

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

IN THE MATTER OF

Legend's Sports Bar
192 Pine Street
Bristol, Connecticut
Marc Leboeuf, Permittee
L-Bar, LLC, Backer
Permit No. LIR.18496

November 17, 2020

SUMMARY SUSPENSION ORDER

This premises operates under a restaurant liquor permit issued by the Department of Consumer Protection ("DCP"). It operates under the trade name "Legend's Sports Bar" and is also known by the name "Legend's" and "L Bar." A permit was first issued by DCP on March 12, 2012, and the permit was renewed on June 18, 2020. This permit is currently active pending review because a fire marshal inspection is required of the premise.

We find that during the evening hours of November 13, 2020, Legend's Sports Bar was operating in violation of Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Orders 7MM, 7PP, 7NNN, 9D, 9K, and 9L and corresponding Phase 2.1 Sector Rules, which were passed in response to the declared and continuing COVID-19 public health crisis. The actions of Legend's Sports Bar thereby created a public health emergency.

Specifically, in a letter dated November 16, 2020, from Marco Palmeri, the Director of Health for the Bristol-Burlington Health District ("BBHD"), to DCP Liquor Control Director John Suchy, Director Palmeri states that on November 13, three BBHD agents conducted a spot inspection of Legend's Sports Bar. The agents arrived at approximately 10:12 p.m., and the premise was open with approximately 45 patrons within the establishment, many of whom were "crowding the bar," even though the premise was supposed to be closed and empty of patrons by 10:00 p.m. Drinks were actively being served from the bar and patrons were observed drinking without also consuming food. The agents observed that 16 bar stools were occupied by patrons without social distancing or plexiglass barriers. The agents saw patrons playing pool, and music was playing loudly. As Director Palmeri stated in his letter, "Legend's Bar was in full service well beyond the mandated 10 p.m. closure time and there were no indications the establishment was closing for the night anytime soon." The agents ordered the premise immediately closed.

The permittee, Marc Leboeuf, arrived shortly thereafter. When the agents questioned Mr. Leboeuf, he was "sarcastic" and told agents he is "trying to make a living." The agents reminded Mr. Leboeuf that BBHD had sent emails to all establishments serving liquor within the District to notify them of the changed Sector Rules and mandated 10 p.m. closure. Mr. Leboeuf brushed them off, stating he "doesn't check his email." He told the agents that "they should try to be less serious" and offered them pizza and

martinis. As Director Palmeri summarized in his letter, “Mr. LeBoeuf is unwilling to take responsibility for his business’s impact on public health.”

In his letter, Director Palmeri also noted that patrons tend to congregate at Legend’s Sports Bar after visiting other venues. The BBHD agents had visited other locations that evening before arriving at Legend’s. The agents noticed several patrons inside Legends that were also seen inside other restaurants that same evening. As Director Palmeri explained, “The potential for exposure to Covid-19 at Legends is compounded by the fact that patrons from other bars congregate at Legends Bar after 10 p.m.”

Based upon the BBHD agents’ observations and photographic evidence that evening and Mr. Leboeuf’s attitude, Director Palmeri signed a Cease and Desist Order that required Legend’s Sports Bar to immediately close. The reasons cited were: “Establishment is operating as a ‘bar’ and not serving food to those consuming alcohol; Establishment not enforcing/maintaining social distancing requirements between patrons/seating areas; Other: Dining area open with patrons after 10 p.m.”

We find that the November 13, 2020 conduct observed by the BBHD agents, and corresponding violations of Governor Ned Lamont’s Executive Orders 7MM, 7PP, 7NNN, 9D, 9K, and 9L and corresponding Phase 2.1 Sector Rules, demonstrates that the premise is operated in a manner that imperils public health, and demonstrates the need for better control of the premise by the permittee, backer, or their agents.

Based upon the foregoing, DCP finds that public health, safety and welfare imperatively requires emergency action, in accordance with section 4-182 (c) of the Connecticut General Statutes, and **ORDERS** your restaurant liquor permit **suspended immediately and premises closed** pending proceedings for revocation or other action.

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Michelle Seagull
Commissioner of Consumer Protection
Chairperson, Liquor Control Commission