AGE VERIFICATION – IDENTIFICATION CHECKLIST

ALL CUSTOMERS HAVE TO PROVE TO YOUR SATISFACTION THAT THEY ARE OF LEGAL AGE; YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PROVE THEY ARE NOT OLD ENOUGH. DON'T "CHECK" THE IDENTIFICATION; VERIFY THE AGE OF THE PURCHASER.

The first rule of checking any type of identification is to get it in your hand—and take your time to actually verify the age. ***You cannot properly check ID in a wallet.*** The second rule of checking ID is to ***make use of a good light source***. And, third, ***don't assume a minor will not show identification if it states he or she is under age.***

The next step is to look at the presenter of the Identification, are they the same person in the photo? Is the Physical description similar to the person standing in front of you? If not politely refuse the sale.

Always check the expiration date. ***An expired driver's license or identification card is not acceptable ID for purchasing alcohol.***

Are they 21? Do not subtract to determine if the purchaser is of legal age, add 21 to the year they were born. It is much simpler to do that kind of math in your head. For tobacco purchases add 20 to the date of birth then subtract two.

The five types of identification that are lawfully acceptable in the State of Nebraska for the purchase of alcohol are: 1) a valid ***not expired*** drivers or operators license from any state, 2) a valid ***not expired*** new style ***Nebraska*** identification card, 3) a military identification card, 4) a passport or 5) an Alien Registration Card. Non-Nebraska State ID cards are not acceptable.

Other forms of ID may be used as supplemental identification, i.e., birth certificate, credit card, check cashing card, employment ID, etc., but may not be the ***primary*** form of ID. People with fake IDs rarely carry a backup ID. You may also choose not to accept a particular type of ID; but, when asked for ID the customer must present one of the five listed—***nothing else may be accepted***.

When checking ID, pay close attention to the photo and date of birth. They are the most likely areas that may be altered, and should match the appearance of the purchaser. A genuine ID card is flexible—by flexing ID back and forth any glued on photos or false laminate can be easily detected.

The following items are other things to look for when checking ID.

1. In ***2007*** a purchaser's birthday must be at least ***today's date in 1986*** to legally purchase alcohol, and ***today's date in 1989*** to legally purchase tobacco products.
2. There should be information on the back of a valid driver's license. The new Nebraska ID has a bar code on the back of the license. Refer to an identification book if one is available, or your own Nebraska operator's license. The information should not be photo copied. There should not be indications of punched holes or raised numbers.
3. The corners inside the lamination should be smoothly rounded, the edges even. There should be no glue lines or bumpy surfaces under the lamination. There should not be any pin holes where bleach may have been inserted to white out areas. The lamination should not be raised or bubbled up.
4. The photograph will be a part of the identification and not raised. The photo should match the person presenting the ID. You would be surprised how many clerks do not look at the photo.
5. All numbers and letters should match the type style, type size, and darkness of print. The data entries should not be darker than the background and should be of the same clarity or quality.
6. Check for a laminated top layer over altered information. The ID may feel thicker than normal, or it may peel off and bend oddly. Check for creases over critical areas such as the date of birth.
7. The ID should not appear fuzzy or out of focus, particularly the State Seal. All parts of the State Seal should be present. Any hologram or other form of license protection inside the laminate should be complete, clear and legible.
8. **BEWARE OF THE DUPLICATE** - someone else may have the original card.
9. The background color of a Nebraska Drivers License is no longer an indicator of legal age.

Although it is no longer required by law, for your own protection, **ALWAYS USE THE ID REGISTER.** Even if the identification used appears to be valid, it is ***strongly suggested*** that the store clerk use the documentary proof of age book. This protects him or her and the premise license from prosecution. Remember, it is against the law to possess an altered or defaced license, to alter or deface a license, to lend someone a license or to misrepresent age when purchasing alcohol or tobacco. REMEMBER TO CHECK THE INFORMATION ENTERED IN THE REGISTER TO VERIFY THAT IT MATCHES THE ID PRESENTED AND THAT IT IS FILLED OUT CORRECTLY.

IF YOU HAVE ANY DOUBT AND ARE NOT ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY, TOTALLY, COMPLETELY, CONVINCED THAT THE CARD IS VALID, DO NOT MAKE THE SALE!!!