EXAMINATION REPORT

Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Fine Wine and Good Spirits Store 6601

600 Hunter Highway
Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania 18657
For the Period
August 14, 2024 to August 24, 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 6601, Wyoming County, District 2-04, operated by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB). We examined store operations for the period August 14, 2024 to August 24, 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 6601 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 1% of the Value Examined - 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,

Timothy L. DeFoor

Timothy L. Detool

Auditor General

October 3, 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 6601 FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – Inventory Discrepancy Exceeding 1% of the Value Examined – Repeat Finding

Condition

A random sample count of 54 liquor codes, comprised of 2,519 units valued at \$66,429.21, was performed on August 25, 2025. We compared PLCB perpetual inventory records for the 54 liquor codes to actual inventory on hand and found discrepancies with an error rate greater than 1% of the value examined or \$664.29. The perpetual inventory records and the actual inventory count matched 41 codes; however, the following 13 codes had discrepancies between the actual inventory and the perpetual inventory records:

| Discrepant Code Item Number | Physical Count | Perpetual Inventory | Difference | Retail Cost Per Unit | Total Value |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 154 | 162 | (8) | \$17.99 | (\$143.92) |
| 2 | 44 | 47 | (3) | \$29.99 | (\$89.97) |
| 3 | 69 | 70 | (1) | \$29.99 | (\$29.99) |
| 4 | 73 | 72 | 1 | \$19.99 | \$19.99 |
| 5 | 68 | 67 | 1 | \$17.99 | \$17.99 |
| 6 | 40 | 39 | 1 | \$27.99 | \$27.99 |
| 7 | 37 | 36 | 1 | \$29.99 | \$29.99 |
| 8 | 95 | 93 | 2 | \$27.99 | \$55.98 |
| 9 | 75 | 73 | 2 | \$16.99 | \$33.98 |
| 10 | 134 | 131 | 3 | \$19.99 | \$59.97 |
| 11 | 75 | 71 | 4 | \$19.99 | \$79.96 |
| 12 | 201 | 196 | 5 | \$35.99 | \$179.95 |
| 13 | 71 | 66 | 5 | \$28.99 | \$144.95 |

During examination of breakage and adjustments reports, it was noted that five of the discrepant items noted above, found during this random inventory count, were the same items adjusted between May 01, 2025, through July 31, 2025, as illustrated below:

| Discrepant Code Item Number | Reason Code | Description | Units | Date |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------|----------|
| 3 | 87 | Stock In | 5 | 07/12/25 |
| 7 | 88 | Stock Out | -1 | 07/12/25 |
| 8 | 88 | Stock Out | -4 | 06/17/25 |

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 6601 FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – (Continued)

| Discrepant Code Item Number | Reason Code | Description | Units | Date |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-------|----------|
| 9 | 117 | Short – referenced by PLCB-1774 | -2 | 05/23/25 |
| 11 | 101 | Breakage by store employee | -1 | 07/01/25 |

Errors or inaccuracies with these adjustments could have contributed to the discrepancies noted above.

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

A similar condition was noted in the two most recent examinations 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 reoccurrence.

Criteria

The PLCB Manual of Instructions, Chapter 710-14, Random/Complete Physical Inventory Comparison establishes procedures that require stores management to maintain accurate perpetual inventory records.

Cause

The manager indicated the main reason for the discrepancies is that the store has not been able to perform ad hoc counts since July 25, 2025, and therefore, no inventory adjustments have been made. He also noted that possible clerk errors have contributed to the discrepancies.

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.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD FINE WINE AND GOOD SPIRITS STORE 6601 FINDING AND RECOMMENDATION

Finding – (Continued)

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 agreed with the finding. He indicated that he would address this issue with his employees at the next staff meeting.

Examiner's Conclusion

As indicated in the above Condition, although corrective action was received from management addressing similar areas for improvement, and procedures were not implemented or operating effectively to prevent their recurrence, we again recommend that management strengthen overall controls relative to monitoring the store inventory and remain proactive in asset protection to avoid continued variances/losses in store inventory.

We are concerned by the failure to comply with the two prior examinations' 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 6601 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 6601 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

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at www.PaAuditor.gov. Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: news@PaAuditor.gov.