



Quick Guide: Crowlers

Crowlers are cans that are typically 32 ounces (but can be as large as 64 ounces) that are filled and sealed on-site with fresh-poured alcohol. Like a typical can, a crowler cannot be resealed once opened and is disposable by nature.

Under District of Columbia law, liquor stores, markets that sell beer and wine, full-service grocery stores, breweries, wineries and wine pub and brew pub permit holders may sell products to customers in crowlers in the District of Columbia.

RELEVANT LAW

The following laws and regulations govern the sale and distribution of crowlers in the District of Columbia:

- §§ 25-101 and 25-112 of the D.C. Official Code

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Beer or wine in crowlers may only be sold by the following types of alcoholic beverage licensees:

- Off-premises retailer's Class A, which includes liquor stores; and
- Off-premises retailer's Class B, which includes markets and full-service grocery stores.

SALES RESTRICTIONS

Retailers that hold a valid license or permit to sell and distribute beer, wine, cider or mead in crowlers may not permit patrons that purchase crowlers to consume the beverage at the licensed establishment. Crowler sales may be restricted by settlement agreements and the District's single sale moratoria.

PENALTIES

Violators of the District's rules regarding the sale and distribution of crowlers may be subject to a minimum \$1,000 fine, as well as possible suspension or the revocation of the violator's liquor license pursuant under D.C. Official Code Title 25, section 823; and D.C. Municipal Regulations Title 23, section 800.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information, visit ABRA.DC.Gov or contact ABRA at 202-442-4423 or ABRA@DC.Gov.