



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
COMMISSIONER OF CONSUMER PROTECTION  
165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106

MARK A. SHIFFRIN

MAY 12 1998

Michael Berkoff  
President  
Warehouse Wines & Liquors, Corp.  
808 East Main St.  
Stamford, CT 06902

Dear Mr. Berkoff:

In your May 5, 1998 letter, you request the issuance of a Declaratory Ruling regarding the establishment of a management company for off-premise retail liquor stores. I now exercise the discretion vested in me by Section 4-176 of the Connecticut General Statutes and Sections 21a-1-10 and 30-6-C9 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and grant your petition.

By terms of the question presented, XYZ Management Company would be hired by one or more off-premise retail liquor stores to perform various duties, including bookkeeping, advertising, and training for payment of a fee. The ownership of any off-premise retail liquor establishment would not change or be otherwise affected by this contractual relationship.

Please be advised that, under the factual circumstances summarized herein, the proposed arrangement would be permissible. There is nothing in the Liquor Control Act or its regulations which would prohibit a management company or a permit premises from conducting business as summarized herein. This is clearly a business decision and is outside the realm of the jurisdiction of this Department. However, please note the restrictions on combined ownership, and the potential antitrust implications if any such management agreement adversely affected competition in a relevant market area.

Thank you for bringing this issue to my attention. I trust this responds to your concerns.

Sincerely,



Mark A. Shiffrin  
Commissioner

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