

OHIO LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION 77 SOUTH HIGH STREET, 18TH FLOOR COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<u>LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION HEARS CASES REGARDING COVID-19</u> <u>PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS</u>

(COLUMBUS, Ohio, November 6, 2020) – The Ohio Liquor Control Commission (Commission) conducted administrative hearings this week for liquor permit holders cited with violations related to Ohio's health and safety regulations aimed to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the state.

Charges included engaging in various forms of improper conduct and disorderly activities, which encompass violating social distancing requirements, in violation of Ohio Department of Health orders, as well as other non-COVID related charges.

The following are the details of the charges for each case and the Commission's decisions:

CEDAR WINGS INC
 DBA CEDAR WINGS LOUNGE
 1827 COPLEY RD & PATIO
 AKRON, OH 44320
 PERMIT #1351101

Violation:

On or about Friday, November 29, 2019, you, your agent(s) and/or employee(s) refilled and/or partly refilled a bottle that formerly contained alcoholic beverages in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-47 and/or sold, offered for sale and/or possessed intoxicating liquor in any original container that had been refilled and/or partly refilled in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.68. (REFILLING).

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to the violation, but stipulated to the facts. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 5-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$500 in lieu of serving the suspension.

CEDAR WINGS INC
 DBA CEDAR WINGS LOUNGE
 1827 COPLEY RD & PATIO
 AKRON, OH 44320

PERMIT #1351101

Violation:

On or about Thursday, March 12, 2020, you, your agent(s) and/or employee(s) refilled and/or partly refilled a bottle that formerly contained alcoholic beverages in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-47 and/or sold, offered for sale and/or possessed intoxicating liquor in any original container that had been refilled and/or partly refilled in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.68. (REFILLING).

Outcome:

At the hearing, the violation was dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General.

CEDAR WINGS INC
 DBA CEDAR WINGS LOUNGE
 1827 COPLEY RD & PATIO
 AKRON, OH 44320
 PERMIT #1351101

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Friday, September 4, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) allowed the consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor on the premises Monday to Sunday between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. in violation of Rule 4301:1-1-80(A)(2) of the Ohio Administrative Code ("limitation of hours for on-premises sales and consumption").

No. 2: On or about Friday, September 4, 2020, you, your agent(s) and/or employee(s) refilled and/or partly refilled a bottle that formerly contained alcoholic beverages in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-47 and/or sold, offered for sale and/or possessed intoxicating liquor in any original container that had been refilled and/or partly refilled in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.68.

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violation 1, but stipulated to the facts. Violation 2 was dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 10-day suspension beginning at noon, December 9, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$2,000 in lieu of serving the suspension.

 COGNACS LOUNGE AND GRILL LLC DBA RSVP ULTRA LOUNGE 6504 N UNION RD CLAYTON, OH 45315 PERMIT #1595303

Violation:

On or about Sunday, August 2, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) hindered and/or obstructed an agent or employee of the Division of Liquor Control, an enforcement agent of the Department of Public Safety and/or an officer of the law from making an inspection and/or search of your permit premises while in the lawful performance of his duty in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.66 ("hindering inspection/search") and Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-62 ("Inspection of permit premises - hindering or assaulting forbidden").

Outcome:

At the hearing, a denial was entered on behalf of the permit holder as to the violation. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission revoked the permit effective November 27, 2020.

 COGNACS LOUNGE AND GRILL LLC DBA RSVP ULTRA LOUNGE 6504 N UNION RD CLAYTON, OH 45315 PERMIT #1595303

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Friday, September 18, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES, in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

No. 2: On or about Friday, September 18, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DRUG USE, or facilitating in its possession, in, upon and/or about the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(5) ("illegal drugs and/or drug paraphernalia on or about premise").

No. 3: On or about Friday, September 18, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) sold beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption Monday to Sunday between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., and/or allowed consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor on the premises Monday to Sunday between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-80(A) ("Limitation on hours for on-premises sales or consumption").

Outcome:

At the hearing, a denial was entered on behalf of the permit holder as to the violations. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission revoked the permit effective November 27, 2020.

PATALLY LLC
 DBA
 30525 EUCLID AVENUE
 WILLOWICK, OH 44092
 PERMIT #6742146

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Friday, September 4, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES as defined in Rule 4301:1-1-52(A)(1) and as further set forth in Section 2917.11 (A) (5) of the Revised Code, in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Administrative Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

No. 2: On or about Friday, September 4, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) allowed the sale of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor on the premises Monday to Sunday between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. in violation of Rule 4301:1-1-

80(A)(1) of the Ohio Administrative Code ("limitation of hours for on-premises sales and consumption").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violation 1, but stipulated to the facts. Violation 2 was dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 5-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$500 in lieu of serving the suspension.

