Question: If you have a bar and a full-service restaurant license in the same building, do you have to have separate alcohol dispensing areas for each licensed location?

Answer: It Depends. A bar may provide the dispensing of alcohol to a full-service restaurant licensee only under these circumstances:

- The bar and restaurant must be owned by the same person or persons. Note: It does not have to be the same entity or DBA, but must be exactly the same owners for both licenses.
- The bar and the restaurant must be located immediately adjacent to each other in the same building, whether they are on the same floor or connected up and down from each other on different floors. However, the bar and restaurant cannot be in completely different areas of a building because alcohol cannot cross into unlicensed areas.
- Any instrument or equipment used to dispense alcoholic products is located at the bar.

It is important to know that if you are serving the alcoholic beverages from the bar to the restaurant with only one dispensing system, the point of sale system needs to be able to ring up the sales separately for each license type. In other words, the point of sale system must be able to report the bar’s alcohol and food sales under the bar license and must be able to report the restaurant’s alcohol and food sales under the restaurant license. Currently, the law does not allow the reverse scenario. A restaurant cannot provide alcohol to an adjacent bar.

Simply, the bar and restaurant must be owned by the same persons, and must be next to each other.