

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

IN THE MATTER OF

Litt Ultra Lounge
483 W. Main Street
Waterbury, CT. 06702
Christine A. Lavorgna, Permittee
Litt Entertainment Group, LLC, Backer
Permit No. LCA.7949

September 7, 2022

SUMMARY SUSPENSION ORDER

This premises operates under a cafe liquor permit issued by the Department of Consumer Protection (“DCP”). It operates under the trade name “Litt Ultra Lounge,” and is also known as “Lit Ultra Lounge” and “Ultra Lounge.” The permit was first issued by DCP on September 8, 2017 and has been renewed annually, with the current permit set to expire on January 7, 2023.

We find that on September 3, 2022, Litt Ultra Lounge was the scene of a shooting during which at least three individuals were shot, resulting in one fatality and two other injuries. This incident follows another recent shooting at the premise, as well as continual instances of police involvement at the premise.

Specifically, in letters to DCP dated September 6 & 7, 2022, Waterbury Police Chief Fernando Spagnolo indicated that on September 3, 2022, Waterbury police officers responded to a “serious incident” that occurred during the early hours of the morning inside the premise. During that incident, one person was killed and two others were injured by gunfire. Responding officers found victim Adam Bellamy injured inside the premise with multiple gunshot wounds. He was transferred to the local hospital, where he died from his injuries. Two additional victims sustained non-life threatening injuries, and were also transferred to the hospital. Upon execution of a search warrant, detectives retrieved one gun from the premise. Detectives also interviewed security personnel and the club promoter, each of whom were armed with a firearm. The promoter was there to generate interest in a rap artist who was performing; this artist was recently released from prison after serving a sentence relating to homicide. The premise lacks a functioning surveillance system, and the investigation is ongoing.

Chief Spagnolo also described a shooting that occurred on February 12, 2022 at the premise. Multiple patrol units were dispatched to the premise for reports of shots fired. Officers found the victim, who was the head of security for the premise, in the back of the bar suffering from gunshot wounds to his left arm and right foot. Upon interviewing security personnel, detectives learned that a large group of patrons were forcibly removed from the bar for creating a disturbance. Security had to forcibly hold the door closed to prevent the group from reentering. One of those patrons pulled a firearm and began shooting into the premise, striking the victim inside the premise. Twenty-four (24) shell casings from two different caliber weapons were found at the scene.

Moreover, Chief Spagnolo explained that there are residences located around and above the business. As he described, “for the immediate surrounding community, gunshots occurring on the premise of Lit Ultra Lounge is a serious health and safety concern.” The police department has been required to assign

additional personal to the premise and the area around the premise in order to “maintain an increased” and “almost constant police presence,” which constitutes a drain on limited police resources and diverts police from other areas of need in the city. As Chief Spagnolo summarized, “[t]he continued operation of Lit Ultra Lounge and the criminal activity that occurs there has a negative impact on both public safety and the quality of life in the City of Waterbury.”

We find that the September 3, 2022 shooting that resulted in one fatality and two injuries, in conjunction with another recent shooting and the need for frequent police involvement, demonstrates that the premise is operated in a manner that imperils public safety and highlights 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 cafe liquor permit **suspended immediately and premises closed** pending proceedings for revocation or other action.

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Maureen Magnan
Deputy Commissioner of Consumer Protection