

Notice of Rule Change – Explanatory Statement WAC 314-29-010 (2) - Penalties

This explanatory statement concerns the Washington State Liquor Control Board's adoption of changes to WAC 314-29-010 (2).

The Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.325(6)) requires agencies to complete a concise explanatory statement before filing adopted rules with the Office of the Code Reviser. This statement must be provided to anyone who gave comment about the proposed rule making.

Once persons who gave comment during this rule making have had a chance to receive this document, the Liquor Control Board will file the amended rule with the Office of the Code Reviser. This rule change will become effective 31 days after filing (approximately July 11, 2009).

The Liquor Control Board appreciates your involvement in this rule making process. If you have any questions, please contact Karen McCall, Rules Coordinator, at (360) 664-1631 or e-mail at rules@liq.wa.gov.

What are the agency's reasons for revising these rules?

Current language needed to be clarified to eliminate licensee confusion, increased administrative costs, and a lack of adherence to due process timelines.

What changes are being made?

Amended WAC 314-29-010 (2) What happens if a licensee or mandatory alcohol server training permit holder does not respond to the administrative violation notice within twenty days?

The current rule states, "If a licensee or permit holder does not respond to the administrative violation notice within twenty days, the recommended penalty will go into effect." The revision to this rule states that the recommended penalty is suspension.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-17-056, filed 8/15/08, effective 9/15/08)

WAC 314-29-010 What options does a licensee or permit holder have once he/she receives a notice of an administrative violation? (1) A licensee or a mandatory alcohol server training permit holder has twenty days from receipt of the notice to:

- (a) Accept the recommended penalty; or
- (b) Request a settlement conference in writing; or
- (c) Request an administrative hearing in writing.

A response must be submitted on a form provided by the agency.

- (2) What happens if a licensee or mandatory alcohol server training permit holder does not respond to the administrative violation notice within twenty days? If a licensee or permit holder does not respond to the administrative violation notice within twenty days, the recommended <u>suspension</u> penalty will go into effect.
- (3) What are the procedures when a licensee or mandatory alcohol server training permit holder requests a settlement conference?
- (a) If the licensee or permit holder requests a settlement conference, the hearing examiner or captain will contact the licensee or permit holder to discuss the violation.
- (b) Both the licensee or permit holder and the hearing examiner or captain will discuss the circumstances surrounding

the charge, the recommended penalty, and any aggravating or mitigating factors.

- (c) If a compromise is reached, the hearing examiner or captain will prepare a compromise settlement agreement. The hearing examiner or captain will forward the compromise settlement agreement, authorized by both parties, to the board for approval.
- (i) If the board approves the compromise, a copy of the signed settlement agreement will be sent to the licensee or permit holder, and will become part of the licensing history.
- (ii) If the board does not approve the compromise, the licensee or permit holder will be notified of the decision. The licensee or permit holder will be given the option to renegotiate with the hearings examiner or captain, of accepting the originally recommended penalty, or of requesting an administrative hearing on the charges.
- (d) If the licensee or permit holder and the hearing examiner or captain cannot reach agreement on a settlement proposal, the licensee may accept the originally recommended penalty, or the hearing examiner or captain will forward a request for an administrative hearing to the board's hearings coordinator.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 66.08.030. 08-17-056, § 314-29-010, filed 8/15/08, effective 9/15/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 66.08.030, 66.44.010. 01-03-086, § 314-29-010, filed 1/17/01, effective 2/17/01.]