

# DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO CONTROL

**Michael L. Parson**  
Governor

**Sandra K. Karsten**  
Director, Public Safety



**Michael A. Leara**  
State Supervisor

## INDUSTRY CIRCULAR 24-02

### *Food Trucks (“Mobile Bars”) and Catering with a License*

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The Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Control receives regular inquiries from the public and licensees about how to lawfully sell intoxicating liquor from a “mobile bar.” Generally, there is no license that would permit a mobile bar on its own. However, brick and mortar businesses may add a mobile bar and seek catering permits.

To do so, a person must apply for and receive a primary retail by drink liquor license<sup>1</sup> as defined in § 311.200, RSMo.<sup>2</sup> At the core of § 311.200 is that there must be a defined “premise” from which to sell intoxicating liquor. *See* [11 CSR 70-2.2010 \(17\)](#) (“Premises or premise refers to any place where intoxicating liquor is sold or consumed and may be one (1) room, a building comprising several rooms, two (2) or more buildings permanently connected by a covered walkway, or a building with adjacent or surrounding land that has clearly delineated, permanent boundaries and is not used primarily for vehicular travel or parking, such as a lot or garden.”). Retail by drink license holders have the privilege of selling either by drink for on-premise consumption, or original package for off-premise consumption. Retail by drink license holders also have the privilege of applying for one or more caterer permits, which temporarily extends the privileges of the license for use at a particular function, occasion or event at a particular location, for a period not to exceed seven (7 days) at a cost of \$10 per calendar day. *See* [§ 311.485](#).

Mobile bars, by their nature, sell liquor off the regularly licensed premise. Therefore, persons wishing to sell alcohol from a mobile bar must first obtain a retail by drink license, and then obtain caterer permits for each off-site event where alcohol will be sold. There is also a “special permit,” defined by [§ 311.486](#), commonly referred to as an annual caterer permit, that prepays for either 50 events (\$500) or unlimited events (\$1,000). Holders of such an annual caterer permit must still obtain individual event permits; however, separate payment is not required for each event.

Individuals seeking information about mobile bartending services should alternatively review this [circular](#).

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<sup>1</sup> *Qualifying non-profit organizations may alternatively apply for one or more picnic licenses under § 311.482 without having to first obtain a permanent location.*

<sup>2</sup> *There are multiple retail by drink license options, each with their own qualification requirements. Visit our [website](#) for more information.*