

The Los Angeles Brewer's Guild

Recently a representative from California ABC did state (in summary) that any brewery can fill any container, provided that existing label information is obscured and that new, approved labeling is affixed. On February 26, 2013, the Los Angeles Brewers Guild (LABG) came together to discuss how to move forward on the filling of "other breweries growlers" at our respective establishments. Breweries represented at the meeting were Eagle Rock Brewery, Monkish Brewing Co, Strand Brewing Co, El Segundo Brewing Co, Golden Road Brewing, Wolf Creek Brewing, Kinetic Brewing Co, with write in comments from Beachwood Brewing and the Brewery at Abigaile. The Los Angeles Brewers Guild stance on this topic is as follows:

First and foremost the ABC law as it relates to label approvals has not changed. The statement made by the ABC does not absolve the breweries from the labeling required of each brewery in order to provide growler fills. Each brewery's current label approval is different and specific to that brewery's packaging. At this time no brewery is approved to fill any vessel that deviates from their approved labeling. This includes blank growlers and growlers with other labels obscured as the growler glass and its presentation is part of each brewery's approved labeling. At this time member breweries of the LABG will not be providing growler fills in any vessel other than that which is currently approved for that specific brewery.

In the coming weeks the LABG member breweries will be working closely with the ABC, the California Craft Brewers Association, and other guilds throughout the state to further clarify this issue and determine the best course of action. LABG would like to thank our members' customers for their understanding and cooperation while this issue is being resolved.