Administrator’s Corner - TABC Focus

Forming a Realignment Workgroup

The State of Texas continues to face some tough economic times. State agencies were asked to look at their organizations to determine ways to reduce costs while still providing the level of service that citizens have come to expect and need. We survived the 82nd Legislative Session relatively unscathed and did not have to lay off any personnel. (We did, however, lose some positions that were already vacant.)

I anticipate the next legislative session will come with hard questions about whether we can reduce our TABC workforce to cut costs. I expect we will be prepared to respond to these questions again during the 83rd Legislative Session.

As a result, TABC is in the process of re-aligning resources within our organization to improve regulation of the alcohol industry. Effective September 1, 2011, TABC reconfigured the state to three regions with five districts instead of five regions with 17 districts.

Why are we re-aligning resources? I’d like to paint for you a picture. I personally looked at a map of the State of Texas, with statistics tied to each county: number of licenses/permits, number of complaints and investigations, number of enforcement officers, number of compliance officers, and number of licensing staff.

The vast majority of our work is in the Houston and Dallas metropolitan areas. But our staff was, seemingly, spread equally across the landscape.

The changes allow for a more balanced distribution of about 15,247 licensed locations per region and 3,049 licensed locations per district. Under the realignment, each agent will be responsible for about 224 licensed locations and auditors will be assigned about 832 locations.

Under the new plan, TABC will have three regional directors – one in Arlington, one in Houston and one in San Antonio; two captains – one in Lubbock and one in Austin; five compliance supervisors; and 15 lieutenants, 28 sergeants, 204 agents and 55 auditors.

Region One is the North Texas Region and Assistant Chief Dexter Jones oversees the operations. This region includes the Panhandle down to Loving, Crockett and Kimble counties all of the way to East Texas. It includes Districts One (Lubbock) and Two (Arlington, Regional Office).

Region Two is the Coastal Bend Region under the direction of Assistant Chief Earl Pearson and includes only District Three. The Regional Office will remain in Houston.

Continued on page 2
Region Three is the Border Region and Assistant Chief Rod Venner oversees operations. Region Three covers from El Paso County to Cameron County along the border and East from El Paso County to Jackson County. The region includes two districts – District Four in the Austin area and District Five that includes San Antonio (Regional Office), El Paso, Alpine, Del Rio, McAllen, Laredo and Corpus Christi.

We are currently in the process of updating our website to reflect these changes. The information will be located in the “Contact Us” section of our public website. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at any time.

The Executive team and I requested assistance from a workgroup comprised of regional and headquarters staff. The Workgroup, working within the confines of the Regional Structure described above, will work through the tough issues of transfers, promotions, budget allocations, and research data that complicates this effort. The workgroup will consider processes, procedures, policies, communication, technology, automation, training, telecommuting and deploy-from-home options, tools, reporting systems, and roles and responsibilities relating to the realignment.

Alan Steen, Administrator

TABC Tri-Regional Workgroup members pictured from left to right.

Front Row: Bruce Harlan (Training), Elizabeth Zamora (Compliance), Carolyn Almstedt (Compliance), Michael Deans (Enforcement), Roy Hale (Business Services), and David Brandon (Information Resources).

Second Row: Anna Contreras (Ports of Entry), Darla Elam (Licensing), Elsa Dovalina (Compliance), Joe Cavazos (Enforcement), Todd Talley (Enforcement), and Steven Moore (Compliance).

Third Row: Judith Kennison (Legal), Cathleen Cavazos (Enforcement), Harry Nanos (Enforcement), Elizabeth Wuehrmann (Business Services), Randy Field (Enforcement), William “Randy” Chatham (Enforcement), and Donny Betts (Compliance).

Fourth Row: Loretta Doty (Human Resources), Shuddell Lindsey (Enforcement), Tom Johnson (Compliance), and Loretta Green (Licensing).

Fifth Row: Andy Pena (Office of Professional Responsibility), Roland Luna (Ports of Entry), Sherry Cook (Executive), Yvette Price (Licensing), Richard Wills (Licensing), Jeff Taylor (Enforcement), Earl Pearson (Enforcement), and Alan Steen (Executive).
Staff Retirements

HQ Division Directors Charlie Kerr and Bobby Gideon Retire

TABC TODAY

Tax and Education Division Director Charlie Kerr Retires

After 29 years of dedication and service to TABC and the State of Texas, Tax and Education Division Director Charlie Kerr retired on August 31, 2011. Kerr began his career at TABC in December 1980 as a field auditor assigned to the Houston District Office. In 1984, he left the Commission to serve in the private sector, and returned in 1986, as a special investigative auditor.

By 1987, Kerr had been appointed to the Commission’s First Organized Task Force and relocated to Austin, Texas. In 1988, he promoted to the agency’s internal auditor position which he held until 2000. Kerr then was appointed to the Director of Fiscal Services which later merged with the General Services Division in May 2000. He then became the Director of Business Services and was known as TABC’s chief financial officer. Kerr’s final position with the agency came on April 1, 2010, when he was appointed as Director of the Tax and Education Division. “Charlie provided strategic leadership during legislative sessions, agency realignments, and day-to-day operations,” said TABC Assistant Administrator, Sherry Cook. “His attention to detail and proactive planning was an asset to the agency.”

TABC Captain Bobby Gideon Retired

After more than 28 years of law enforcement service to the state, Captain Robert “Bobby” Gideon retired on May 31, 2011. He joined TABC in September 2007 as the Director of the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) assigned to Austin Headquarters. In February 2009 Captain Gideon transferred to Director of the Training Division and served in the position until his retirement this spring.