DOGHOUSE BAR LLC
DBA DOG HOUSE
1002 W JEFFERSON ST 1ST FL ONLY
SANDUSKY, OH 44870
PERMIT #2228585

Violation:

On or about Friday, August 28, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: recklessly caused inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm to another by creating a condition that presents a risk of illness, by an act or acts that served no lawful and reasonable purpose of the permit holder in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to the violation, but stipulated to the facts. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 5-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$500 in lieu of serving the suspension.

• 1212 WEST 6TH STREET LLC
DBA LIQUID 1ST FL & MEZZANINE & PATIOS
1212-16 W 6TH ST
CLEVELAND, OH 44113
PERMIT #9115393

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Thursday, September 17, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES, in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

No. 2: On or about Thursday, September 17, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) sold beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor for on-premises consumption Monday to Sunday between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-8-(A)(1) ("Limitation on hours for on-premises sales or consumption").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered an admission as to violation 2. Violation 1 was dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the

Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 5-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$500 in lieu of serving the suspension.

DEA STEPHENS FINE DINING CORP DBA STEPHENS 66 N COURT ST ATHENS, OH 45701 Permit #85547200005

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Friday, July 3, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: recklessly caused inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm to another by creating a condition that presents a risk of illness, by an act or acts that served no lawful and reasonable purpose of the permit holder in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

No. 2: On or about Friday, July 3, 2020, you and/or your agent(s) and/or employee(s) and/or your unidentified agent(s) and/or employee(s) failed to notify the Division of Liquor Control of an expansion/diminution of your permit premises in violation of Section 4301-1-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code. ("failure to notify the Division of expansion/diminution of permit premises").

No. 3: On or about Friday, July 3, 2020, you and/or your agent(s) and/or employee(s) and/or your unidentified agent(s) and/or employee(s) did operate in and upon the permit premises more than two fixed counters, commonly known as bars, in rooms and/or places on the permit premises, where beer, mixed beverages, wine, and/or spirituous liquor, is sold to the public for consumption on the premises, in violation of Section 4303.30 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violation 1, but stipulated to the facts. Violations 2 and 3 were dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 30-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$3,000 in lieu of serving the suspension.

 PEPPER BUSINESS INTERESTS LLC DBA COLLEGE INN
 32 N COURT ST 1ST FL & BSMT ATHENS, OH 45701 PERMIT #6808708

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Sunday, November 3, 2019, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) sold beer and/or intoxicating liquor in and upon the permit premises to persons who were then and there under twenty one years of age in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.69(A) ("selling alcohol to an underage person").

No. 2: On or about Sunday, November 3, 2019, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) furnished beer and/or intoxicating liquor in and upon the permit premises to persons who

were then and there under twenty-one years of age in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.69(A) ("furnishing alcohol to an underage person").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violation 1, but stipulated to the facts. Violation 2 was dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued an 8-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$800 in lieu of serving the suspension.

 PEPPER BUSINESS INTERESTS LLC DBA COLLEGE INN
 32 N COURT ST 1ST FL & BSMT ATHENS, OH 45701 PERMIT #6808708

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Saturday, December 28, 2019, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) sold beer and/or intoxicating liquor in and upon the permit premises to persons who were then and there under twenty-one years of age in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.69(A) ("selling alcohol to an underage person").

No. 2: On or about Saturday, December 28, 2019, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) furnished beer and/or intoxicating liquor in and upon the permit premises to persons who were then and there under twenty-one years of age in violation of Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.69(A) ("furnishing alcohol to an underage person").

<u>No. 3</u>: On or about Saturday, December 28, 2019, your permit premises were not in a sanitary condition, to wit: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES HELD OR OFFERED FOR SALE WERE NOT MAINTAINED IN A POTABLE CONDITION, in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-17(J) ("debris in a bottle").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violation 1, but stipulated to the facts. Violations 2 and 3 were dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 12-day suspension beginning at noon, December 12, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$2,400 in lieu of serving the suspension.

 PEPPER BUSINESS INTERESTS LLC DBA COLLEGE INN
 32 N COURT ST 1ST FL & BSMT ATHENS, OH 45701 PERMIT #6808708

Violation:

On or about Saturday, July 4, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: recklessly caused inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm to another by creating a condition that presents a risk of illness, by an act or acts that served no lawful and reasonable purpose of the permit holder in

and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to the violation, but stipulated to the facts. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 30-day suspension beginning at noon, December 24, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$9,000 in lieu of serving the suspension.

