

## Restrictions on Awarding Alcohol as a Raffle Prize

According to the Department of Public Safety, Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division, an organization may award wine, beer, or intoxicating liquors as a raffle prize if:

- funds from the raffle are dedicated to the charitable purposes of the organization;
- the number of raffles or silent auctions at which alcohol is awarded is limited to not more than six occasions per year; and
- the alcohol is only raffled to persons who demonstrate that they are 21 years of age or older and do not show signs of obvious intoxication.

The law that allows alcohol prizes at raffles does not authorize on-premises consumption of alcohol.

(Minnesota Statutes, Section 340A.707)

### Limit of six occasions

#### **Q. May we conduct six silent auctions and six raffles per year in which we award liquor as prizes?**

A. No. According to Public Safety law (Sec. 340A.707), an organization may only do a combined total of six. For example, in a calendar year an organization could conduct three silent auctions and three raffles in which liquor is awarded as prizes.

Please note that for exempt activity, the Gambling Control Board allows lawful gambling on only five or fewer days in a calendar year (Sec. 349.166, subd. 2).

### Liquor license

#### **Q. Do we need a liquor license to award liquor as prizes for the raffles allowed by this law?**

A. No, but you need to check with the city or county for local ordinances that might prohibit awarding liquor as prizes.

#### **Q. Our organization owns its premises and has an on-sale liquor license. Are we still allowed to sell alcohol at the fundraising event where we have a raffle and award liquor as a prize?**

A. Yes, because the organization has the proper on-sale liquor license. The law only prohibits the consumption of alcohol at a premises that does not have an on-sale liquor license.

### Questions?

For questions regarding the use of alcohol as prizes, contact the Department of Public Safety's Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division at 651-201-7507.