



State of North Carolina  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION

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## NC Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Removes Liquor with Highest Alcohol Content from NC ABC System

**RALEIGH** – In keeping with its commitment to safeguard public health and safety, the NC ABC Commission is removing two liquor products with alcohol content of 190 proof from the state's listed products. With the delisting, the highest proof liquor sold in North Carolina ABC stores will be 151 proof.

A 190 proof Everclear item will be replaced by a 151 proof Everclear item; a Diesel 190 proof product will not be replaced. The distillers producing these items have cooperated with the ABC Commission to make these changes. North Carolina's ABC store managers were advised before Thanksgiving that these products would not be available to be shipped from the warehouse after December 1, except by special order.

"The ABC Commission has long been concerned that young adults drinking nearly pure alcohol are especially vulnerable to alcohol poisoning," said Jon Williams. "The state is pleased to have the cooperation of the distillers in removing these products from our market and wants to also recognize the leadership efforts of Mecklenburg County ABC in restricting access at the retail sales level of 190 proof alcohol."

In advance of the state Commission's action, the Mecklenburg County ABC Board had removed larger container sizes of the high-proof products from store shelves near college campuses. An analysis of sales data by Mecklenburg ABC had shown that the majority of the larger bottles of the 190 proof products were purchased almost entirely at the three of its 24 stores located near college campuses.

The Dec.1 delisting of the high-alcohol liquor products follows action by the Commission at its November meeting to speed the removal of alcohol energy drinks from retail store shelves. The malt beer-based drinks had been effectively banned by warnings from the FDA and other agencies in mid-November.

### ABOUT THE ABC COMMISSION

North Carolina is one of 19 states to regulate alcohol through a control system. Since 1937, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission has provided regulation and control over the sale, purchase, transportation, manufacture, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state of North Carolina. The Commission oversees more than 25,000 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 17,000 retail outlets across the state.

LOCATION: 400 EAST TRYON ROAD, RALEIGH, NC 27610

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