

OHIO LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION INSPECTOR.

This is the oldest Ohio Liquor Commission Enforcement Badge that has been located. In my 53 years of collecting I had not heard of the term "Inspector" as a law enforcement officer of the commission.



The badge was in the possession of the relatives of Deceased Inspector Eugene Moriarty. Mr. Moriarty passed away in 1961 and is buried in Cincinnati, Ohio. His family states that he was born on July 31, 1880. At the time of his death his family states he lived in Northside, a section of Cincinnati, Ohio.

He had told his relatives about his undercover work while employed as an inspector. I was not familiar with the term of inspector as an enforcement agent for the state liquor control. During research I was able to find the term listed in the State of Ohio Case Notes regarding the holding of arrested persons by county sheriff's for a reasonable time without a warrant being signed. The initials EM were engraved by a jeweler using what is known as a "hand graver". Two news paper items were also located.

Page 2 shows various news paper items in which the term inspector is used in lieu of investigator. The articles date from 1934 to 1955.

Page 3 refers to the Liquor Control Commission being created and enforcement personnel authorized.

Page 4 refers to search warrants being issued for violations of the Ohio Liquor Laws.

Page 5 refers to the authority of Liquor Control Inspector's to arrest suspects and place them in jail. This is dated 1936.

News items were found on the internet showing the use of the term inspector as an enforcement officer.

[1934](#) Dec 29, 1934 - Five men were arrested late Saturday on liquor charges as state officers, acting under orders from [Ohio State Liquor Control Board](#) officials, began a clamp down" on Illicit holiday liquor. City police aided In the raids. The state men. led by State Beer **inspector** John Finch, ...

[1935](#) Apr 2, 1935 - **inspector** of the **Ohio Liquor Control Department**, shot himself to death at his home this afternoon. Mr. [Mathews](#) died Instantly. The oldest son, Silas William, found his father's body. No reason beyond Mr, Mathews dismissal was assigned for the suicide. ... Mr. Mathews had been the **chief inspector**.

[1948](#) Jun 12, 1948 - Mr. Oppenheimer said: have assured the director of the **Ohio** department of **liquor control** that I am innocent of all 'the accusations which were the ... told the state [liquor control board](#) a week ago that he had been solicited for 3000 by a state liquor **inspector** he refused to Identify. ...
From [Oppenheimer In Leave From Liquor Post . - Related web pages](#)
[news.google.com/newspapers?id=SsJQAAAAIBAJ ...](#)

[1949](#) Jul 15, 1949 - Specifically, the state charged that Dunn took no effective disciplinary action against a liquor **inspector** ac cused of accepting money from liquor ... 1945 He was serving as chairman of the three-man state **liquor control** commission when suspended The ouster proceedings grew out of an ...
From [Judge Files Finding Of Fact Democratic Chiefs In Ouster Case Against](#)

[1955](#) Apr 9, 1955 - Columbus, April 9 Some **Ohio** liquor agents may don uniforms if a proposal considered by the State Department of **Liquor Control** is ... Bryant told a newsman Friday night the proposal is being considered to uniform some of the department's 85 investigators and 50 permit **inspectors**. ...
From [Liquor Dept. Studies Uniforms For Agents . - Related web pages](#)
[news.google.com/newspapers?id=ZXw_AAAAIBAJ ...](#) (the term inspector is no longer being used and has been replaced by the term investigator.)

The Ohio Liquor Control Commission was created by Ohio State Law. The commission was created after the repeal of prohibition.

Sec. 154-G. Offices created in the several departments. Offices are created within the several departments as follows:

In the department of finance:

Superintendent of budget.

Superintendent of purchases and printing.

In the department of commerce:

Superintendent of building and loan associations.

Fire marshal.

Superintendent of insurance.

In the department of public works:

State architect and engineer.

In the department of highways:

First assistant director.

In the department of agriculture:

Commissioner of conservation and natural resources.

Chiefs of divisions as follows:

Animal industry.

Food and dairies.

Plant industry.

State fair.

In the department of industrial relations:

Chiefs of divisions as follows:

Factory inspection.

Labor statistics.

Mines.

In the department of education:

Chief of division of film censorship.

In the department of public welfare:

Fiscal supervisor.

Superintendent of charities.

In the department of liquor control:

Chiefs of divisions as follows:

Accounting and finance.

Store management.

Investigation and enforcement.

Personnel.

Beer.

