The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Steven Grossman Treasurer and Receiver General

Department of the State Treasurer Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission Boston, Massachusetts 02114

Kim S. Gainsboro, Esg. Chairman

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

November 29, 2011

QUALITY BRAND LIQUOR MART INC. DBA QUALITY BRAND LIQUORS 185 ELM STREET HAVERHILL, MA 01830 LICENSE#: 0520-00080 HEARD: 10/18/11

After a hearing on October 18, 2011, the Commission finds Quality Brand Liquor Mart, Inc. dba Quality Brand Liquors in violation of M.G.L. Chapter 138, §23 (128 counts).

The Commission suspends the licensee's license for a total of ten (10) days to be served. The suspension shall commence on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 and terminate on Friday, January 13, 2012. The license will be delivered to the Local Licensing Board or its designee on Wednesday, January 4, 2012 at 9:00 A.M. It will be returned to the licensee Saturday, January 14, 2012.

You are advised that pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c.138 §23, you may petition the Commission to accept an offer in compromise in lieu of suspension within twenty (20) calendar days following such notice of such suspension. If accepted, you may pay a fine using the enclosed form. All checks must be certified and accompanied by the enclosed form, which must be signed by a Massachusetts Licensed Accountant.

You are advised that you have the right to appeal this decision under M.G.L. c. 30A to Superior Court within thirty (30) days upon receipt of this notice.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

Kim S. Gainsboro Chairman

cc: Local Licensing Board Frederick G. Mahony, Chief Investigator Brad Doyle, Investigator Administration File

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DECISION

QUALITY BRAND LIQUOR MART INC. DBA QUALITY BRAND LIQUORS 185 ELM STREET HAVERHILL, MA 01830 LICENSE#: 0520-00080 HEARD: 10/18/11

Quality Brand Liquor Mart, Inc. dba Quality Brand Liquors (the "Licensee") holds an all alcohol license issued pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 138, §15. The Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (the "Commission") held a hearing Tuesday, October 18, 2011, regarding an alleged violation of M.G.L. Chapter 138, §23 (128 counts). Prior to the commencement of the hearing the licensee stipulated to the facts detailed in Investigator Caroline Guarino-Wilichoski's report.

The following documents are evidence:

- 1. Investigator Caroline Guarino-Wilichoski's report;
- 2. Stipulation of Facts;
- 3. Two (2) Boxes of six (6) liters bottles of Grey Goose (12 Bottles);
- 4. Three (3) Boxes of twelve (12) 750ml bottles of Grey Goose (35 bottles);
- 5. Two (2) Boxes twelve (12) 375ml bottles of Hennessy (24 bottles);
- 6. One (1) Box of twenty-four (24) 200ml bottles of Hennessy (24 bottles);
- 7. Two (2) Boxes of six (6) 1.75ml bottles of Canadian LTD (12 bottles);
- 8. One (1) Box of nine (9) 1 liter bottles of Jose Cuervo Tequila (11 bottles);
- 9. Four (4) Boxes of six (6) 1.75 liter Dewar's White Label (24 bottles);
- 10. 1.75 liter bottles of Bacardi (2 bottles); and
- 11. One (1) liter bottles of Stolichnaya Russian Vodka (8 bottles).

A. Invoices of liquor and alcohol purchases.

There is one (1) tape of this hearing.

FACTS

- 1. The Investigator and Enforcement Division of this Commission received information from the State of New Hampshire Bureau of Liquor Control, that Quality Brand Liquor Mart, Inc. dba Quality Brand Liquors, through its manager of record, was purchasing large quantities of alcoholic beverages from the New Hampshire State Liquor Store.
- 2. The New Hampshire Liquor Control as well as the United States Secret Service Agency had Mr. Vipul Patel, the manager of record, under investigation.
- 3. Earlier this year, Mr. Patel paid for his alcoholic beverage order at the New Hampshire State Liquor Store using counterfeit one-hundred dollar bills.
- 4. On Thursday, May 12, 2011, Investigators Hooton and Guarino conducted an investigation into the business operation of Quality Brand Liquor Mart, Inc. dba Quality Brand Liquors.
- 5. Investigator Cam Brown, from the State of New Hampshire Bureau of Liquor Control assisted our agency in the investigation.
- 6. Two (2) agents form the United States Secret Service were also present.
- 7. While on the licensed premises, their attention was drawn to boxes with "cut out labels" in the area that New Hampshire places its labels.
- 8. It appeared that each of the boxes had been "sanitized."
- 9. Massachusetts wholesalers do not place labels in this location.
- 10. For Massachusetts wholesalers, if a label is placed on the box, it is placed on top and has the licensee information on it.
- 11. Investigators did find many of those boxes on the premises and those boxes containing alcoholic beverages were not confiscated.
- 12. Investigator Guarino interviewed Mr. Patel on the premises.
- 13. Mr. Patel admitted he does purchase alcoholic beverages in New Hampshire because sometimes it is cheaper than the Massachusetts wholesalers.
- 14. Mr. Patel was informed that it is a violation of law and that a report would be submitted to the Chief Investigator for review.

<u>CONCLUSION</u>

Based on the evidence, the Commission finds the licensee violated M.G.L. Chapter 138, §23 (128 counts). The Commission suspends the license for fourteen (14) days of which ten (10) days will be served and four (4) days will be held in abeyance for a period of two (2) years provided no further violations of Chapter 138 or Commission Regulations occur.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

Susan Corcoran, Commissioner	Susa Corcora
Kim S. Gainsboro, Chairman	
Kathleen McNally, Commissioner _	Kahlen MMlly
Dated: November 29, 2011	

You have the right to appeal this decision to the Superior Courts under the provisions of Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws within thirty (30) days of receipt of this decision.

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cc: Local Licensing Board Frederick G. Mahony, Chief Investigating Officer Caroline L. Guarino-Wilichoski Administration File