to another.

(b) For a distributor, his or her agents, servants or employees to transport or deliver wine to any retail licensee or to any licensee under article seven of this chapter on Sunday or any general election day.

(c) For a distributor to sell wines authorized by this article to licensees under article seven of this chapter at a price which is greater than the price at which such wines are sold and distributed to retailers under this article.

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## PART IV. WINE RETAILERS.

### §60-8-32. Where wine may be sold at retail.

Except as to sales permitted to be made by wineries or farm wineries that obtain a retailer's license, private wine bed and breakfasts, private wine restaurants and private wine spas, wine sold pursuant to this article may be sold at retail only by the commissioner and in and by retailers and wine specialty shops as defined by section two of this article.

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**§60-8-32a. Where wine may be sold and consumed for on-premises consumption.**

(a) With prior approval of the commissioner, a Class A wine licensee may sell, serve, and furnish wine for on premises consumption in a legally demarcated area which may include a temporary private wine outdoor dining area or a temporary private wine outdoor street dining area. A temporary private wine outdoor street area shall be approved by the municipal government or county commission in which the licensee operates. The commissioner shall develop and make available an application form to facilitate the purposes of this subsection.

(b) The Class A wine licensee shall submit to a municipality or county commission for the approval of the private wine outdoor dining area or private wine outdoor street dining area and submit to the municipality or county commission a revised floorplan requesting to sell wine, subject to the commissioner's requirements, in an approved and bounded outdoor area. For private wine outdoor street dining or private wine outdoor dining the approved and bounded outdoor area need not be adjacent to the licensee's licensed premises, but in close proximity and under the licensee's control and with right of ingress and egress. For purposes of this section, "close proximity," means an available area within 300 feet of the licensee's licensed premises.

(c) This private wine outdoor dining or private wine outdoor street dining may be operated in conjunction with a private outdoor dining or private outdoor street dining area set forth in §60-7-8d of this code, and nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating craft beer outdoor dining or outdoor street dining set forth in §11-16-9 of this code.

(d) For purposes of this section, "private wine outdoor dining and private wine outdoor street dining" include dining areas that are:

(1) Outside and not served by an HVAC system for air handling services and use outside air;

(2) Open to the air; and

(3) Not enclosed by fixed or temporary walls; however, the commissioner may seasonally approve a partial enclosure with up to three temporary or fixed walls.

Any areas where seating is incorporated inside a permanent building with ambient air through HVAC is not considered outdoor dining pursuant to this subsection.

(e) Class A licensees licensed for on-premises sales shall provide food, which may be pre-packaged food not requiring kitchen preparation, or a meal along with sealed wine in the original container or a sealed wine growler sales and service as set forth in this section and in §60-8-3 of this code, to a patron who is (i) in-person or in-vehicle while picking up food and sealed wine in the original containers or sealed wine growlers ordered-to-go, or (ii) in-person to a patron who dined on food or a meal and has ordered sealed wine in the original containers of sealed wine growlers to-go subject to verification that the purchasing person is

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21 years of age or older, and not visibly, or noticeably intoxicated, and as otherwise specified in this article.

(f) West Virginia farm wineries possessing a Class A license may serve and sell wine by the glass or by the bottle in accordance with §60-4-3b and §60-8-32a of this code.

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## §60-8-33. Certain prohibitions not applicable.

The prohibitions contained in subdivisions (h) and (j), section thirteen, article sixteen, chapter eleven of this code and the prohibitions contained in subdivisions (1), (2) and (3), section seven, article six of this chapter shall not apply to the holder of a retailer's license issued under the provisions of this article: Provided, That all prohibitions contained within this article shall apply to the holder of a retailer's license notwithstanding the provisions of this section.

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## §60-8-34. When retail sales prohibited.

It is unlawful for a retailer, farm winery, wine specialty shop retailer, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, or private wine spa licensee, his or her servants, agents, or employees to sell or deliver wine between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. or, it is unlawful for a winery, farm winery, private wine bed and breakfast, private wine restaurant, or private wine spa, his or her servants, agents, or employees to sell wine between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. in any county upon approval as provided for in §7-1-3ss of this code, or between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on weekdays, Saturdays, and Sundays.

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## §60-8-35. Other unlawful acts.

No person while on the premises of any retailer licensed pursuant to this article shall:

(1) Break the seal on any package or bottle of wine;

(2) Consume alcoholic liquor, wine or beer; or

(3) Loiter.

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