

STATE OF NEW YORK
LIQUOR AUTHORITY

To: Manufacturers and wholesalers holding multiple licenses

Subject: Deliveries of alcoholic beverages

Section 116 of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law (“ABCL”) allows licensees to transport their alcoholic beverages in vehicles owned and operated, or hired and operated, by the licensee. That statute requires that there be a sign on both sides of the vehicle setting forth the name and address of the licensee, together with such other information as the Authority may require. By regulation,¹ the Authority requires that the sign also include the licensee’s serial number. As an alternative to the sign, section 116 allows the licensee to have a copy of its current license certificate in the cab of the vehicle.

The Authority routinely receives inquiries from manufacturers and wholesalers with multiple licenses asking whether they can deliver all of the products manufactured or sold under the various licenses in the same vehicle at the same time. Given the language of the statute and the regulation referring to the “license” and the “serial number,” the Authority had taken the position that only product manufactured or sold pursuant to one license could be transported in a licensee’s vehicle at any given time.

For example, a company holding a beer wholesale license and a liquor wholesale license would not be able to deliver beer and liquor together in the same vehicle to retailers. A delivery of beer could be made with the sign indicating the beer wholesaler license serial number (or a copy of the beer wholesale license certificate). A separate delivery of liquor could be made in the same vehicle, but only with a sign indicating the liquor wholesaler license serial number (or a copy of the liquor wholesale license certificate).

In the view of the Members of the Authority, such a reading of the statute and regulation is not necessary and creates an undue hardship on manufacturers and wholesalers with multiple licenses. Accordingly, licensees with multiple licenses may transport any and all alcoholic beverages they manufacture or sell in the same vehicle at the same time, provided that copies of all relevant licenses are maintained in the cab of the vehicle.

¹ Section 67.1(b) of the Rules of the Authority