Prior to TABC, he served 26 years at the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS). In 1981, he attended the DPS Recruit School as a trainee and obtained his Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) Basic Peace Officer Certification. In June 1982 he began his career as a DPS trooper and was stationed in Waco. After serving 11 years on patrol, he transferred to Austin Headquarters in 1993, to serve as sergeant at the DPS Training Academy. In 2005, he was assigned a senior trooper position for the Drivers License Service and Texas Highway Patrol, which he served for 12 years.

During his law enforcement career, Gideon received numerous licenses and awards from TCLEOSE including a Master Peace Officers Certification, a Classroom, Firearms, and Standard Field Sobriety Test Instructor Certification and an Academic Recognition Award. Bobby Gideon graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Education and minored in law enforcement from Texas A & M University in 1990. “Bobby was instrumental in taking the OPR and Training Divisions to a higher level,” said Assistant Chief of the Coastal Bend Region, Earl Pearson.
Regional Employees Hank Blanchard and Debra Jones Retire

TABC Captain Robert “Hank” Blanchard Retires

After 25 years of state law enforcement service, Captain Robert “Hank” Blanchard of Amarillo retired on August 31, 2011. He joined the agency in 1986, and after completion of the Harris County Sheriff’s Academy he was assigned to the Lubbock District Office.

During his tenure, Blanchard served in Lubbock, Odessa and Amarillo. In 1992, he was awarded a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) Intermediate Peace Officer Certification and Instructors License. Blanchard was instrumental in the development of the original Project SAVE. He began to promote within the agency shortly after Project SAVE was implemented and eventually advanced to the rank of captain in 2007.

Prior to TABC, Blanchard graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanized Agriculture from Texas Tech University. “Hank was known for his knowledge of the code and service to his community that he lived in,” said Assistant Chief of the Border Region, Rod Venner. “He was a good mentor and role model not only to his agents but also to anyone who worked with him.”

TABC Lieutenant Debra Jones Retired August 31

After 27 years in law enforcement, Lieutenant Debra Jones of Beaumont retired on August 31, 2011. She began her career with TABC in 1984, and has been stationed in San Antonio, El Paso, Austin, and Beaumont. She spent 15 years as an agent in the San Antonio and El Paso Districts, before she transferred to the Training Division at TABC’s Austin Headquarters in 1999.

During her career, Jones was assigned to a DEA Task Force, and was on the original Project SAVE education committee. In 2001, she returned to El Paso after promoting to Sergeant; and in 2002, she was appointed to Lieutenant and transferred to the Beaumont District Office. Ms. Jones served as a member of the Southeast Texas Law Enforcement Council, the Board for the Regional Alcohol and Drug Abuse Advisory Coalition, and as the chair of their Law Enforcement Committee.

Prior to TABC, she graduated from Tarleton State University with a degree in Criminal Justice. “Debra was dedicated and loyal to the agency,” said Assistant Chief of the Border Region, Rod Venner. “She was an excellent representative of the agency during interactions with the community.”
Staff Arrivals and Departures

Meet Elizabeth Zamora in the San Antonio Regional Office

TABC TODAY

TABC Welcomes New Compliance Assistant Regional Supervisor

Elizabeth Zamora joined TABC as the Compliance Assistant Regional Supervisor for the San Antonio Office on June 15, 2011. Prior to arriving at TABC, she served 12 years in the United States Marine Corps (USMC) from 1998 - 2010 as a Military Police Officer and Trainer, Criminal Investigator, Substance Abuse Control Officer and Anti-Terrorism Officer. She was stationed at the Marine Corps Air Station in Iwakuni, Japan; and at the Marine Corps Base Camp in Lejeune, North Carolina.

In 2010, Zamora earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Professional Studies with concentrations in Criminal Justice, Forensic Science and Organizational Behavior from Duquesne University in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. The experience she brings makes her a great fit for TABC. She is excited about her new position and looks forward to her career with the agency.

Additional TABC Staff Retirements April - August 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Tamara Krejci</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant IV Licensing Division, HQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Elias Arriaga</td>
<td>Agent V Abilene Enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elaine Cheser</td>
<td>Accounts Examiner IV Licensing Division, HQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Leonard Guzman</td>
<td>Agent VI Floresville Outpost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Alton Williamson</td>
<td>Agent VI Abilene Enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laura Willingham</td>
<td>Accounts Examiner III McAllen Licensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Robert Gonzalez</td>
<td>TABC Sergeant San Antonio Enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Horton</td>
<td>Agent VI Houston Enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timothy Maloney</td>
<td>Agent VI Tyler Outpost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tommy Rodgers</td>
<td>Agent VI Longview Enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Russell, Jr.</td>
<td>Agent VI Amarillo Enforcement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This chart summarizes the alcohol related changes made during the 82nd Legislative Session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Number</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HB 11</td>
<td>9/1/2011</td>
<td>Requires all license and permit holders authorized to sell to retailers to file a report with the State Comptroller showing such sales.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 457</td>
<td>5/27/2011</td>
<td>A charitable organization may only promote or advertise a raffle statewide, on the organization’s Internet website or through a publication or solicitation, including a newsletter, social media, or electronic mail, provided only to previously identified supporters of the organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1199</td>
<td>9/1/2011</td>
<td>Creates an enhanced penalty (class A misdemeanor) for a DWI with a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) of .15 or over. Creates an enhanced penalty (2nd degree felony) for an intoxication assault if the commission of the offense causes a traumatic brain injury that results in a persistent vegetative state.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1401</td>
<td>9/1/2011</td>
<td>A municipality that includes an area annexed to the municipality on or after the date on which a petition requesting a local option election in the municipality is filed may hold the election in the municipality only if the petition contains a sufficient number of signatures to meet the requirements of Section 501.032, based on the number of qualified voters in the municipality, including the annexed area. The qualified voters of the annexed area must be allowed to vote in the local option election. The results of the election shall determine the local option status of the municipality, including the annexed area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1469</td>
<td>9/1/2011</td>
<td>Exempts veteran and fraternal organizations from performance bond requirements for certain BGs and BEs in a county with a population of 1.4 million or more. BG’s (on-premise beer and wine permits) and BE’s (on-premise beer licenses) located in Dallas, Tarrant, Harris and Bexar (as of 9/1/11). Counties that do not hold a food and beverage certificate and whose primary business is not food are required to post an initial surety (performance) bond in the amount of $2,000. This bill would exempt veteran and fraternal organizations from this bond requirement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1936</td>
<td>9/1/2011</td>
<td>Serves three functions: first, increases the administrative fee on alcoholic beverages from 50 cents to $3 per container; second, equalizes the importation limits between Texas residents and non-Texas residents, increasing the importation limit for Texans from one quart to one gallon of distilled spirits every 30 days; and third, allows for the importation of a personal collection of beer and/or distilled spirits by persons moving to Texas. No taxes would be owed to the state and no licensing or paperwork required by TABC. Current law allows the importation of a wine collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 1952</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gives TABC the specific statutory authority, after notice and hearing, to cancel or</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued on page 7
suspend the commission’s approval of a seller training program, the commission’s certification of a trainer to teach a seller training program, or the commission’s certification of a seller-server upon violation of the Alcoholic Beverage Code or an Administrative Rule. The commission may give a program, trainer, or seller-server the opportunity to pay a civil penalty rather than be subject to suspension under this subsection.

