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Ohio - Bars, restaurants could face consequences if they don't comply with health directives

"We're going to start looking for locations that are open and operating, not in compliance with the governor and health director's mandates," said **Agent-in-Charge Greg Croft of the OIU's Cleveland Office. Croft, who is also president of the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association**, said OIU agents, who are peace officers, may issue administrative citations against a bar or restaurant's liquor permit. They can also issue criminal citations to whoever is in charge of the establishment at the time.

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Healthy Alcohol Marketplace - Massachusetts could be Washington all over again

A Massachusetts ballot initiative could repeat the problems that arose in Washington state when a single company bought a ballot initiative. Aside from the implications for democracy when corporations are allowed to solely write laws, this ballot initiative could potentially affect all of the state's residents, whether they drink alcohol or not.

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Opinion piece - A century after Prohibition, will the coronavirus finally end it? We'll drink to that.

Lots for ALE to think about, what will be the new world order in regard to liquor regulation? - Now, a century later, the COVID-19 crisis has triggered — virtually overnight — a mass rethinking of this sclerotic industry. Once the virus hit and government officials were forced to prioritize public health above all else, it became painfully apparent that many of our nation's alcohol rules were not related to health or safety at all.

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Virginia - Albemarle County police offer guidance on driving home with to-go cocktails

John Sandhofer, with the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority, says while there are several rules in place, like a limit on the size and number of cocktails going out for each order, ABC is trying to help these businesses keep operating.

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Illinois Bar Sent Cease and Desist After Opening in Defiance of Stay-at-Home Order

But come Monday, Bliesner got the notice he had been waiting for - a cease and desist order from the Illinois Liquor Control Commission. The order states the bar is "unlawfully operating amidst a declared limitation on service that is necessary and proper to prevent further spreading of the COVID-19 pathogen." It ordered him to stop all "unlawful operations" immediately and says further service defying the order could result in the revocation of the bar's liquor license or "other civil or criminal violations."

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International - SEB gets down to business; liquor seized in huge quantity

The Andhra Pradesh police had a tough time in preventing illegal sand and liquor smuggling from Telangana. Few days after the government announced creation of State Enforcement Bureau (SEB), the police seized thousands of liquor bottles being smuggled into the State. The government has shifted 3,304 employees to the newly created SEB and directed the bureau to act tough against the liquor and sand smugglers.

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Off-Premise Alcohol Sales Are a Lifeline for Bars and Restaurants That Should Continue Permanently

While the contribution of off-premise sales is small, operators say the continued ability to do so will be crucial for the industry's recovery. At the same time, they acknowledge that the current to-go models present their own challenges, and are wary of the obstacles that stand in the way of making alcohol to go a permanent reality.

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If you have Alcohol Law Enforcement news to share, please send it to Carrie Christofes, Executive Director at carrie.christofes@nllea.org. Thank you,