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E Z Food Mart Deli
Nasir Awadallah
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-5648

May 17, 2003

Chief
Regulations and Procedures Division
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
P.O. Box .50221
Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

RE: TTB Notice No.4

Dear Alcohol Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau:

The typical small retail establishment like mine here in Virginia Beach, VA that sells flavored malt beverages is run by hard-working people who obey the law, pay their taxes and earn a modest living. The new TTB rules would be a direct assault on retailers everywhere and our customers who enjoy products like Smirnoff Ice and Bacardi Silver.

Lately President Bush and Congress are talking about stimulating the economy and putting people back to work. These are important issues that need to be addressed on a national basis. Unfortunately, this proposed rules change would depress our businesses by eliminating flavored malt beverages or taxing them beyond affordability. Our customers would leave and we lose their revenues and profits. In the end, everyone is hurt, the industry, the retailers and the consumer.

Obviously, this would be a step backwards for regulatory policy in the U.S. Please stop this rules change or at least work out a fair compromise.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely Yours,

Nasir Awadallah