



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

SOUTHSIDE HEALTH DISTRICT

Southside District Office

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August 25, 2020

District Breweries, Wineries, Meaderies and Distilleries
Southside Health District Locations

RE: Coordinators Packets, Temporary Events, Permitted Mobile Food Units and Executive Order 67

Dear Community Brewery, Winery, Meadery and/or Distillery,

This letter serves as outreach and communication by the Southside Health District (SSHD) in an effort to ensure compliance with the Virginia Food Regulations and Executive Order 67. The SSHD is reminding breweries, wineries, meaderies and distilleries that mobile food units (food trucks) and temporary food establishments (TFEs) must have a valid permit to operate as issued by the Commonwealth of Virginia. In addition, Executive Order 67 requirements must be met as outlined in the Safer at Home: Phase Three Guidelines for All Business Sectors.

The Virginia Food Regulations (12VAC5-421) require a permit to operate a food establishment. 12VAC5-421-3660 states that no person shall own, establish, conduct, maintain, manage, or operate any food establishment in this Commonwealth unless the food establishment is permitted as provided in this section. The permit shall be posted in every food establishment in a place where it is readily observable by the public transacting business with the establishment. **When allowing mobile or temporary food vendors to serve at your establishment, please ensure that they are permitted through the Virginia Department of Health and that the permit is valid (not expired).**

On June 30, 2020, Governor Northam issued Executive Order 67, moving the Commonwealth into Phase 3 and easing the temporary restrictions due to COVID 19. Included in the order, in section A, is the requirement that restaurants, dining establishments, food courts, breweries, microbreweries, distilleries, wineries and tasting rooms comply with the Guidelines for All Business Sectors, and sector-specific guidance. The Order also provided, “The Virginia Department of Health shall have authority to enforce section A of this Order.”

In an effort to ensure compliance with the Executive Order and Virginia Food Regulations, the local health department requests that facilities inform us of upcoming events and other gatherings so we may discuss compliance with the executive order and to confirm food vendors are permitted and have a current inspection. Please contact us at environmentalhealthSSHD@vdh.virginia.gov to discuss upcoming events, event coordinator packages and questions related to food vendors or visit our website at <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/southside/>.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian L. Bill".

Brian L. Bill, Environmental Health Manager

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