

From: [Sawyer, Jane Preston \(CED\)](#)
To: [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#); [Bankowski, Joe \(CED\)](#); [Bennett-Smith, Donovan \(CED\)](#); [Carrell, Hunter C \(CED\)](#); [Cruz, Regina T \(CED\)](#); [Hamilton, Joe \(CED\)](#); [Helie, Kyle R \(CED\)](#); [Ibele, Janyce L \(CED\)](#); [Irwin, Sonya A \(CED\)](#); [Johnson, Steven M \(CED\)](#); [Linger, Joe N \(CED\)](#); [Masoud, Anjum \(CED\)](#); [Murray, Cordell R \(CED\)](#); [Pacarro, Alysha Am \(CED\)](#); [Moses, Parrish \(CED\)](#); [Rukes, Jeffrey B \(CED\)](#); [Sawyer, Jane Preston \(CED\)](#); [Serezhenkov, Kristina R \(CED\)](#); [Suaava, Brittany M L \(CED\)](#); [White, Anna Ih \(CED\)](#); [Whiteman, Kendrick J \(CED\)](#)
Subject: FW: Error in AK-ACCIS for Alaska Alcohol Licenses
Date: Thursday, November 14, 2024 10:13:39 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

From a licensee happy with our new licensing system.

Jane

From: holly slinkard <hollyslinkard@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 2:10 PM
To: Sawyer, Jane Preston (CED) <jane.sawyer@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Error in AK-ACCIS for Alaska Alcohol Licenses

You don't often get email from hollyslinkard@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi ABC folks - Just wanted to say great job on the online renewal...what a breeze ! Love it....

Cheers
Holly Slinkard Co-Owner/Operator
McKinley Creekside Cabins & Cafe
Denali National Park, AK

On Monday, November 4, 2024 at 03:24:04 PM AKST, Sawyer, Jane Preston (CED) <jane.sawyer@alaska.gov> wrote:

Licensees,

You may have received a notice from our new licensing system that partially looks like the below screenshot. **Please do not use** the “Visit-AKACCIS” link in this email; it takes you to our testing environment. The correct URL is this <https://accis.elicense365.com/#>

Our sincerest apologies for this error.

Jane

Jane P. Sawyer

Program Coordinator

DCCED-Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office

550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1600

Anchorage, AK 99501



Renewal license, license with one or more endorsements and application fees may be paid in three ways.

1. You may pay through AK-ACCIS by credit or debit card.
2. You may email us at alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov or call us at (907) 269-0350 to request to pay by e-bill or over the phone using a credit card.
3. You may mail in a check. Make your check payable to the State of Alaska or AMCO. Mail checks to AMCO, 550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite, Anchorage, AK 99501.

Applications postmarked, emailed, or submitted through AK-ACCIS later than 11:59 pm on Tuesday, December 31, 2024, will be assessed a \$500.00 non-refundable late fee in addition to the regular renewal fees, as set forth under AS 04.11.270(b)(3).

Any application and required fees not postmarked, emailed, or submitted through AK-ACCIS by February 28, 2025, will result in expiration of the alcoholic beverage license, as set forth under AS 04.11.540.

[Visit AK-ACCIS](#)

Important note: If you are seeing this message again, please log in to your AK-ACCIS account to confirm whether you need to take any further action.

From: [LauraNCST](#)
To: [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Kodiak
Date: Friday, December 27, 2024 8:47:16 AM

[You don't often get email from laurancst@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Why did you allow a business that has been closed for almost 5 years now, a renewed alcohol license? It is not open.

Alex MacGillivray
Owner and Brewer
Baleen Brewing Co LLC
884 Mizzen Lane
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
brewer@baleenbrewing.us
907 220 7492

January 13, 2025

Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board
550 W 7th AVE, STE 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Members of the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board,

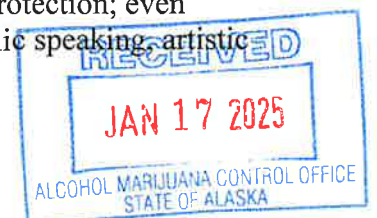
I am writing to respectfully request that the Alaska ABC Board reconsider its decision regarding the prohibition of trivia nights at my brewery, Baleen Brewing Co. LLC. I believe this policy infringes upon my First and Fourteenth Amendment rights, particularly as they pertain to free speech, and I would like to present my argument as to why this activity should not be categorized as a "game" but rather as a form of protected speech.

While I understand the ABC Board's position on limiting activities that may be classified as "games," I respectfully submit that trivia nights are not primarily games in the conventional sense, but rather forms of intellectual expression, discourse, and engagement. The act of hosting a trivia night goes beyond simply providing a "game" to customers—it involves the sharing of information, the exchange of ideas, and the expression of knowledge. This is, fundamentally, an exercise of free speech.

First Amendment: Freedom of Speech

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right to free speech, and this protection extends to all forms of communication, including verbal, written, and even interactive expression. The State of Alaska also guarantees these rights under Article I, § 5-Declaration of Rights. Trivia nights, while they may involve competitive elements, are a vehicle for speech and expression. The questions posed during trivia may address a wide range of topics—from history, science, and literature to pop culture and current events—and they serve to encourage dialogue and exchange among participants. This is a fundamental exercise of free speech, not a mere game of chance or skill.

Courts have consistently held that certain activities that may seem like games or entertainment are, in fact, protected under the First Amendment when they involve speech or expression. *Brown v. Entertainment Merchants Association* (2011) *Joseph Burstyn, Inc. v. Wilson* (1952) In *Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Group of Boston* (1995), the Court held that speech doesn't need to convey a particularized message to qualify for protection; even entertainment can be considered speech. For example, various forms of public speaking, artistic



performances, and even games with expressive content have been upheld as forms of speech. Trivia nights at my brewery operate in a similar vein, as they create a space for individuals to express their knowledge, engage in cultural exchange, and partake in intellectual discourse.

Fourteenth Amendment: Equal Protection Under the Laws

The Fourteenth Amendment guarantees that no state shall "deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." By prohibiting trivia nights at my brewery, the state is treating a form of protected speech differently from other forms of speech that may occur in social settings, such as live music, open-mic nights, or other public events. These events are permitted in bars and taverns but are prohibited in breweries. This is an infringement on my 14th amendment right of Equal Protection Under the Laws.

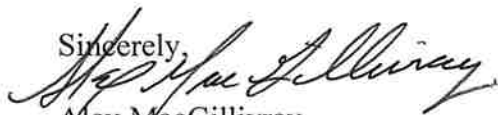
Disallowing trivia nights creates an unequal standard where intellectual speech is restricted, while other forms of entertainment and social engagement are permitted. This discriminatory application of regulations undermines the very principles of equal protection and fairness enshrined in the Fourteenth Amendment.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I respectfully ask the Alaska ABC Board to reconsider its stance and allow trivia nights at Baleen Brewing Co. LLC as a legitimate form of free speech under the First and Fourteenth Amendments. I believe that trivia nights are a valuable cultural activity that promotes the exchange of ideas and fosters community engagement. The prohibition of these events, based solely on the classification of trivia as a "game," overlooks the fact that they are inherently expressive and educational.

I would be more than willing to meet with the board or provide any additional information or clarification to support my position. Thank you for considering this request, and I look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,



Alex MacGillivray

Owner and Brewer

Baleen Brewing Co LLC

