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Dear Mr. William Foster:

Re: Immediate action requested regarding TTh rulemaking

I am, and have been employed by Mark Anthony LTD, makers of Mike's hard lemonade and other products. I write you with much concern about the future TTB ruling on malt based beverages. Mike's hard lemonade is a product that serves as an alternative to beer and has been very successful for the past 4 years in the U.S. We are now in the midst of a battle between the three major breweries and distillers. These companies want to destroy us and the way we do business because their products are not as successful as ours.

We have never tried to deceive the public about what is contained in our product. The battle is about fairness and our right to compete on equal footing in this competitive category. This is a battle between David and Goliath. The American dream rests on this decision.

Although we favor the status quo, we would support the more reasonable position of a 51% standard. Currently the big brewers and the NBWA, under pressure from the breweries, is pushing for the 90% standard, meaning only 10% of the alcohol contained could come from added flavors. This standard would mean an unfair cost and would result in a higher cost and different taste to our products.

For the sake of our consumers and hard working Americans, such as myself, I encourage TTh to reject the proposed 0.5% standard (90%) for FMB 's and Work with the FMG industry to achieve a more reasonable standard.

Sincerely

Mark Angelone
Mid-Atlantic Region Manager