

**Interim County Executive**  
Steven C. Szalay



**Board of Supervisors**  
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## County of Sacramento

### **News Release – For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Chris Andis, PIO, 916-874-2691

[andisc@saccounty.net](mailto:andisc@saccounty.net)

### **New Fee Process Recommended for Licenses to Sell Liquor**

*New Proposal Will Streamline Process for Applicants and Help County Recover Costs*

Sacramento, CA., On August 10, 2010, the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors will vote to adopt a new fee structure for processing liquor licenses in the unincorporated county that will help applicants make faster and better business decisions as well as help cover County processing costs.

“Fees for processing these licenses have not kept pace with costs and it’s important that our costs are fully recovered,” said Steve Szalay, Interim County Executive. “We also want to make it easier for applicants to make business decisions earlier in the process which will save them time and money.”

To prevent an oversaturation of businesses selling alcohol, especially in certain specified crime districts, the State Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) requires applications to sell alcohol within certain areas to obtain approval from the local governing body. Called a PCN letter (public convenience/necessity), the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors considers these applications for PCN only after a thorough review by multiple county departments including the Sheriff, community input, and a recommendation from the County Executive. The fees for County review and coordination will increase from \$1,678 to \$4,255.

To help streamline the process and reduce costs for business owners, the County is instituting a new process for applications. Rather than paying the entire fee up front and finding out that a location will be problematic, they can now review their application with the Sheriff’s Department for a fee of \$631 and then withdraw the application. “We hope this early withdrawal option will help businesses save valuable time and avoid unnecessary costs,” said Karyl Marsh of the County Executive’s Office who coordinates the PCN process for the County.

For more information, [view the Board of Supervisor Agenda Item, #49](#), from the Tuesday, August 10, 2010 agenda.

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