Baltimore County Department of Health
Cooperating Taverns and Alcohol Retailers' Agreement

Whereas, underage drinking and over-serving patrons create serious threats to the health and safety of youth and the general public; and

Whereas, I am a responsible merchant and member of the greater Baltimore County community committed to reducing these threats; and

Whereas, my objective is for my establishment to provide a safe and entertaining place for the public to meet; and

Whereas, I understand that a pivotal part of providing such an atmosphere is the serving of food and drink in a responsible manner; and,

Whereas, as a responsible seller of alcohol, I realize this agreement includes the exercise of due diligence in serving only individuals who are 21 years old or older, and refraining from serving patrons who are intoxicated.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, REPRESENTING THE ESTABLISHMENT LISTED ON THIS CONTRACT, AGREE TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Strive to prevent sales or service to anyone under the age of 21 by diligently checking acceptable forms of ID (valid photo driver's license, valid photo state-issued identification card, U.S. Active-duty military ID, valid passport).
- Assure proper ID is presented by checking identification of all patrons who appear to be under the age of 40.
- Utilize an *ID Checking Guide* which is revised and updated annually as a reference for verifying identification.
- If you have any reservations regarding serving alcohol to a young patron, ask for a second form of ID and ask questions to look for signs of hesitation that might suggest that the ID presented is not the person's valid ID.
- Post signs warning that individuals under 21 years old will not be served.
- Post signs warning of the penalties to adults who provide alcohol to individuals under 21 years of age.
- Strive to sweep bars/taverns at 9 p.m. for individuals under 21 who entered prior to the 9 p.m. cut-off (Class D).
- Strive to utilize ID scanning devices when possible.
- Strive to avoid alcohol displays that appeal to youth.
- Allow no drinking games on premises (e.g., beer pong).
- Strive to avoid promotions or drink specials that may lead to over consumption. Promote food specials to complement beverages.
- Provide support for servers who refuse service to intoxicated persons. Offer non-alcoholic beverages and assistance in finding a safe way home.
- Strive to encourage designated drivers by offering a selection of adult alcohol-free alternative beverages.
- Strive to maintain good relations with neighbors (encourage patrons to behave responsibly when leaving establishment by signage or verbally).
- Strive to maintain adequate and well-trained staff. Promote responsible service training for management and staff. Provide written policies and procedures for all new hires and require that they sign-off on policy list.

_____

Name of Establishment (please print)

_____

Street Address City State Zip

Signature(s) **Printed Name/Title** **Date**

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

Phone number(s) **Email address**

_____ _____

Additional Commitment (*optional*)

In my establishment, I agree to have at least one employee present <u>per shift</u> currently trained in a certified alcohol awareness program. This goes above and beyond the requirement of 1 trained employee per establishment, in Baltimore County.
To agree, please initial here_____.

PRINT, SIGN AND RETURN BY EMAIL, FAX OR MAIL

behavioralhealth@baltimorecountymd.gov | 410-494-2767
Baltimore County Department of Health | 6401 York Road, Baltimore, MD 21212 | ATTN: Behavioral Health

A WINDOW CLING DENOTING YOUR ESTABLISHMENT AS A *COOPERATING TAVERN AND ALCOHOL RETAILER* WILL BE SENT WHEN YOUR SIGNED AGREEMENT IS RECEIVED.