5/28/2011

HB 1953  Amends the current requirement (new on-premise consumption cannot file a license/permit application with TABC until public notice has been posted at the location for at least 60 days) to say that the application can be filed, but TABC cannot issue the license/permit until notice has been posted at the location for at least 60 days. 9/1/2011

HB 1956  Increases the time a district court judge has to hear and decide on an appeal from 10 days to 20 days. 9/1/2011

HB 1959  Allows an applicant for a permit or license that is refused certification by the county clerk, city secretary or city clerk to appeal the refusal of the certification and is entitled to a hearing before the County Judge. TABC is not involved in this process. 9/1/2011

HB 2012  Classifies a Texas winery as a retailer for the purposes of 102.32 Sale of Liquor: Credit Restrictions when the winery purchases wine from a wholesaler for resale to the ultimate consumer in unbroken packages. In other words, wineries will be subject to credit law restrictions when purchasing wine from a wholesaler to resell to the ultimate consumer. If a winery fails to pay a wholesaler on time, the winery shall be placed on the statewide delinquent list and no wine may be purchased from wholesalers until the account is paid in full. 9/1/2011

HB 2014  TABC shall refuse to issue for a period of three years a permit or license for any location to an applicant who submitted a prior application that expired or was voluntarily surrendered before the hearing on the application was held on a protest involving allegations of human trafficking. Also, states that the agency shall refuse to issue a license or permit for the location for 12 months after cancellation for prostitution and human trafficking. Adds human trafficking to the list of offenses which the commission may choose to punish by suspension only, rather than giving the license/permit holder the option of suspension or payment of civil penalty. 9/1/2011

HB 2033  For informational purposes only, a mixed beverage or private club permit holder may include on a customer’s bill or receipt a separate statement disclosing the amount of gross receipts tax to be paid by the permittee. The separate

Continued on page 8
### Bill Number

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>statement must clearly disclose the amount of tax payable by the permittee. The tax may not be separately charged to or paid by the customer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/17/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 2035  Allows a temporary relocation of the premises of a distributor or wholesaler due to emergency situations caused by natural disaster or catastrophe, weather, fire, earthquake, or act of God.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/17/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 2582  Repeals 25% excise tax exemption for beer manufacturers and brewpubs whose annual production of beer in this state does not exceed 75,000 barrels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9/1/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 2702  Increases the population numbers in multiple statutes to maintain status quo following the release of the 2010 Census results. 109.57(e) AB Code: A city that meets certain population requirements (now increased) may regulate the location of a private club if the club derives 35 percent or more of their gross revenue from alcoholic beverages, it is in a dry area, and it is not a fraternal or veterans organization or the holder of a food and beverage certificate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9/1/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 2707  TABC shall refuse to issue or renew a license or permit for on-premises consumption if the applicant, the owner of the premises, or an officer of the owner of the premises for which the permit/license is being sought previously held a permit or license under this code that was canceled or not renewed in the past three years as a result of a shooting, stabbing, or other violent act. This does NOT apply if the license or permit is being sought for an establishment that holds a food and beverage certificate, but does not hold a late hours license or permit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6/17/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 2817  Provides a general clean up of the Election Code. Specific to local option elections: First, it verifies that a JP precinct is a political subdivision for the purposes of Chapter 501 of the elections code. Second, clarifies the requirements for the published notice of intent to file an application for petition. Third, requires the county to collect a deposit from petitioners before issuing a petition in those cases where the county is not required to pay the initial election-related expenses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9/1/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 3329  Allows for a nonprofit corporation to obtain a daily temporary private club permit for a fund-raising event. This bill also establishes certain restrictions which will apply to these types of permits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9/1/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB 3474  See SB 1331 on next page.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9/1/2011</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SB 323  Applies to Members of Limited Liability Companies the same protections against responsibility for company debts (and other obligations) that shareholders currently have as to corporate obligations. As for the purposes of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Continued on page 9**
the TABC, we have been using these references as stipulated by the bill. **9/1/2011**

**SB 351** Increases the maximum capacity of a wine container sold to a retailer from 4.9 gallons to 8 gallons. **4/21/2011**

