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## Circular Letter – No. 06-04

TO: Alcoholic Beverage Manufacturers and Wine & Beer Wholesalers

FROM: Francis J. Monahan   
Director, Bureau of Law Enforcement

SUBJECT: **Solicitor Tasting Permit**

DATE: September 1, 2006

On July 1, 2006 the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board began issuing solicitor tasting permits to all individuals who were employed by companies under contract to conduct tastings for alcoholic beverage manufacturers and wine and beer wholesalers. Due to a change in interpretation of the legislation related to this permit type and in consultation with the industry, the Board will now issue **one** solicitor tasting permit (per manufacturer/wholesaler represented) to the authorized representative company rather than individual permits to each of that company's employees (per manufacturer/wholesaler represented).

The application for this permit has been modified to capture more detailed information about the authorized representative company rather than its individual employees. The license will be issued in the authorized representative company's name with a notation on the second line of the permit as to the name of the manufacturer or wholesaler being represented by that company. The cost of the license has increased from \$15 for each individual employee permit to \$50 for a permit covering all employees associated with the authorized representative company. You are reminded that an authorized representative company must obtain a solicitor tasting permit for each manufacturer/wholesaler represented by their company. A copy of the permit must be carried by the employee of the permittee and must be presented to ABC Agents and other law enforcement personnel upon request.

If you have additional questions or concerns about the solicitor tasting permit, please contact your assigned ABC compliance agent by referring to our website at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov), clicking on the link for Laws & Enforcement and then Manufacturers and Wholesalers. A complete listing of compliance agents is found at that location.