



TEXAS ALCOHOLIC
BEVERAGE COMMISSION

Supporting Businesses and Protecting Texans

Enforcement Overview for Local Governments

Presented by Lieutenant Geoffery Weise

TABC's Statutory Mission



The Texas Legislature created TABC after Prohibition ended in the 1930s to oversee all aspects of the alcoholic beverage industry, provide support to businesses, and protect Texans.

Regulatory Mission

- Issue licenses to eligible applicants
- Approve registration of new products
- Collect taxes (excise and importation)
- Audit businesses to ensure compliance



Public Safety Mission

- Ensure persons operating within the alcoholic beverage industry have no role in endangering Texas communities
- Investigate all criminal activity with a nexus to the alcoholic beverage industry



Law Enforcement Division



300 Authorized FTEs

- Ensure the industry operates safely and is free from the influence of organized crime
- **230 State Peace Officers (TABC agents)**
 - May enter licensed/permitted locations at any time to investigate or inspect
 - May issue administrative citations, make arrests, and file criminal charges
- **Conduct Inspections and Investigations to Deter and Detect**
 - Violations of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code at licensed locations
 - Criminal activity that has a nexus to the alcoholic beverage industry
- **Focused On**
 - Priority Locations (new businesses, open complaints, or history of violations)
 - Persons operating within the alcoholic beverage industry (not consumers)



TX Alc. Bev. Code Sec. 5.14, 5.31, 5.33, 5.36, 5.361, 6.03, 101.03, 101.04

Law Enforcement | Operations Bureau



170 TABC Agents Focused on Detecting and Deterring

- Illegal Alcohol Sales
 - Sales to minors (under 21), intoxicated persons
 - Sales during prohibited hours
 - Sales and without a license
- On-Premises Violence and Safety Issues
 - Breaches of the peace
 - Intoxicated employees

Open Inspections

- Unscheduled appearances at retail locations to inspect

Disaster Response

- Assist other law enforcement entities with storms, shootings

Underage Compliance

Operations

- 2 undercover agents visit a retailer with someone 18 or younger – *who looks to be under 21 and displays a valid ID showing they are under 21* – to see if the retailer will sell to the minor

Special Events

- Monitor concerts, sporting events, etc. where alcohol is sold

Cooperative Operations

- Assist retailers in preventing illegal or violent activity



Law Enforcement | Investigations Division



60 TABC Agents Focused on Detecting and Deterring

- Alcohol-related deaths and serious injuries, and
- Activity typically associated with organized crime

Special Investigations Unit

- Illegal drug activity
- Human trafficking
- Promotion of prostitution

Financial Crimes Unit

- Money laundering
- Tax fraud
- Business fraud (subterfuge)

Target Responsibility for Alcohol- Connected Emergencies Unit (TRACE)

- Investigates DWI crashes and intoxicated assaults, manslaughter, and murder

Criminal Intelligence Unit

- Gather and analyze data on people and organizations suspected of criminal activity and/or regulatory violations



TABC Enforcement | Local Official Duties



- **Peace Officers:** all peace officers in the state shall enforce the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code and cooperate with and assist the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in detecting violations and apprehending offenders.
- **County Courts:** when a violation of this code occurs, the county court shall make a recommendation to TABC as to cancellation or suspension of any permit or license connected with the violation
- **County and District Clerks:** every county and district clerk in the state shall furnish TABC a certified copy of the judgment of conviction and of the information against a person convicted of a violation of this code, and the clerk may not charge a fee.
- **Public Disturbance Reports:** local law enforcement agencies in each county with a population of 3.3 million or more must send TABC reports and other data concerning shootings, stabbings, and other public disturbances that occur on a TABC licensed or permitted premises.

TX Alc. Bev. Code Sec. 5.331, 101.07, 101.08

Contact TABC | www.tabc.texas.gov



Get TABC Office Contact Information

Request Education or a Speaker

File a Complaint or Protest

Sign Up for Emails: *news, guidance, meetings*



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