**SB 364** Requires DPS to collect and maintain certain information about DWI arrests and prosecutions in the State of Texas and to provide annual reports concerning that data to the legislature. It also requires agencies that participate in DWI arrests and prosecutions to provide statistical information to DPS concerning such cases in the manner and form required by that department. **9/1/2011**

**SB 438** The holder of a winery festival permit may not offer wine for sale on more than four consecutive days at the same location. Previously, a winery festival permit could not be used for more than five days in a 30-day period or for more than three consecutive days at the same location. **6/17/2011**

**SB 799** Clarifies that a “first sale” does not include the sale of wine from a winery to another winery or to a wholesaler. Those sales are not subject to excise tax. **6/17/2011**

**SB 890** Requires TABC to adopt rules that allow wholesalers to clean and maintain coil connections on wine kegs. **9/1/2011**

**SB 1030** Requires a sign be posted for 60 days by an applicant for an SOB license or permit issued by the city/county for a location not currently licensed or permitted, rather than not previously licensed or permitted. **6/17/2011**

**SB 1179** Reduces the frequency of reports that are required by state law to be submitted by a state agency to another state agency in order to increase government efficiency and avoid unnecessarily using limited resources. The bill repeals section 5.09 of the Alcoholic Beverage Code which requires TABC to draft an Annual Report. **6/17/2011**

**SB 1331** Provides immunity for possessing or consuming alcohol to a minor who calls 911 because someone is a possible victim of alcohol poisoning. Must be the first person to call for medical assistance, remain on the scene until medical assistance arrives, and cooperate with EMS and law enforcement. Enhances penalty for providing alcohol to a minor at a gathering that involved binge drinking or coerced drinking: to include community service, an alcohol awareness course, and driver’s license suspension. **9/1/2011**

**SB 1732** Authorizes the Adjutant General’s Office to contract with an entity to operate post exchanges at no more than three state military bases. The post exchange can sell wine and beer if the contractor obtains a wine and beer off-premises permit from TABC. **6/17/2011**

For the full text of bills passed, visit the Texas Legislature Online at [www.capitol.state.tx.us](http://www.capitol.state.tx.us)
On September 5, 2011, while many Central Texas families were celebrating the Labor Day national holiday, thousands of Bastrop citizens fled to escape the engulfing flames of the Bastrop fire. Shortly after the blaze broke out, TABC agents were on scene partnering with local and county first responders to assist with the massive evacuation efforts. As initial reports emerged on media air waves and personal communication devices, TABC employees volunteered at an information phone bank and assisted in planning incident response with Sheriff Terry Pickering of Bastrop County.

The Bastrop fire originated in several areas. The most striking feature of the incident area was the randomness of the fire’s destruction. Agents witnessed a house in nearly pristine condition standing amidst devastation and then the reverse, a single home destroyed while other surrounding homes were utterly untouched or suffered only a few scorch marks.

During the evacuation, TABC agents assisted with the removal of burning debris around homes and turned on water at homes under threat. Eventually, agents who helped to save homes returned to check them. While assisting with emergency efforts, one TABC agent, a Bastrop resident learned that his home had survived but many of his neighbors’ homes had not.

By the next day, smoke and ash loomed in the air and on every surface as the three fires in Bastrop County were still uncontained. TABC deployed additional agents and civilian personnel from local offices in and around Austin, Waco, and San Antonio. As employees reported for duty, a newly established “Incident Command Post” was operational at the Bastrop County Convention Center. TABC’s first assignment was to control the area of Tahitian Village, which eventually, became the agency’s “bailiwick.” The area, full of narrow, winding roads and steep hills had trails throughout with copious vegetation.

Continued on page 11
Continued from page 10

That, combined with the exceptional drought provided ample fuel for the flames. In the first few days, it became clear that the event would affect a large number of people. The possibility of the fire growing beyond containment concerned Sheriff Pickering, who requested additional TABC agents to assist with the Public Safety Mission. TABC Administrator, Alan Steen responded by adding additional personnel from all corners of Texas: El Paso, McAllen, Amarillo and Longview bringing the number of TABC employees to approximately 70.

After the first week, re-entry plans came to the forefront. TABC had taken sole responsibility for the entire Tahitian and Colo Vista Communities. Ten TABC employees volunteered to assist in the issuing of passes and prepared residents for re-entry. The plan, a “phased re-entry” allowed only one neighborhood or area per day, and heavy patrol presence after the first day of “residents only” access. As the controlled re-entry plan emerged, volunteers issued color-coded “pre-registered” access passes to returning residents. Tahitian Village was scheduled last to re-enter. By the second weekend, the phased re-entry plan had been fully implemented and duties had evolved into a patrol function. This allowed agents who were farthest from home to return and a reduced contingent to remain on site. Agents worked tirelessly during response efforts to achieve their mission. They approached their duties knowing that they would return to the comfort of their own homes but many of the residents of Bastrop County could not.

On September 9, 2011, a donation drive was held for Bastrop Wildfire Victims at TABC’s Austin Headquarters. As a result, Austin-area employees generously donated over two truck loads of items including clothing, toys, canned goods, and pet food. TABC Assistant Chief, Dexter Jones and Sergeants James Molloy and Jeff Taylor transported the donated items to the Bastrop Christian Ministerial Alliance (BCMA). The BCMA, is an association of ministers from local churches and ministries serving the Bastrop community. The BCMA distributed TABC’s donations directly to fire victims in shelters and at distribution centers.
In response to the 82nd Legislative Session, the Licensing Division has been working hard to make changes to their policies and procedures. The following is an update of changes relevant to the industry.

