



# City of Seattle

Seattle Police Department

February 27, 2015

Alan Rathbun, Director  
Licensing & Regulation Division  
Washington State Liquor Control Board  
P.O. Box 43098  
Olympia, Wa 98504-3098

Fusion Ultra Lounge  
d/b/a Fusion Interests Inc.  
License #354009  
722 NE 45th Street  
Seattle, WA 98105-4719

Dear Director Rathbun:

My name is Dave Emerick, I am a captain with the Seattle Police Department and commander of the North Precinct. I have been with the department for 30 years and have spent the past 14 years as a commander serving in 8 different commands on the department. I have been a precinct commander at North and South Precincts. I have commanded the Violent Crimes Section and the Vice High Risk Victims/Major Crimes Task Force Section. I was captain over Special Operations. I was also the Homicide commander. I have vast experience with the crime and civility issues facing the City of Seattle and the Seattle Police Department.

One of those issues facing us in the North Precinct is the ongoing problems with the above listed Fusion Nightclub. Over the past several years the club has been a problem for the University District Community and the police department. We have spent countless police hours controlling the environment around the club. This has been at great expense to the taxpayers and the City. Nearly every Friday and Saturday night I have had to assign officers to be at the club and its surrounding parking lots to control the large crowds and the fights, shootings, and general disturbances occurring there. Over the past year we have had 45 on view incidents and calls to the club. These vary from fights to arguments to thefts and violent crimes. This business is a major nuisance to the community.

As indicated in a prior letter sent to you in February of 2013 by the Seattle Police Department (see attached), the manager and security of the club will not take responsibility for what goes on outside of their establishment. Club security is not helpful to our officers. During club hours they do not patrol the surrounding areas preventing problems before they occur. At the end of the night they just let everyone out of the club at once without oversight, creating an environment that welcomes fights, assaults, shootings and other crime.

We can't let this continue. Last week in a shooting incident that took place in the parking lots adjacent to Fusion, 3 people were shot. The gun battle was taking place between



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parties on either side of NE 45<sup>th</sup> St. a 5 lane major arterial. We were lucky that more people were not injured and that no one was killed. Two of the victims were 15 and 16 years of age. They should not have been hanging out at or around the club. Fusion attracts gang members and other violent individuals due to its lack of supervision and control. Juveniles congregate in the parking lots doing drugs and drinking and eventually start confrontations with individuals coming and going from the club.

The enforcement section of the Washington State Liquor Control Board is well aware of the club and its associated issues. We have asked them to step up enforcement if the club remains open.

At this time I am requesting an emergency Liquor License Revocation Fusion Ultra Lounge with the intent of closing the bar and preventing further damage to the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D.A. Emerick".

Captain David Emerick  
Seattle Police Department

cc: Ed Murray, Mayor, City of Seattle  
Kathleen O'Toole, Chief of Police, Seattle Police Department  
Pete Holmes, City Attorney, City of Seattle  
Brendan Brophy, Precinct Liaison Attorney, City Attorney's Office  
Susan Blaker, WA State Liquor Control Board



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February 28, 2013

Alan Rathbun, Director  
Licensing & Regulation Division  
Washington State Liquor Control Board  
P.O. Box 43098  
Olympia, WA 98504-3098

Re: Library Sports Grill LLC  
d/b/a Library Sports Grill  
License #354009-2B  
722 NE 45<sup>th</sup> Street  
Seattle, WA 98105

Dear Mr. Rathbun:

I am writing this letter in support of the Seattle Police Department's objection to the liquor license application of Library Sports Grill LLC and Daniel Yarbrough. I have been a Seattle Police Officer for 18 years and my current assignment is with the North Precinct's Community Police Team. For the past two years I have coordinated the North Precinct's nightlife initiative which consists of making contact with bars and clubs in the area, building relationships, and providing a forum to discuss issues. To date I have been successful in this role and have established a good rapport with local owners and staff. Unfortunately, this is not the case with Fusion. Last year I met with Daniel Yarbrough, the current manager, and stressed the need to communicate regularly due to the club's high call volume. This is yet to happen. Despite the continued 911 calls out to Fusion, no relationship has been formed, and the attitude of the owners, manager and staff displays a clear disinterest in doing so.

As a result of Fusion's refusal to partner with law enforcement it has become a large drain on the Seattle Police Department's resources. Several times a month the North Precinct will run a nightlife emphasis on Friday and Saturday nights to assist and monitor areas saturated with bars and restaurants. Generally, six officers are assigned to this extra shift, paired off and assigned to cover our three nightlife areas: Ballard, Fremont and the University District. Despite the expanse of the University District no club requires attention like Fusion. Inevitably, two officers end up there for most of the shift. More often than not, back-up officers are called to assist as the crowd becomes unruly, and fights break out.

One of the biggest frustrations officers' confront with the club is Fusion's lack of responsibility for patrons once they exit. As patrons leave the club, assaults, thefts



Seattle Police Department, 610 Fifth Avenue, PO Box 34986, Seattle, WA 98124-4986

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and shootings have become common in the street and in the parking lot across the way. Recently, officers were forced to stop traffic on the arterial in front of Fusion to corral patrons, break up several fights and safely secure the area. This occurred as club security looked on. At times the security staff appears overwhelmed and disinterested.

This attitude, coupled with an increase in violence and lack of cooperation with police has made Fusion a dangerous venue. Currently, there is no other club in the North Precinct that demands the resources of the police department like Fusion.

It's my opinion that if Daniel Yarbrough gains ownership of the club, the situation and its impact on the Seattle Police Department will only worsen. Thank you for your thoughtful and careful consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loren Street", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Loren Street, Community Police Team Officer  
Seattle Police Department, North Precinct  
206-684-4739