

SPECIAL DISPENSER'S PERMIT

1. At a private function where alcoholic beverages are served but not sold, no permit or license is required.
2. A function is considered private if it is by invitation only and only those with invitations are allowed to attend. If an investigator for Alcoholic Beverage Control comes to the function uninvited and is served liquor, a citation may be issued.
3. Where the function is to be public or semi-public (for example, where an announcement is made at Church), a Special Dispenser's Permit should be obtained. The liquor licensee selling the liquor to the sponsors of the function can obtain this permit at a cost of \$10.00. Only liquor licensees, not individuals, may obtain these permits. When there is some question as to whether a function is private or public, it is advisable to obtain the permit as a precaution.
4. It is improper for any liquor licensee to represent to any individual sponsoring a function that a Special Dispenser's Permit costs more than \$10.00. If this occurs, it should be reported to ABC.
5. Even at private functions, alcoholic beverages cannot be sold without proper licensing. Any effort to recover the costs of the function from the guests might be construed as a violation of the liquor laws. This would include, as examples, cover charges, requests for donations, or ticket sales.
6. One final concern is the serving of liquor to minors and the serving of liquor to individuals who are intoxicated. The former is illegal and the latter could result in liability to the Church.

Recommendations

The best protection against problems may be to include the following provisions in the lease agreements used by the various parishes:

1. That the function will be by invitation only, and that the lessee will hire security personnel to guard against uninvited guests.
2. That alcoholic beverages will not be sold and that guests of the lessee will not be required to pay to attend the event.
3. That the lessee will not serve alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of twenty-one.
4. That the lessee will not serve alcoholic beverages to anyone who is or appears to be intoxicated.
5. The lessee will indemnify and hold the Church harmless for any liability to third parties arising from breach of the lease.