**Increased Surcharges**
- H.B. 1 (the General Appropriations Bill in the 82nd Legislature) authorized the commission to increase the surcharges pursuant to Alcoholic Beverage Code §5.50.
- The commission adopted Rule 33.23 which increases the amount of the surcharges currently paid by permit, license and certificate holders.
- The fee chart became effective September 1, 2011 and is available on the public web page at [www.tabc.state.tx.us/](http://www.tabc.state.tx.us/)
- Effective August 25, 2011, the Tax Assessor Collectors started collecting the new surcharges for original applications and renewals with an expiration date of August 31, 2011, or after.

**Bexar County Fee Increase/Requirement**
- Wine and Beer Retailer’s permits (BG’s) and Retail Dealer’s On-premise Licenses (BE’s) located in a county with a population of 1.4 million are required to pay a higher fee for an original or renewal application. (Acts of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005). The 2010 Federal Census (United States Census Bureau) indicates that Bexar County is a county with a population of 1.4 million or more.

(b) The annual state fee for a wine and beer retailer’s permit or a retail dealer’s on-premise license in connection with an establishment located in a county with a population of 1.4 million or more is $750. The original application fee for a wine and beer retailer’s permit or a retail dealer’s on-premise license in connection with an establishment located in a county with a population of 1.4 million or more is $1,000. Please note that licenses and permits are issued for two years therefore, the total fee will be $2,000 (original) and $1,500 (renewal). Reference Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code: Sec 25.02(b) and 69.02(b).

**Bexar County Performance Bonds**
- Wine and Beer Retailer’s permits (BG’s) and Retail Dealer’s On-premise Licenses (BE’s) located in a county with a population of 1.4 million are required to post a “Performance” bond with the Commission unless that establishment holds a food and beverage certificate and the primary business operated on the premise is food service.
- The performance bond must be made only on forms prescribed by the Commission: Surety Bond, Assignment of Security, or Irrevocable Letter of Credit.
- Refer to our website for a complete chart of fees and surcharges as well as performance bond forms at: [www.tabc.state.tx.us/](http://www.tabc.state.tx.us/)
Sec 11.61 (b-1) Cancellation or Suspension of Permit

- The initial amount of the performance bond is $2,000. The performance bond shall be forfeited to the commission if a violation of the TABC Code results in a suspension or civil penalty.
- Before the suspended license or permit may be reinstated, the licensee or permittee must furnish a second surety bond in the amount of $4,000. If the same license or permit is suspended a second time, the bond is again forfeited to the commission. Before the suspended license or permit may be reinstated, the licensee or permittee shall furnish a third surety bond in the amount of $6,000. If the same license or permit is suspended a third time, the bond is again forfeited to the commission and the license or permit shall be canceled by the commission.
- If a conduct surety bond is in place at the time of the third forfeiture of the performance bond, the conduct surety bond shall also be forfeited.

REMINDER:
The 2010 Census results may have changed the hours of sale and consumption of alcohol in your community. If your city or county had a population of LESS than 500,000 in the 2001 Census, and it never legalized “late hours,” and it now has a population of MORE than 800,000 based on the 2010 Census, your city or county has changed from standard hours to late hours.

- That means that retailers can obtain a Late Hours Permit to authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages until 2:00 am.
- This also means that the public consumption of alcoholic beverages is legal until 2:15 am. See Sections 105.03 and 105.05 of the Alcoholic Beverage Code.
On September 1, 2011, the quantity of alcoholic beverages imported into Texas for personal use increased from one quart of liquor to one gallon of distilled spirits. A person may also import 24 twelve-ounce containers of beer/malt beverages and three gallons of wine. Prior to September 1, Section 107.07 of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code allowed Texas residents to import three gallons of wine, and non-Texas residents one gallon. The law now allows both Texas residents and non-Texas residents to import the same quantities of alcoholic beverages.

The administrative fee was adjusted from $0.50 to $3.00, which altered an additional portion of §107.07. A person who is relocating their household may import a personal collection of malt beverages, wine, or distilled spirits as part of their household goods. Prior to September 1, 2011, §107.11 only allowed the importation of a personal wine collection as part of their household goods.

The TABC does not require a permit for personal importations. The Ports of Entry Division, which is responsible for regulating importations, anticipates an increase in revenue collection, and a decrease in the amount of containers.

### Prior to Sept 1, 2011 - Tax Rate and Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Size</th>
<th>State Tax</th>
<th>Admin Fee</th>
<th>Rounding-Up</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minis</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Pints</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pints</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quart</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>$1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Gallon</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>$1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malt Liquor</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer 6-pack</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer Case</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigarettes</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### After Sept 1, 2011 - Tax Rate and Fees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container Size</th>
<th>State Tax</th>
<th>Admin Fee</th>
<th>Rounding-Up</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minis</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Pints</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pints</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td>0.48</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quart</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>$3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 Gallon</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>$4.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Gallon</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>$5.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malt Liquor</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer 6-pack</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beer Case</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>0.14</td>
<td>$3.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cigarettes</td>
<td>1.41</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tax Division Update

Partnering to Prevent Illegal Shipments

TABC Collaborates with Global Delivery Companies to Stop Illegal Wine Shipments into Texas

The TABC is collaborating with FedEx Express and FedEx Ground, subsidiaries of FedEx Corp. (FedEx) and United Parcel Services (UPS) to thwart the illegal shipment of wine into Texas. In May 2011, TABC met with representatives from UPS and FedEx to discuss options for preventing out of state retailers from selling and shipping wine to consumers in Texas.

Texas law requires that anyone selling alcoholic beverages in the state must hold a TABC license or permit. The law does not authorize TABC to issue a license or permit to a retailer outside of Texas. A retailer is defined as a company that buys alcoholic beverages and then re-sells them to the ultimate consumer. The term does not include wineries.

