



# ABC &-NEWS

A weekly newsletter on North Carolina policy and political news relevant to the North Carolina's ABC Boards

## Association Met with Treasurer



NC Association of ABC Boards President Miles Davis met with Treasurer Dale Folwell on Wednesday in Raleigh.

The meeting was attended by the Association's lobbying team (Jon Carr, Skye David, Jason Joyner, and Brian Lewis) and staff members to the Treasurer, including Deputy Treasurer Frank Lester and Policy Director Sam Watts.

The meeting centered around the Association's concern about a Local Government Commission staff recommendation to have ABC Boards subject to the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act and have ABC Board audits sent to the Treasurer rather than the NC ABC Commission.

"It was a very warm meeting and Treasurer Folwell was gracious with his time and seemed to understand our concerns about this," said Davis. "Treasurer Folwell assigned Sam Watts to communicate to Brian Lewis in the coming weeks of the Treasurer's position."

## Moffitt Reaches Out As 1st ABC Issue Emerges

A legislative assistant to Rep. Tim Moffitt (R-Henderson), the chair of the House Alcoholic Beverage Control Committee, reached out to the lobbying team for the Association this past week.

Kimberly Neptune said Chairman Moffitt will begin scheduling meetings at the end of the month and would like to sit down with Association lobbyists Jon Carr, Skye David, Jason Joyner, and Brian Lewis to discuss legislative concerns and priorities.

"I appreciate Chairman Moffitt reaching out to us and for his willingness to work with this Association on good public policy in the state," said Davis.

According to legislators, the General Assembly will try and tackle one ABC issue that bubbled up over the last month in which the ABC Commission revoked the status of 120 bar permits across the state.

The matter has stirred up passions in the General Assembly about the pandemic, executive power, and ABC policy.

On January 15, ABC Commission Chair Zander Guy wrote a letter to the NC Bar Owners Association explaining that revocations were required by law, but vowed to work with bar owners to get back on their feet in the pandemic.



Legislative leaders, including House Majority Leader John Bell (R-Wayne/Greene/Johnston) and Senator Jim Perry (Lenoir/Wayne) reportedly have been working with Chairman Moffitt on resolving the situation.



Alcoholic Beverage Control

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January 15, 2021

Jason Ruth  
Vice President  
North Carolina Bar Owners Association  
408 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Dear Mr. Ruth,

I am reaching out regarding concerns about the status of mixed beverage private bar permits. First and foremost, the ABC Commission is here to assist and serve as a resource for ABC permit holders. We want you to be successful in your business. We also know how difficult this past year has been for you and fellow bar owners, and we do not intend to add any obstacles at the time you and fellow bar owners are ready to re-open for business with active ABC permits.

The cancellation of unpaid mixed beverage private bar permits is part of the standard process required by state law and that the ABC Commission follows each year. While these permits show "cancelled" on our website, we have moved them to an inactive status for the time being. Traditionally, if ABC permits lapse, they would need to go through the entire ABC application process. However, due to the COVID-19 circumstances, we are committed to working with those impacted to ensure the process is streamlined and return your ABC permit to an active status when you are ready to reopen.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the ABC Commission if we can assist you with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

A.D. Zander Guy  
Chairman