PEPSON INC
DBA CRYSTAL
34 N COURT ST 1ST FL
ATHENS, OH 45701
PERMIT #6810726

Violation:

On or about Friday, July 3, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES, as defined in Rule 4301:1-1-52(A)(1) and as further set forth in Section 2917.11(A)(5) of the Revised Code, in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to the violation, but stipulated to the facts. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 30-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$3,000 in lieu of serving the suspension.

JLK CARRYOUT LLC
 DBA JLK CARRYOUT & PATIO
 56709 BELMONT RIDGE RD
 BEALLSVILLE, OH 43716
 PERMIT #4179189

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Saturday, September 12, 2020, your permit premises were not in a sanitary condition, to wit: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES HELD OR OFFERED FOR SALE WERE NOT MAINTAINED IN A POTABLE CONDITION, in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-17(J) ("debris in a bottle").

No. 2: On or about Saturday, September 12, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES, as defined in Rule 4301:1-1-52(A)(1) and as further set forth in Section 2917.11(A)(5) of the Revised Code, in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

No. 3: On or about Saturday, September 12, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) sold beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor on the premises Monday to Sunday

between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. in violation of Rule 4301:1-1-80 (A)(2) of the Ohio Administrative Code ("limitation of hours for on-premises sales and consumption"). No. 4: On or about Saturday, September 12, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) allowed the consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor on the premises Monday to Sunday between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. in violation of Rule 4301:1-1-80 (A)(2) of the Ohio Administrative Code ("limitation of hours for on premises sales and consumption").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violations 2 and 3, but stipulated to the facts. Violations 1 and 4 were dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 30-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$3,000 in lieu of serving the suspension.

PIGSKIN ENTERPRISES INC DBA 38 N COURT ST ATHENS, OH 45701 PERMIT #6920333

Violations:

No. 1: On or about Thursday, September 17, 2020, you, your agent(s), or employee(s) allowed consumption of beer, wine, mixed beverages, or spirituous liquor on the premises Monday to Sunday between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m. in violation of Rule 4301:1-1-80(A)(2) of the Ohio Administrative Code ("limitation of hours for on-premises sales and consumption").

No. 2: On or about Thursday, September 17, 2020, your permit premises were not in a sanitary condition, to wit: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES HELD OR OFFERED FOR SALE WERE NOT MAINTAINED IN A POTABLE CONDITION, in violation of Ohio Admin. Code 4301:1-1-17(J) ("debris in a bottle").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered an admission as to the violations. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 5-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$500 in lieu of serving the suspension.

 AYA WEST LLC DBA ROCKET INN 3534 DORR ST & PATIO TOLEDO, OH 43607 PERMIT #0341749

Violation:

On or about Saturday, September 5, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully allowed and/or engaged in improper conduct, to wit: DISORDERLY ACTIVITIES as defined in Rule 4301:1-1-52(A)(1) and as further set forth in Section 2917.11(A) (5) of the Revised Code, in and upon the permit premises in violation of Ohio

Administrative Code 4301:1-1-52 (B)(1) ("allowing persons to engage in disorderly activities").

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to the violation, but stipulated to the facts. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 15-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$2,000 in lieu of serving the suspension.

 VALLEY VIEW GOLF COURSE INC DBA 2106 ST RT 598 GALION, OH 44833 PERMIT #9195319

Violation:

On or about April 16, 2020, you, your agent(s), and/or employee(s) knowingly and/or willfully sold beer, wine, mixed beverages or spirituous liquor, to wit: Bud Light Beer, separately and without an accompanying food order from the liquor permit premises in violation of Emergency Order 4301:1-1-13(C) of the Ohio Administrative Code in effect on the date of the violation.

Outcome:

At the hearing, the permit holder entered a denial as to violation 1. Violation 2 was dismissed upon motion of the Ohio Attorney General. Based on the evidence presented, the Commission found the permit holder in violation. The Commission issued a 3-day suspension beginning at noon, December 4, 2020, but gave the permit holder the option to pay a financial forfeiture in the amount of \$300 in lieu of serving the suspension.

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For information regarding the ownership of businesses holding liquor permits and permit violation history, please see the Ohio Department of Commerce, Ohio Division of Liquor Control's website at www.comapps.ohio.gov/liqr/liqr_apps/PermitLookup/Default.aspx.

Information on future hearings docketed before the Commission will be posted on the Commission's website at lcc.ohio.gov.

The Liquor Control Commission is an adjudication and rule-making agency that oversees the alcohol beverage industry. The mission of the Commission is to ensure compliance with the liquor laws and regulations of the state of Ohio and to provide fair and impartial hearings for the protection of the public and liquor permit holders. The Commission works in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control, and the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Investigative Unit.