TABC notified the retailers repeatedly requesting that they cease these illegal shipments. “I can’t say enough regarding FedEx and UPS’ willingness to come to the table and work with TABC,” said TABC Administrator Alan Steen. “We all see the value of working together on the front end to ensure legal transactions and a satisfied and educated customer. This collaboration is a proactive step toward that end.”

Both UPS and FedEx have policies that prohibit customers from using their service to ship wine without authorization from the origin and destination states. TABC provided FedEx and UPS with a list of retailers who have recently shipped wine into Texas illegally. In turn, these companies notified those retailers that shipping wine without the proper authority is a violation of their agreement and puts their business relationship at risk.

TABC will continue to provide UPS and FedEx with monthly lists of unlicensed retailers shipping wine into Texas until the illegal activity ceases. The agency will also be contacting the retailers directly. Finally, for those companies who continue to violate the law, TABC will notify the alcoholic beverage control agencies of their home states. “The wine industry is one of the fastest and most competitive aspects of the beverage alcohol industry today,” said Steen. “Local access, convenience and competition in Texas are ever-growing, and I strongly believe consumer needs can be met through legal channels available in our state.”

Texans who are looking for wine that is not available in their local stores have several options. Texans in wet or dry parts of the state can have wine legally shipped to their front door from the holder of a Texas Winery Permit or an Out of State Winery Direct Shipper’s Permit. There are over 200 wineries in Texas, 800 wineries in California and over 200 wineries in 24 other states that are authorized to sell and ship wine directly to consumers in Texas.

For additional information on illegal wine shipments, or to read the full press release visit our website: http://tinyurl.com/TABCcollaborates
Legislation Bans Synthetic Products

Informing Retailers to Stop Sales

TABC TODAY

Increase in Texas Wineries and Gallons Produced (in millions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winery Permits Not Producing</th>
<th>Winery Permits Producing</th>
<th>Gallons of Wine Produced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2004</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2005</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2006</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2007</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2008</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2009</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2010</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2011</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td>2.96</td>
<td>3.05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of wineries in Texas has tripled in the last seven years. Although the amount of wine produced in Texas increased steadily from 2004 to 2010, it dropped off some last year. The number of wineries outside of Texas who are licensed to ship wine to Texas consumers has increased steadily since the first direct shipper permits were issued in October 2005.

Breaking News: The K2/Spice Fad Is Coming to an End

TABC is announcing to permittees that if you have been selling incense that goes by the name of K2, Spice, Genie or Fire & Ice, it’s time to pull it off the shelves.

K2, also known as Spice, Genie or Fire & Ice, was being marketed as a legal alternative to marijuana. However, Senate Bill 331 by Florence Shapiro banned six subclasses of synthetic cannabinoids, creating a new Penalty Group 2-A to regulate the substances. As of September 1, 2011, possession of these synthetic cannabinoids or ‘fake weed’ is classified as a misdemeanor or felony depending on the amount possessed.

The sale or manufacture is a felony.

TABC is responsible for the criminal and administrative enforcement of the state’s alcoholic beverage laws as well as other state laws.

Synthetic cannabinoids are products that have been sprayed with a chemical compound to mimic the effects of THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. Currently, this Synthetic cannabinoid “marijuana-like” products are banned from manufacture, sale and possession.

‘marijuana alternative’ is legal and is being sold at convenience stores and smoke shops all across Texas, as well as over the internet.

Prior to the passage of this new law, the Texas Poison Center Network had reported steady increases in calls regarding K2 or Spice. There were over five hundred of these calls recorded in 2010. Several other states have also banned this herbal incense due to dangerous side effects which include hallucination, seizures and heart attacks.
The TABC is partnering with Aware, Awake, Alive and members of the alcoholic beverage industry to spread the word to young Texans:

Don’t be afraid to call for help.

This message is so important that the Texas Legislature has enacted a new law to encourage young people to ask for help when needed. The 911 Lifeline Legislation, sponsored by Senator Kirk Watson, provides limited immunity to a person under 21 who calls for help because someone may have alcohol poisoning.

Senate Bill 1331 says that in the event of possible alcohol poisoning, a person under 21 calling for help will not be cited for possessing or consuming alcohol. The immunity for minors is limited to the first person who calls for help, only if he or she stays on the scene and cooperates with law enforcement and medical personnel. The new law does not protect a person from being cited for any other violation.

TABC enacted a similar internal policy in 2009, following the death of 18-year-old Austinite Carson Starkey. Carson died of an alcohol overdose during his first semester of college following a fraternity hazing incident. Under this new law effective September 1st, youth who do the right thing are protected, regardless of which law enforcement agency responds to the 911 call. TABC hopes that the 911 Lifeline Legislation and more education about alcohol poisoning will help students in a similar situation to make the right decision to save someone’s life.

In a letter being sent to over 75 Texas colleges and universities, TABC Administrator Alan Steen says:

“Unfortunately, in situations where illegal activity leads to a medical emergency, other students fail to call for medical assistance, either out of fear or lack of knowledge. Our culture teaches teenagers not to drink alcohol because they could be arrested, get in trouble with their parents, lose scholarship money, get kicked out of school, or have career goals destroyed. In many cases, this fear doesn’t stop the drinking; it only prevents them from doing the right thing when a situation goes bad. The fear of getting in trouble, coupled with a lack of knowledge of the signs of alcohol poisoning, has led to the death of several students in Austin, around Texas, and across the country.

“We at TABC feel strongly that with enough publicity and education, this law will save lives. For that reason, we are offering our support at the local level to educate you, your staff or your students on the 911 Lifeline Legislation.”

The message from TABC and Aware, Awake, Alive is simple: If you think they need help, they need help.