§ 4301.53 Search warrants. (GC § 6064.61)

The judge of a court of record may issue warrants to search a house, building, place, vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, or conveyance for beer, alcohol, or intoxicating liquor manufactured, possessed, stored, concealed, sold, furnished, given away, or transported in violation of Chapters 4301. and 4303. of the Revised Code, and the containers in which the same is found, or machinery, tools, implements, equipment, supplies, and materials used or kept for use in manufacturing beer or intoxicating liquor in violation of such chapters, and to seize any of such property and things found therein, together with the vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, or conveyance in which the same is found. The issuance of such warrants is subject in all respects to sections 2933.22 to 2933.27, inclusive[,] of the Revised Code; except that any such vehicle[,] watercraft, aircraft, or other conveyance shall be returned to its owner upon execution by him of a bond with surety to the satisfaction of the officer making the seizure in an equal amount to its value, conditioned upon its return to the custody of such officer on the day of trial to abide by the judgment of the court. Upon conviction of any violation of Chapters 4301. and 4303. of the Revised Code, any property found in the possession of the person convicted or his agent or employee shall be disposed of as provided in section 4301.45 of the Revised Code. If the accused is discharged by the judge or magistrate, such vehicle, watercraft, aircraft, or other conveyance shall be returned to its owner and any bond given pursuant to this section shall be canceled. If the accused is the holder of a permit issued under Chapters 4301. and 4303. of the Revised Code, any beer, intoxicating liquor, or alcohol seized shall be delivered to the department of liquor control and disposed of as provided in section 4301.29 of the Revised Code, and any other property seized shall be returned to its owner by the officer having the custody or possession of such property. If the accused is not the holder of such a permit in force at the time, any beer, intoxicating liquor, or alcohol, and other property except as provided in this section shall be forthwith destroyed and any such beer, intoxicating liquor, or alcohol, or other property is hereby declared to be a public nuisance.

HISTORY: GC § 6064-61; 115 v Pt II 118 (157), § 61. Eff 10-1-53.

Forms

Affidavit for search warrant, Schneider No.149;
Search warrant and return, No.150.

Research Aids

Search and seizure:

Page: Intox. Liq. § 50 et seq

O-Jur2d: Searches § 14

Am-Jur: Searches §§ 16, 21, 29, 50, 51

Validity of particular statutory provisions or other regulations as to inspection, entry, or search of places for sale of intoxicating liquors, to facilitate determination of whether conditions of license are being complied with. 116 ALR 1098.

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CASE NOTES

1. A justice of the peace, a judge of a mayor's court and judges of courts which are not courts of record in Ohio cannot, under this section, issue search warrants for intoxicating liquor: 1934 OAG No.3459.

2. A person arrested without a warrant can be detained in a county jail for safe-keeping only until a charge can be filed against him by the arresting officer with a court or magistrate having jurisdiction of the offense and available and accessible at the time to the arresting officer: 1936 OAG No.5701.

3. A sheriff, as the jailer of the county, can, without a commitment or court order, accept and hold for safe-keeping for a reasonable time only a person arrested by an inspector of the department of liquor control either without a warrant under the conditions prescribed in GC § 13432-1 (RC § 2935.03), or under a warrant: 1936 OAG No.5701.

4. A person arrested without a warrant under GC § 13432-1 (RC § 2935.03) must be promptly taken by the arresting officer before a court or magistrate having jurisdiction of the offense, and an arresting officer does not have the power or authority in such a case to detain the prisoner until a particular court or magistrate becomes available: 1936 OAG No.5701.



The gold plated badge is believed to be the 2nd style. The badge was given to me by the enforcement director in the mid 1970's. It was in the safe of the Enforcement Division, no one knew when it was used. The chrome badge is the 3rd style and was in use in the early 1970's. The 4th style had flags on it but

it was disliked by the agents; the lettering was hard to read and was in use for only a short period. When it was taken out of service the agents carried the 3rd issue again.



For an unknown period of time liquor stores an unknown amount of stores in Cleveland, Ohio had armed State Liquor Guards. The years of use for the badges are unknown.



On July 12, 1995, Governor George Voinovich signed Senate Bill 162 into law. The law transferred the Enforcement Division of the Ohio Department of Liquor Control to the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The enforcement division officially moved to Public Safety on October 29, 1995. With the split from Department of Liquor Control, the agents maintained the enforcement of Title 43 – The Ohio Liquor Laws.

Other badges have been used but no photographs are available at this time. As photos become available they will be added.

All badges in this article are in the author's collection.

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