

EXAMINATION REPORT

Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
Fine Wine and Good Spirits
Store 4006

472 Union Street
Luzerne, Pennsylvania 18709
For the Period
August 27, 2024 to August 10, 2025

October 2025



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Department of the Auditor General

Timothy L. DeFoor • Auditor General



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**TIMOTHY L. DEFOOR
AUDITOR GENERAL**

The Honorable Darrell Clarke, Chairman
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board
518 Northwest Office Building
Harrisburg, PA 17124

Dear Chairman Clarke:

We have performed an examination of Fine Wine and Good Spirits Store 4006, Luzerne County, District 2-05, operated by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB). We examined store operations for the period August 27, 2024 to August 10, 2025.

This report presents the results of the Department of the Auditor General's examination of store operations under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB). The examination was conducted under statutory authority provided under 47 P.S. § 3-306 of the Pennsylvania Liquor Code.

This examination was conducted only to the extent that we considered necessary to determine if the wine and spirits store operated in compliance with PLCB operating procedures. The examination was not conducted, nor was it required to be, in accordance with professional auditing or attestation standards.

Our examination included:

- Conducting a physical inventory count for a selection of liquor codes and comparing our results to the store's perpetual inventory records to determine whether inventory differences in excess of \$200 in value exists for these codes;
- Reviewing deposits, consisting of cash and checks deposited manually and credit and debit card receipts deposited electronically, to determine whether deposits were appropriately accounted for and agreed with PLCB financial records;
- Reviewing Clerk Performance Reports, Ad Hoc Reports, Shipment Invoices, and Transfer Reports to determine the store's compliance with PLCB internal controls;

- Performing a count of all cash on hand to determine whether the store's cash on hand agrees with supporting store documents and bank records, and verifying whether the total store operating fund charged to the store agrees with the amount provided by the PLCB;
- Performing tests of Licensee Sales, Tax-Exempt Sales, Minor Challenges, System Prices, Register Voids, Register Deposits, and Breakage/Adjustment Controls to determine whether store operations were in compliance with PLCB operating procedures;
- Selecting liquor codes and verifying that the sales price in the store system agrees to the PLCB's approved price list; and,
- Locating and verifying that all PLCB capital assets are present at the store and comparing our results to the PLCB fiscal year asset equipment list for accuracy.

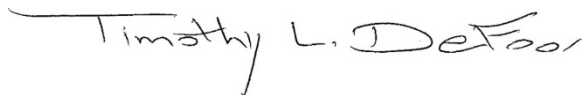
The results of our examination found that Fine Wine and Good Spirits Store 4006 operated in compliance with all PLCB operating procedures falling within the scope of our examination, except as noted in the following finding and discussed later in this report. This matter was discussed with appropriate personnel and is intended to assist you in improving internal controls.

Finding – Inventory Discrepancy Exceeding \$200 in Value – Repeat Finding

We would like to thank store management for their cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the examination.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact the Bureau of Liquor Control Audits at (717) 783-1236.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy L. DeFoor". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Timothy L. DeFoor
Auditor General
October 1, 2025

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BACKGROUND

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) operates a diverse network of retail and wholesale distribution facilities across the Commonwealth, including Premium Collection Stores, One-Stop/Supermarket Stores, Taste & Learn Stores, Lottery Locations, Wholesale Stores/Licensee Service Centers (LSCs) and an online E-Commerce Store. Each of these store types serves a distinct function – ranging from public retail and licensee fulfillment to education, special product releases, and bulk distribution.

The Department of the Auditor General’s authority to examine PLCB store operations is derived from Section 306 of the Pennsylvania Liquor Code (47 P.S. § 3-306).

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD
FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 4006
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION**

Finding – Inventory Discrepancy Exceeding \$200 in Value – Repeat Finding

Condition

A random sample count of 55 liquor codes, comprised of 2,725 units valued at \$66,219.65, was performed on August 11, 2025. We compared PLCB perpetual inventory records for the 55 liquor codes to actual inventory on hand. The perpetual inventory records and the actual inventory count matched for 52 codes; however, for the remaining 3 codes the inventory did not match. The discrepancies are noted below.

Discrepant Code Item Number	Physical Count	Perpetual Inventory	Difference	Retail Cost Per Unit	Total Value
1	25	52	(27)	\$18.99	(\$512.73)
2	127	139	(12)	\$17.99	(\$215.88)
3	96	95	1	\$11.99	\$11.99

On August 12, 2025, PLCB management was notified of the differences between actual inventory and the PLCB's perpetual inventory records so that the PLCB could investigate the differences and make appropriate adjustments to its inventory records.

A similar condition was noted in the two most recent examination of this store. Although we received corrective action for the two prior examination reports addressing similar inventory concerns, procedures were either not implemented or not operatively effective to prevent their re-occurrence.

Criteria

The PLCB Manual of Instructions, Chapter 710-14, Random/Complete Physical Inventory Comparison establishes that requires store managers to maintain accurate perpetual inventory records.

Cause

Contributing factors include, but are not limited to, theft, malfunctions in the inventory management system, failure to properly adjust inventory records and failure by store employees to properly accept or dispatch inventory transfers and shipments.

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD
FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 4006
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION**

Finding – (Continued)

Effect

Unacceptable inventory discrepancies demonstrate an inability to properly manage PLCB merchandise, reduce the ability of the Board to accurately maintain records of profit and loss, and may result in a reduction in PLCB revenue.

Recommendation

We again recommend that the Board investigate this situation and take whatever action it deems necessary to bring inventory discrepancies within the parameters established by the Board. Furthermore, the Board should monitor inventory levels and work with store employees to detect and correct inventory discrepancies in a timely manner.

Management Response

The manager agrees with the discrepancies.

Examiner's Conclusion

As indicated in the above Condition, our previous examination disclosed that none of the inventory codes were also noted as discrepant in the prior examination count and shoplifting was cited as a contributing factor in the prior report. Although this attribute was not specifically cited in the current management response, we again recommend that management/cashiers remain proactive in asset protection to avoid continued inventory losses. In addition, as was also noted in the above Condition, although a corrective action plan was received from management addressing similar areas for improvement as reflected in the current response, since procedures were not implemented or operatively effective to prevent their recurrence, we again recommend that management strengthen overall controls relative to monitoring the store inventory.

During examination of breakage and adjustments reports, it was noted that none of the discrepant codes noted above, found during this random inventory count were the same codes adjusted between 4/1/2025 to 6/30/2025.

Based on an examination of the 20 most recent shipment invoices, the codes listed above did not disclose any issues during deliveries.

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FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 4006
FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION**

Finding – (Continued)

We are concerned by the failure to comply with the prior two findings and encourage compliance at the earliest opportunity to do so.

Compliance along with any subsequent corrective action taken will be subject to verification in the subsequent examination.

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD
FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 4006
PRIOR FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION**

STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Random Sample Shortages

Our prior examination of a random sample of the store's inventory reported an inventory discrepancy exceeding \$200 between actual and perpetual inventory. Store management failed to comply with our recommendation (see Finding).

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD
FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 4006
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST**

This report was initially distributed to the following:

The Honorable Darrell Clarke
Chairman
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

Faith Deitrich
Assistant Director
PLCB Audit Services Division/Bureau of Audits
Pennsylvania Office of the Budget

Rodrigo Diaz
Executive Director
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

Angela Blecher
Chief Financial Officer
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

Angela Schaul
Director of Store Operations
Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board

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