For more information on the 911 Lifeline Legislation, including the signs of alcohol poisoning visit:

www.awareawakealive.org
www.facebook.com/awareawakealive

Follow on Twitter! @awareawakealive
In July 2011 the Commission accepted nominations for the 2011 Employee of the Year Award for Excellence. From the 29 nominations received, two recipients were chosen. This year, the Commission selected one civilian employee and one commissioned peace officer to receive the award. The winners were recognized on August 22, the date of the 2011 TABC Administrator’s Conference held at the Holiday Inn Northwest Arboretum in Austin, Texas. Our 2011 employee of the year winners are:

**Ector J. Estrada**

Ector “Joey” Estrada joined TABC in July 2008 in the Seller/Server program. In November 2008 he was hired as the grant coordinator in the Education and Prevention section. As the grant coordinator, he is responsible for researching, identifying and assisting in the creation of proposals to secure funds for new and renewal grant opportunities. Estrada has not only been responsible for over $2.5M in state and federal grant funding but also accountable for overseeing the goals and expenditures of each grant.

He serves as the liaison between TABC, the State, and grant funding sources. Estrada started and is a member of the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Committee. He interprets, and/or develops policies, rules, or regulations; and provides guidance to TABC staff and the community regarding grant administration, policies and procedures. This past grant period, he provided technical assistance and guidance for 19 subgrantees that received EUDL funding from TABC.

Recipients of the 2011 Employee of the Year Award of Excellence (shown from left to right) include TABC Administrator Alan Steen, Chairman José Cuevas, Jr., Agent Wesley Rappe (El Paso), Ector J. Estrada (Education and Prevention) and Commissioner Steven Weinberg.

In the past two years, grant funds have paid for agents and auditors to become certified fraud examiners, equipped agents with in-car computers and purchased vehicles. The grants have trained over 6,000 non-TABC commissioned peace officers in methods to enforce the AB Code, and have created a labeling database for community members to use to determine if a beverage is legal for sale in Texas. Funds from grants also allowed TABC an opportunity to increase safety measures for our tax collectors along the border.

This funding has come from agencies such as the Governor’s Office, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Estrada’s
Employees Honored with 2011 Employee of the Year Award

Continued from page 18

most recent accomplishment includes receiving a grant score of 83.5 out of 100 for a TxDOT grant, which is the highest score to date for TABC.

Agent Wesley Rappe

Wesley Rappe began his career with TABC in January 2004 as a TABC enforcement agent assigned to the El Paso District Office. In 2010, as a risk analyst, Agent Rappe investigated a permittee suspected of bringing illegal distilled spirits into her night club. The bottles had local distributor stamps attached to them, which to the unsuspecting eye appeared to be legitimate.

During Agent Rappe’s investigation of the local distributor’s stamps, manufacturer’s lot codes, and invoice dates, he found that the stamps had been swapped brand for brand from other bottles of distilled spirits. It was also revealed a solvent called N-Heptane was used to temporarily release the adhesive properties of the rubber cement. Once the cement dried, the adhesive properties returned and when the stamp was placed on an illicit bottle, it appeared legitimate. In this investigation, the permittee demanded a hearing and the case was presented before the State Office of Administrative Hearings. After Agent Rappe testified, the permit was cancelled for cause.

In a separate instance, Agent Rappe learned that the majority of drugs and drug currency seized in the United States originates in Texas. The bulk of these seizures involve Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMVs) many of whom hold TABC Carrier Permits. Large quantities of drugs are being shipped out of Texas to all other parts of the U.S. via our own carrier permittees. The proceeds from the drug sales are being shipped back into Texas using these same carrier permittees.

Agent Rappe took the initiative to establish innovative, cooperative relationships with the carriers. Through his efforts to address public safety concerns in the transportation sector of the Alcoholic Beverage industry, drugs and other illegal contraband were seized. The seizures netted 28,000 U.S. Dollars of drug currency coming into Texas from Tennessee and six kilograms of cocaine bound for New York State. While this program is still in its infancy, local and federal agencies are requesting training and his expertise in developing a similar program for them.

Agent Rappe’s continued hard work has raised the bar by enhancing TABC’s standing within the law enforcement community; increased a positive public perception and ensured the continued growth of the agency. He has initiated a means through which TABC can utilize its unique relationship with carrier permittees to help defund criminal enterprises, and to use those same funds to further address organized crime within the alcoholic beverage industry.
TABC employees in the McAllen Area Office rallied together to raise funds in support of the Pedal Against Child Abuse cycling event. On September 10, 2011, TABC Agents Sonia Salinas, Charlotte Knox, Juan Ramirez and Compliance Auditor Roberto Morales participated in a 25 mile bike ride with over 190 cyclists to benefit Angels of Love.

In addition, TABC Licensing Administrative Assistant Jessica Montemayor, Agents Alejandra Nieto, Donald Brooks and Ricardo Balli, Jr., who did not partake in the event, collected $200 in cash donations. Angels of Love is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing services to children in the Rio Grande Valley that have been victims of abuse or neglect. Funds raised through Pedal Against Child Abuse totaled $5,960 in proceeds for Angels of Love.

Agent Rodney Meyer Honors Disabled War Veterans at Royal Purple Hero’s Cup Fishing Tournament

TABC Agent Rodney Meyer of the Victoria Service Area participated as a tour and fishing guide honoring injured War on Terror Iraq and Afghanistan veterans at the Royal Purple Hero’s Cup and Warrior’s Weekend Fishing Tournament on September 7-11, 2011, in Kingsville.

The event, this year’s first Warrior’s Weekend held at Baffin Bay, provided 26 wounded and disabled war heroes the opportunity to gather for fellowship and salt-water fishing in the Coastal Bend.

