

February 10, 2017

Thomas A. Campbell, Jr.  
**VIA E-MAIL**

**Re: Grocery Store Sales**

Dear Mr. Campbell:

**ISSUE:** Your e-mails of December 30, 2016 and January 3, 2017 request clarification regarding the areas in which beer can be stored and sold within a grocery store.

Records of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board ("PLCB") indicate that Blue Bell Market, LLC holds Restaurant Liquor License No. R-18420 (LID 73179) for use by it at premises located at 1301 Skippack Pike, Blue Bell, Pennsylvania.

**OPINION:** Restaurant liquor licensees may store malt or brewed beverages upon that portion of their premises that is licensed for the sale of alcohol and any additional licensed storage areas. They may sell alcohol only upon that portion of their premises that is licensed for the sale of alcohol. 47 P.S. § 4-403. As a practical matter, for most grocery stores or supermarkets, only the café or restaurant portion of the premises is licensed; areas such as shopping aisles containing grocery items generally are not licensed. You may wish to confirm with the PLCB's Bureau of Licensing which areas of your premises are licensed, and/or consult with private counsel experienced in liquor licensing matters.

THIS OPINION APPLIES ONLY TO THE FACTUAL SITUATION DESCRIBED HEREIN AND DOES NOT INSULATE THE LICENSEE OR OTHERS FROM CONSEQUENCES OF CONDUCT OCCURRING PRIOR TO ITS ISSUANCE. THE PROPRIETY OF THE PROPOSED CONDUCT HAS BEEN ADDRESSED ONLY UNDER THE LIQUOR CODE AND REGULATIONS. THE LAWS AND POLICIES ON WHICH THIS OPINION IS BASED ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY THE LEGISLATURE OR THE PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD.

Sincerely,



RODRIGO J. DIAZ  
CHIEF COUNSEL

cc: Pennsylvania State Police, Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement  
Tisha Albert, Director of Office of Regulatory Affairs  
B.L. Peifer, Director, Bureau of Licensing  
Jeffrey Lawrence, Assistant Director, Bureau of Licensing

LCB Advisory Opinion No. 16-583