



ATCC

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

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Tobacco and Alcohol Bulletin

Safety Alert for Retail Businesses and Steps to Verify ATCC Inspections

The Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) has received reports that an individual has recently entered retail stores in the Baltimore region and posed as an inspector. This individual reportedly displayed a prop badge and claimed to be conducting an inspection to access employee areas of businesses and commit acts of robbery or theft. The safety and trust of the businesses that we serve is core to our mission and we are deeply concerned by these reports. Please review this bulletin carefully so that you know how to verify that agents and inspectors that visit your business are legitimate.

Agents of the ATCC do routine business inspections during daytime hours, and do not wear standardized police uniforms. They will not attempt to access any employee areas of a business without first identifying themselves as agents of the ATCC. **Agents of the ATCC carry both a badge and an ATCC Police Identification Card, and will readily show both items to confirm their identity.** An example of an ATCC ID is attached to this bulletin. You may also call the ATCC to confirm an inspection. Other lawful inspectors working for your local alcohol licensing board or health department may carry different forms of ID, but can be asked to share their credentials as well. **Please call 911 if you have any safety concerns or need additional help with verification.**

We are confident that our partners at the Baltimore Police Department and the Baltimore County Police Department will work diligently to investigate and apprehend the suspect. We have offered our full assistance with their investigations.

If you have any questions, please contact our offices at 443-330-6990 or email Jeffrey Herndon, Director of the Field Enforcement Division, at jeffrey.herndon@maryland.gov. If you have information pertinent to the investigation you may also contact the Baltimore City Police detectives at 410-366-3641 or Metro Crime Stoppers at 1-866-7Lockup.

Jeffrey A. Kelly
Executive Director
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission

1215 East Fort Avenue,
Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21230
(443) 300-6990
Maryland Relay 711
TTY (410) 260-7157

ATCC.MARYLAND.GOV

Example ATCC Police Identification