Agent Meyer, a part-time professional hunting and fishing guide, assisted a team of veterans with a tour of the King Ranch and fishing trips in the Baffin Bay area. When asked about his participation, Agent Meyer said, “These veterans have sacrificed a lot for our country. I think it’s the least I can do to offer them a few days away from their rehabilitation to enjoy some fun and relaxation.” Agent Meyer’s participation in the event exemplifies his commitment to the community, which TABC strives for in its daily activities.
In the Community

Agents Value Student Success and Family

TABC TODAY

Agent Mike Hunter Delivers Supplies to Students

TABC Agent Mike Hunter of the Georgetown Service Area in Williamson County has become a valued member within his community. In August, he helped to distribute 5,880 bags of school supplies to children ranging from elementary to high school grade levels at the Round Rock Independent School District’s 2011 School Supplies Distribution event. The event held at Cedar Ridge High School in Round Rock helped 16,000 families over the course of three days to receive school supplies and immunizations. Over 500 volunteers came out to sort, package and distribute supplies which set a new record for the district. Agent Hunter’s efforts in his community serve as an example that TABC’s Cornerstone of Service goes beyond the day-to-day work we do and helps those to have the tools they need to succeed in school.

Agent Timothy Sulak Donates to Matagorda County Community Coalition for Family Fun Day

TABC Agent Timothy Sulak of the Richmond Area Office became personally involved with the Matagorda County Community Coalition in his area. Through his endeavors, he has displayed outstanding generosity to the organization and his community. In order to assist the Coalition with efforts to hold a Family Fun Day, he made a personal donation of $500 to the organization.

The Matagorda County Community Coalition is a local public service organization that seeks to prevent and reduce the impact of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs on the youth of the community. The Family Fun Day event is designed to offer families with children of all ages the opportunity to engage in fun, family-centered activities. When asked about his generous donation, Sulak said, “This type of event is something I sincerely feel is beneficial to families seeking to be closer together and really benefits the community.”

Agent Sulak provides education and instruction to licensed businesses, schools, civic organizations, and law enforcement agencies throughout the Coastal Bend. His hard work and dedication to his job, personal commitments, and outstanding generosity are indicative of what the TABC strives to be as a state agency and as a positive part of the local community.
In the Community

Staff in Border Region Partner for Program Awareness

TABC TODAY

Agents Partner for Special Olympics Texas Torch Run

TABC agents serving the Corpus Christi Area Office participated in the 2011 Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) for Special Olympics Texas in Kingsville on May 25, 2011. Agents Christopher Balboa, Dennis Chupe, Jose Garcia, Bobby Pickett and Joseph Zavala partnered with local law enforcement officers from the Kleberg County Sheriff’s Department and the Kingsville Police Department to carry the Special Olympics torch during this year’s Texas Torch Run.

In Texas, the LETR began in 1985, and today is the Special Olympics Texas’ largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness event. Officers and athletes run the “Flame of Hope” to the opening ceremonies of local Special Olympics competitions, state Games, National and World Summer or Winter Games. A privately funded non-profit organization, Special Olympics Texas provides year-round sports training and athletic competitions for over 26,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities in the Lone Star State.

San Antonio Staff Assists Area High Schools with Alcohol Awareness Programs

TABC Agents and Auditors serving the San Antonio Regional Office worked with city and county police departments, local fire departments, and the Texas Department of Public Safety to assist high schools in the San Antonio area with the planning, staging and implementation of Shattered Dreams programs this past spring. The two-day program was presented at Stevens High School on March 9-10, 2011; Poth High School on March 10-11, 2011; Floresville High School on April 13-14, 2011; and Natalia High School on May 11-12, 2011.

Shattered Dreams is a school-based program that enacts an alcohol related crash involving students of the participating school. The program’s mock crashes are intended to demonstrate to young people the severe consequences of underage drinking and driving while intoxicated. The emotional impact of the event serves to demonstrate that such actions cause the “Shattered Dreams” of those whose lives are affected by such crashes. Over 1,700 high school students attended these Shattered Dreams events.
In the Community

Committed to Saving Energy

TABC Today

TABC Family Employees Conserving Energy at the State

During the August summer heat waves, Administrator Steen quickly called upon TABC employees to help in conserving energy across the state. To save energy, TABC employees committed to reducing usage of electricity by:

- Taking the stairs instead of elevators.
- Turning off computers, printers, copy machines, and overhead lighting when not in use.
- Completing copy projects in the morning prior to peak usage period when possible.

- Using natural lighting instead of overhead lights in offices with windows.
- Using lamps or task lighting in offices without windows.
- Restricting the use of personal electronic equipment and appliances such as chargers, radios, compact refrigerators, and coffee pots.

The family of TABC employees continues to support energy conservation throughout the state.

Questions about alcoholic beverage regulations

Q: What type of retailers can sell growlers?

A: Growlers are refillable containers for beer or ale/ malt liquor. Customers can purchase or bring their own empty growlers and have them filled with beer or ale/ malt liquor sold on tap at a bar, restaurant or grocery store.

Growlers are commonly used as a way to buy craft beers that are hard to find in cans or bottles. Craft beer lovers can take the beer home and share it with family or friends. Only retailers who hold a Brewpub License (BP) and/or a Wine and Beer Retailer’s Permit (BG) can sell growlers.

TABC Today is an external publication of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission. We welcome your comments, suggestions and questions. You may contact us via e-mail at: questions@tabc.state.tx.us.

To report a possible violation of the Alcoholic Beverage Code, call toll-free 1-888-THE-TABC.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this newsletter may be requested in alternative formats by contacting TABC at (512) 206-3220, Relay Texas: 1-800-735-2989 (TTY/TDD), (512) 206-3350 (fax) or writing P.O. Box 13127, Austin, Texas 78711-3127.

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment, or in the provision of services, programs or activities.