

State of Louisiana
Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control

John Bel Edwards
Governor



Juana Marine-Lombard
Commissioner

August 1, 2017

COPY OF PERMIT ACCEPTABLE IF VERIFIED THROUGH ATC WEBSITE

Dear Wholesalers,

ATC has received a request to clarify whether it is permissible for a wholesaler to sell and/or deliver alcohol beverages to a retail dealer who only presents a copy of their state alcohol permit. The question is whether a copy of a valid permit is sufficient or must wholesalers only accept true and original state alcohol permit prior to engaging in business with any retail dealer.

LA R.S. 26:151 requires all retail dealers to possess a permit prior to purchasing, receiving, or engaging in the business of dealing in alcohol beverages and prohibits a wholesaler to sell or deliver alcoholic beverage to a dealer without a valid permit.

In other words, the law requires both retailers and wholesalers to hold proper permits and the law holds both retailer or wholesaler responsible for determining whether they are engaging in business with someone with a valid permit. Based on this, it has been determined that a wholesaler may accept a copy of a licensee's ATC permit, in lieu of the original as proof of a valid state alcohol permit. However, wholesalers are also required to verify the veracity of the copy through ATC permit record search found at <http://www.atc.rev.state.la.us/license-lookup.php>.

Please direct any questions or requests for additional information to ATC Chief Legal Counsel, Ernest Legier at 504-568-7032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juana Lombard".

Juana Lombard, Commissioner
Louisiana Office of Alcohol & Tobacco Control