



East Haven Police Department



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Edward R. Lennon, Jr.
Chief of Police

Patrick Tracy
Deputy Chief of Police

August 8, 2022

Caitlin Anderson, Director
State of Connecticut
Department of Consumer Protection
Liquor Control Division
450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 901
Hartford, CT 06103

Re: Summary Suspension Request

Dear Ms. Anderson:

On August 6, 2022, at approximately 1:38 a.m., officers responded to BullsEye Billiards & Bar, 655 Main Street, Unit 3, East Haven, CT for a report of a shooting. BullsEye Billiards & Bar is in a strip mall in a business district of Town and several businesses in the area were open at the time of the shooting.

Initial investigation determined that a dispute took place between two or more individuals inside BullsEye Billiards & Bar. It was reported that tensions escalated throughout the course of the night which led to a physical altercation around "last call" when the lights came on and people were closing out their open tabs. It was reported to us that the deceased, identified as Julius Bolden-Lowe, got into a physical altercation with an unidentified individual just prior to the shooting. In addition to Bolden-Lowe, another patron, who is believed to be an innocent bystander was also shot. That individual suffered a gunshot wound to the face. It would later be determined that both Bolden-Lowe and the bystander that was shot in the face were both in possession of loaded firearms inside the bar. Following the shooting, life-saving measures were performed on Bolden-Lowe who was shot approximately 5-6 times in areas ranging from the torso, stomach, and head. Bolden-Lowe later died at Yale New Haven Hospital. The initial investigation also revealed that more than one caliber of spent bullet casings was found on the ground in the area in which the shooting occurred, which suggests that there was more than one shooter. It is unclear at this time whether the deceased exchanged gunfire with the shooting suspect.

BullsEye Billiards & Bar employs a bouncer, who is stationed at the front door. After investigators spoke with the business owner, identified as David Clough, it was determined that the bouncer is tasked with checking I.D.'s as well as frisking patrons upon arrival. The bouncer advised responding officers that he did not conduct weapons checks on the night of the shooting.

BullsEye Billiards & Bar has several surveillance cameras within the establishment. A search and seizure warrant for the DVR system was executed. The DVR system will be submitted to a forensic laboratory for further analysis.

Investigators are actively working on this investigation and anticipate criminal charges will be filed in this case for those involved.

It should be noted that there has been a pattern of incidents involving violent behavior at BullsEye Billiards & Bar, some of which resulted in victim's suffering serious injury. Below is a summary of the violent incidents requiring a police response from 2021 and 2022 at BullsEye Billiards & Bar to give a small sampling of the ongoing behavior:

- 08/06/2022 - Double Shooting (Homicide) (Case #: 2200021608)
- 01/01/2022 - Fight involving multiple people (Case #: 2200000003)
- 11/21/2021 - Fight involving multiple people (Case #: 2100030816)
- 11/20/2021 - Fight involving 20 + people (Case #: 2100030808)
- 10/09/2021 - Male outside of establishment looking to fight people (Case #: 2100026536)
- 09/12/2021 - Fight taking place inside of bar while fight simultaneously happening in parking lot (Case #: 2100024034)
- 08/19/2021 - Male outside of bar asking people to fight (Case #: 2100021868)
- 06/20/2021 - Fight between two males which spilled out into the parking lot (Case #: 2100016155)
- 06/06/2021 - Double stabbing with multiple serious injuries (Case #: 2100014848)
- 05/30/2021 - Fight in the parking lot between parties leaving the bar (Case #: 2100014296)
- 03/10/2021 - Complainant stated he was assaulted by the bar owner, the bar owner's son, and a bartender (Case #: 2100006641)

During this time, the East Haven Police Department (EHPD) had sixty-two (62) additional case numbers in which officers were assigned to monitor BullsEye Billiards & Bar during closing hours in an effort to deter illegal and/or violent activity. This continued illegal activity has been a constant drain on police resources and has taken officers away from patrolling other areas of Town. Despite these efforts, BullsEye Billiards & Bar still has had many violent incidents as outlined above.

Based on the serious violence that has occurred, the threat to public safety and the drain on police resources, I respectfully request an immediate summary suspension at BullsEye Billiards & Bar, located at 655 Main Street, East Haven, CT.

If you need any further information or supporting documentation, please do not hesitate to contact Investigative Services Commander, Captain Joseph Murgio at jmurgio@easthavenpolice.com or Detective Nicholas Adams at nadams@easthavenpolice.com.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward R. Lennon, Jr.
Chief of Police