

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TWGGA MEMBERS REGARDING TABC AND CURRENT LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



Distributed by TWGAA for the benefit of the Texas Wine Industry

TABC UPDATES AND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Regarding Permit, Fee, and Technological Changes

1. For several months, TWGGA has been actively engaged with TABC and advocating for the Texas Wine Industry about the proposed permit and fee changes. TWGGA's recommendations have been formally presented to the TABC and can be found [here](#).
2. TABC is accepting public comments through **Monday August 2nd**. You are strongly encouraged to provide your own feedback, recommendations, and opinions. The Texas Wine Industry's strength and continued efforts to grow is because the primary stakeholders are invested. Comments regarding the permit fee change should be directed to Shana Horton at Shana.horton@tabc.texas.gov. Comments must be received by August 2, 2021. Once submitted they will receive a written response that will become part of the preamble record on the rule change.
3. Need more information.
 - a. Summary of 2021 TABC changes can be viewed [here](#)
 - b. June 15, 2021. Public Meeting about the proposed changes can be viewed [here](#)
 - c. September 1, 2021. Permit and License changes go into effect. Details can be found [here](#)
 - d. September 1, 2021. TABC will launch the Alcohol Industry Management System ([AIMS](#)). This new online system will be used by businesses to apply for licenses* and other functions. Details can be found [here](#)

Caveat Regarding Permit and Fees for Temporary Public Event*

On August 1st, TABC will publish new forms to request authority to conduct a temporary event, including a winery festival.

As of this writing, for events that take place on or after September 1, only PRIVATE events will be eligible for file and use notice on [AIMS](#). Public events, such as winery festivals, will require a temporary event authorization application and will get a certificate from TABC. Those applications must be filed more than 10 business days before the event starts to avoid late fees.

TWGGA has alerted TABC that this change will prevent wineries from using the file and use notification process for festivals. We understand that TABC is re-evaluating how to handle festival applications in the new system.

Until TABC announces a change in this regard, if you are planning to participate in a festival in September, use the new forms in August and apply for temporary event authorization more than 10 business days in advance to avoid late fees.

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See TABC about [Temporary Events and Permits](#)

Watch the latest [TABC Talks](#) anytime on our YouTube channel! At our last webinar, we provided important guidance for TABC license holders on how to get TABC approval to conduct alcohol sales at temporary events.

2021 LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED AND FUNDED BY TWGGA TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE TEXAS WINE INDUSTRY

TWGGA Legislative Committee Wraps Up 86th Legislative Session

Upon entering this legislative session, TWGGA had three main goals:

1. Actively engage in developing language and passage of legislation representing the compromise reached on the labeling issue.
2. Repeal of the 35K gallon cap in current law for sales direct to consumer
3. Continuing to protect the privileges and abilities that holders of G permits currently enjoy.

TWGGA was successful on two of those three items.

1. The Governor signed HB 1957 which represents the label agreement reached by the various segments of the wine and grape growing industry.
2. We continue to be stymied in our efforts to repeal the 35K gallon cap.
3. Thankfully there was no legislation which passed that would negatively impact the wine or grape growing segments of our industry.

Of the over 250 alcohol related bills that TWGGA tracked during this past legislative session 14 bills passed both houses of the legislature. Of those, nine were have already been signed leaving five awaiting his signature, allowed to become law without his signature or vetoed.

A full review of TWGGA Legislative Actions can be reviewed [here](#).

What's Happening in this Special Session?!

Review [here](#) the observations from Kyle Frazier, TWGGA's Lobbyist.

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TABC NOTICES

We strongly encourage everyone in the Texas Wine Industry to sign up for all the options that TABC offers to be notified of all their activities. You can sign up for the following:

Sign Up for Emails

- TABC Talks: Learn more about upcoming editions of TABC's online education series.
- Industry Brief: Get monthly updates about activities and issues directly impacting the alcoholic beverage industry.
- Industry Notifications: Sign up for industry notifications to be among the first to receive announcements and meeting information.

The Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association is the State's oldest and largest Association primarily focused on betterment of the Texas Wine industry. TWGGA's Mission is to promote the production and appreciation of premium grapes and fine wines from Texas and to represent a unified state industry with common marketing, governmental and educational goals.

Questions or concerns about the content therein, please contact Sabrina Houser Amaya sabrina@twgga.org

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Call For Entries – Open NOW! [LONE STAR INTERNATIONAL WINE COMPETITION](#)

Sponsorships Available

Contact Sabrina Houser Amaya, sabrina@twgga.org or 830/456-2787

We've revamped the scoring to the widely accepted [100-point scoring system](#)

We've totally revised the Wine Label Design Competition

Read All About the Changes in the [Competition Handbook](#)

SAVE THE DATES

2021 Grape Camp & Expo

November 9- 10, 2021

NEW LOCATION

Dripping Springs Ranch Park and Event Center

1042 Event Center Dr.

Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

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Hotel Room Block

Sleep Inn Dripping Springs

2720 US-290

Dripping Springs, TX 78620

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Must call in to reserve. Reference TWGGA

Phone: (512) 858-2400

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Exhibitor and Sponsor Information Available August 1st.
or contact Sabrina Houser Amaya, sabrina@twgga.org or 830/456-2787

Attendee Registration Opens Soon!

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2022 Annual Conference and Trade Show February 17 – 19, 2022

[Embassy Suites by Hilton Denton Convention Center](#)

3100 Town Center Tr, Denton, TX 76201

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Exhibitor and Sponsor Information Available September 1st.