

Act 44 of 2017 allows the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) to immediately take away a licensed establishment's ability to sell and serve alcohol when licensing analysts find that a licensee doesn't meet existing requirements in law or regulation related to seating, food, square footage, rooms, and health license authority.

The PLCB's inspection authority is limited, however, and liquor law enforcement authority still lies primarily with the Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE). Below are examples of the kinds of complaints the PLCB will investigate and those it will refer to BLCE and other authorities, as appropriate.

COMPLAINTS FOR PLCB INVESTIGATION

- A Restaurant, Eating Place, or Hotel licensee does not offer sufficient food* or seating for at least 30 patrons.
- A Restaurant, Eating Place, or Hotel licensee does not have a current and valid health license issued by the governing municipal authority.
- A Restaurant or Hotel licensee does not maintain at least 400 square feet of licensed premises, or an Eating Place licensee does not maintain at least 300 square feet of licensed premises.
- A Distributor licensee doesn't maintain at least 1,000 square feet of licensed premises or an Importing Distributor licensee doesn't maintain at least 2,500 square feet of licensed premises.
- An Eating Place or Hotel licensee does not maintain a functional kitchen or food preparation area on-site.
- A Distributor or Importing Distributor licensee does not maintain a functional bathroom for employee use.
- A Hotel licensee does not have rooms available for transient guests.

COMPLAINTS THE PLCB WILL REFER TO BLCE AND/OR OTHER AUTHORITIES

- A licensee serving visibly intoxicated patrons or minors.
- A licensee engaging in criminal conduct, like drug sales.
- Violence or community disturbances in or around a licensed location.
- Disorderly conduct or large crowds around the licensed location.
- After-hours operations.
- Off-premises liquor sales (shots to go).
- Loud music extending beyond the licensee's property.

Complaints for PLCB investigation may be emailed to RA-LBCompliance@pa.gov. Each complaint will be reviewed and investigated or referred as appropriate.

NOTE: A Restaurant or Hotel licensee has the authority to sell beer (malt & brewed beverages), wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption, as well as up to two six packs of beer to go per transaction, while an Eating Place licensee may only sell beer for on-site consumption and up to two six packs to go. Restaurant and Hotel licensees that obtain wine expanded permits may also sell up to three liters of wine to go per transaction.

* See [Licensee Food Guidelines](#) for information regarding what constitutes sufficient food offerings by licensees.