

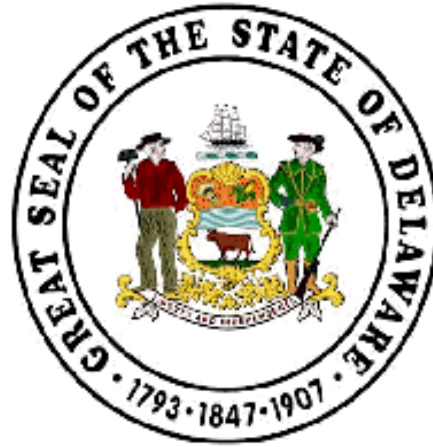
**MISSION STATEMENT**

*“TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF PEOPLE IN DELAWARE THROUGH THE ENFORCEMENT OF STATE LIQUOR AND YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO LAWS, WHILE MAINTAINING THE HIGHEST STATE OF PREPAREDNESS IN RESPONSE TO THREATS AGAINST HOMELAND SECURITY”*



**DIVISION OF ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT**

*“SAVING LIVES BY ENFORCING DELAWARE’S ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO LAWS”*



**DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY**

**DIVISION OF ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT**

**820 NORTH FRENCH STREET  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801**

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**DIVISION OF ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT**

***WHO WE ARE  
&  
WHAT WE DO***

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

THE DIVISION OF ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1933 UPON THE END OF *PROHIBITION*. THE DIVISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE 4 (DELAWARE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT) AND THE ABC COMMISSIONER'S RULES, WHICH APPLY TO ALL RETAILERS, SUPPLIERS AND WHOLESALERS, WHO MANUFACTURE, SELL, SERVE, TRANSPORT, OR STORE LIQUOR IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE. THE DIVISION IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF DELAWARE'S YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO LAWS.

THE DIVISION'S PERSONNEL CONSISTS OF ENFORCEMENT AGENTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, WHO WORK TOGETHER IN MEETING THE DIVISION'S MISSION. AGENTS, WHO COMPRISE THE MAJORITY OF THE DIVISION'S PERSONNEL, ARE CERTIFIED POLICE OFFICERS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE. AGENTS HAVE STATEWIDE JURISDICTION AND ARREST POWERS AND HAVE FULL AUTHORITY TO ENFORCE ALL OF THE LAWS OF THE STATE, INCLUDING LIQUOR, DRUG, CRIMINAL AND TRAFFIC STATUTES.

AGENTS ROUTINELY CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION AND POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL, SALES OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO TO UNDERAGE PERSONS, OVER-SERVICE OF ALCOHOL TO PATRONS, BOOTLEGGING, PROSTITUTION, GAMBLING, NARCOTICS, DISORDERLY ESTABLISHMENT, TAX EVASION AND OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

AGENTS WORK WITH FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, BY ASSISTING THEM WITH INVESTIGATIONS AND/OR PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES UNIQUE TO THEIR JURISDICTION.

AGENTS PROVIDE INTERNAL AND PERIMETER SECURITY AT THE STATE'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER DURING HEIGHTENED THREATS OF TERRORISM OR A DECLARED STATE OF EMERGENCY.

## **DIVISION OF ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT**

*"SAVING LIVES BY ENFORCING  
DELAWARE'S ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO  
LAWS"*

## **HOW DO WE DO IT?**

### TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT

IN DELAWARE, YOU MUST BE 18 TO PURCHASE TOBACCO PRODUCTS. THE DIVISION IS THE PRIMARY AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF FEDERAL AND STATE MANDATED TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT. THE DIVISION'S TOBACCO PROGRAM USES MINORS (15-17 YEARS OF AGE) TO TEST EVERY LICENSED TOBACCO RETAILER IN DELAWARE, TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE NOT SELLING TOBACCO TO THOSE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE. THOSE WHO ARE CAUGHT SELLING TOBACCO TO MINORS FACE CRIMINAL ARREST. STORE OWNERS ARE LIABLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES. THE DIVISION'S TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM HAS RECEIVED NATIONAL EXPOSURE AND RECOGNITION, DUE TO DELAWARE HAVING ONE OF THE HIGHEST TOBACCO RETAILER COMPLIANCE RATES IN THE NATION.

### ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT

IN ADDITION TO PERFORMING COMPLEX AND LONG-TERM ALCOHOL INVESTIGATIONS, THE DIVISION ALSO CONCENTRATES ITS RESOURCES ON SALES OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS, UNDERAGE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL, FICTICIOUS IDENTIFICATION AND OVER-SERVICE OF ALCOHOL TO PATRONS. AGENTS UTILIZE ADVANCED SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT TO ASSIST THEM DURING ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS.

### EDUCATION

THE DIVISION PROVIDES INSTRUCTION TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SERVERS (LICENSEES AND EMPLOYEES), POLICE AGENCIES, AND COMMUNITY GROUPS.

THE DIVISION HAS PRODUCED AN EXTENSIVE TOBACCO EDUCATION PROGRAM AND MEDIA CAMPAIGN, DESIGNED TO ALERT DELAWARE'S YOUTH ON THE DANGERS OF TOBACCO USE.



## OFFICE OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSIONER

THE OFFICE OF THE ABC COMMISSIONER IS A SEPARATE AND DISTINCT AGENCY FROM THE DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT. THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATTERS RELATED TO LIQUOR LICENSES AND LIQUOR LICENSEES IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE. THIS INCLUDES ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SUPPLIERS, WHOLESALERS AND RETAILERS DOING BUSINESS IN DELAWARE. ALL LIQUOR LICENSEES MUST COMPLY WITH TITLE 4 (DELAWARE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT) AS WELL AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF THE ABC COMMISSIONER.

IN ADDITION TO GRANTING LIQUOR LICENSES, APPROVING VARIANCES AND OTHER LICENSING FUNCTIONS, THE COMMISSIONER IS THE ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE WHO HEARS CASES OF LICENSEES CHARGED WITH VIOLATION OF THE LIQUOR CONTROL ACT AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES. CASES ARE FORWARDED TO THE COMMISSIONER, BY AGENTS FROM THE DIVISION OF ALCOHOL & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT.

ALL LICENSING QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE ABC COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT:

**(302) 577-5222**