



Robert Kalamaras  
Chief of Police



## Fairfield Police Department

Continually Striving to Make Fairfield Safer  
Honor - Professionalism - Excellence



100 Reef Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824

June 21, 2022

M. Caitlin S. Anderson  
Director, Liquor Control Division,  
CT Dept. of Consumer Protection  
450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 901  
Hartford, CT 06103

Dear Director Anderson,

I, Chief Robert Kalamaras, am respectfully requesting a “summary suspension” of the liquor license issued to Wafu Asian Bistro, 3671 Post Road, Fairfield, CT, reference permit/credential # LIR.0018607. This liquor permit was issued/effective 1/4/2022. This establishment poses an immediate danger to its customers, vehicular traffic, and the public.

On 6/19/2022 at approximately 0015 hours the Fairfield Police Department responded to this business on the report of shots fired (Fairfield PD file # 22-21883). On officers arrival there were several vehicles and patrons fleeing the area. Several minutes into the investigation it would be determined that a gunshot victim was dropped off at Bridgeport Hospital. The victim suffered a bullet wound which traveled through his left arm and into his left side. The victim was uncooperative during the investigation, and would provide no useful information for to detectives. Inside the restaurant several hard wired surveillance cameras, as well as an Arlo wireless camera were located. Investigators would learn from the business-owners that all of the cameras were inoperable.

Detectives arrived on scene and through interviews, investigation, and video surveillance captured by an adjacent business, the following series of events occurred leading to the shooting:

- A large party was hosted inside of Wafu, called “Sin City” hosted by promoter Snow Capone, with music WorldstarTrav. These parties are typically advertised on Wafu’s Instagram account “wafulounge\_”. A search of the Instagram account shows flyers for

## Fairfield Police Department

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several DJ events and videos showing what appears to be the restaurant converted into a gentlemen's club.

- A link to some of the videos will be attached and can provide a perspective for what is occurring inside of the Wafu Asian Bistro during the late night hours.
- A dispute and physical altercation began in the restaurant, resulting in shots being fired and one victim being struck. Additionally, one bullet hole was located in the tile backsplash at the end of the bar, at head level where patrons were said to have been seated at the time.
- Video surveillance revealed once the shots were fired many of the patrons fled out various doors and at least two subjects are seen on video exchanging gunfire in the parking lot. In total approximately 10 rounds were fired during the incident. An adjoining business and a parked vehicle were also struck by bullets from the gunfire.
- On 6/18/2022 the night prior the Fairfield Police Department was called to Wafu on a report of an individual bleeding from the mouth (Fairfield PD file # 22-21799). Officers located the subject as a passenger in a vehicle being operated without the headlights on. The driver of the vehicle was arrested for DUI and the passenger, who was also highly intoxicated/under the influence, was transported to the hospital with serious injuries, suspected to be a victim of an assault. This case is currently under investigation by the Fairfield Detective Bureau.
- In addition to these adult parties/events, Wafu has hosted regular college night events, which drew a large number of underage students. We were notified by both universities (Fairfield University and Sacred Heart University) in our town of the advertised parties, and their reports of many underage students returning to campus intoxicated from Wafu.
- On 10/29/2022 the Fairfield Detective Bureau requested assistance from the State of CT Liquor Control Unit due to call volume and underage drinking activity in Wafu (Fairfield PD file # 21-40590). Underage decoys were sent in and were served alcohol. Wafu was issued a temporary suspension for those violations.
- On 2/11/2022 the Fairfield Police Department responded to Wafu after multiple patrons were pepper sprayed. The Fairfield Detective Bureau conducted follow up that revealed that a bouncer working the door inside of Wafu was responsible for pepper spraying six patrons. Based on the body camera footage from a body worn camera the bouncer was wearing at the time, probable cause was established that he was unjustified in his use of pepper spray. The Fairfield Police Department has submitted a warrant for review charging the bouncer with Assault in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree, Reckless Endangerment 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree, and Breach of Peace 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree.
- On 3/17/2022 the Fairfield Police Department conducted a high visibility enforcement detail at Wafu due to the increased call volume and complaints from citizens. During the detail two infractions were issued for creating a public disturbance (urinating in

## Fairfield Police Department

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public). In addition a capacity check by the Fairfield Fire Department was conducted. Wafu was found to be over capacity by fire department personnel. The Fire Department had the establishment cleared out, and allowed patrons to re-enter until the establishment was within capacity and in compliance.

- On 3/24/2022 the Fairfield Police Department conducted a high visibility enforcement detail at Wafu and seven infractions were issued to patrons for creating a public disturbance (urinating in public).
- On 3/31/2022 the Fairfield Police Detective Bureau requested assistance from the State of CT Liquor Control Unit to conduct a compliance check, due to the increased call activity and evidence of underage drinking at Wafu. An operation, which included sending undercover officers into the establishment which was successful in identifying 11 underage persons being served alcohol. This case is still pending resolution. (Liquor Control Case # 2022-169).

Regardless of our enforcement and our investigative efforts to address the quality of life issues that the Wafu Asian Bistro has created, they have failed to take steps to comply with Connecticut State liquor laws. Evidenced by violations in succession within a six month timeframe for serving alcohol to minors. The business owners' failure to comply with laws and regulations has resulted in a shooting and serious physical injury to a patron, which could have resulted in a homicide.

This agency is respectfully requesting a summary suspension of the Wafu Asian Bistro liquor permit to allow for a complete review of all reports and complaints related to this business. If desired, we can provide any reports or other requested evidence to assist in your determination.