



Washington State
Liquor Control Board

INTERPRETIVE STATEMENT
Number LCB-INT 01-2010

RE: Clarification of providing information by zip code on spirits purchases of spirits, beer, and wine restaurant licensees.

Contact: Karen McCall, Senior Policy/Legislative Analyst
Washington State Liquor Control Board

Supersedes: N/A

Approved by:



Sharon Foster, Board Chairman



Ruthann Kurose, Board Member

Date Approved: February 10, 2010

In order to provide clarity regarding the release of information by zip code on spirit purchases by spirit, beer, and wine restaurant licensees, the Washington State Liquor Control Board (LCB) issues this interpretive statement pursuant to RCW 34.05.010(8) and 34.05.230.

Background:

As written, the language of RCW 66.16.090 is confusing as it relates to releasing purchasing information by liquor licensees. LCB staff has interpreted this statute to prohibit the release of such information by any individual, to include the public or a liquor licensed business.

RCW 42.56.070 (9) prohibits any agency from giving, selling, or providing lists of individuals for commercial purposes. LCB staff has also interpreted this statute to prohibit the release of purchasing information by liquor licensees.

A reasonable interpretation of RCW 66.16.090 is that the law only addresses purchasing information that contains the licensee name or business name. This statute is silent with respect to purchasing information that does not contain information about the individual purchaser (liquor licensee). The same is true in RCW 42.56.070 (9).

With this possible interpretation in mind, unless the information is specifically exempt from public disclosure, the information will be provided.

Interpretative Statement

The Washington State Liquor Control Board interprets RCW 66.08.090 to provide information by zip code on alcohol purchases by spirits, beer, and wine liquor licensees.

This interpretation of RCW 66.08.090 is effective upon the date referenced above. Rules will be adopted to address procedures necessary to implement the above conditions.