Specialized Business Group— Liquor & Tobacco Physical Address: 1697 Cole Boulevard, Suite 200 Lakewood, CO 80401

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April 30, 2021

Dear Stakeholders,

We are excited to announce that the licensing program for cigarette, tobacco product, and nicotine product retailers is being implemented and an online (and downloadable) application will be made available for applicants on Monday, May 3, 2021, in order to give retailers ample time to apply for a license prior to the July 1, 2021 deadline.

We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused many of our retailers to close or created financial strain. After extensive analysis, the Executive Director's Office has been working to waive the fee through the use of funds from the American Recovery Plan. It is likely that the collection of cigarette, tobacco products, and nicotine products retailer license fees (for both licenses and permits) initially will be waived in order to provide economic relief to struggling retailers as we all work together towards recovery and a healthy and robust industry.

The Executive Director will be promulgating a fee rule (1 C.C.R. 203-1; Rule 7-500) on Friday, April 30th, on an emergency basis in order to establish the underlying fee schedule for us to be able to properly waive the collection of the licensing fees, as described above. Permanent rulemaking notices will be filed only after our stakeholder working groups this year, where industry will be provided the opportunity to comment on and workshop the cigarette, tobacco products, and nicotine products retailer rules with us.

## Click Link: Tobacco Fee Rule

When filling out your application, please do **not** submit any payments for state issued licenses at this time. Please check with your local jurisdictions for guidance regarding any locally administered licenses and/or fees.

We hope the license fee waiver is able to provide some much-needed economic relief to our stakeholders, and we look forward to seeing you in rulemaking groups this year.

If you have any questions please feel free to email **dor\_ledtobacco@state.co.us** or 303-205-2300.

**Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division**