

**From:** [Jeanne Weigum](#)  
**To:** [\\*CI-StPaul\\_Contact-Council](#)  
**Subject:** Adverse Action Letter - Winnipeg Grocery  
**Date:** Friday, September 29, 2023 10:06:49 AM  
**Attachments:** [ANSR Adverse Action Letter Winnipeg Grocery 864 Rice Street Sept 2023.docx](#)

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Dear Council President Amy Brendmoen and Members of the City Council:

We are writing to support imposing the presumptive matrix penalty of a 10-day suspension of the Tobacco Shop License for Winnipeg Grocery located at 864 Rice Street. Please see the attached letter and supporting documents.

Sincerely, Jeanne Weigum, ANSR President"

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Plant a tree you will never Climb

Jeanne Weigum



September 28, 2023

Council President Amy Brendmoen and Members of the City Council:

We are writing to support imposing the presumptive matrix penalty of a 10-day suspension of the Tobacco Shop License for Winnipeg Grocery located at 864 Rice Street.

The Saint Paul ordinance related to the sale of flavored tobacco is clear and this ordinance is obeyed by the vast majority of Saint Paul tobacco vendors. To ignore the misdeeds of this license holder is a slap in the face of the hundreds of vendors who uphold the law.

This vendor's violations are not simple mistakes. He stocked numerous flavored tobacco products and sold them in a furtive manner, which strongly suggests he knew he was violating the city ordinance. Further, many of these products did not have Minnesota tax stamps or had tax stamps of unknown origin that had been partially scratched off. All of these actions violate Saint Paul's ordinances which were created to protect community health.

Ignorance of the law cannot be claimed in this case. Saint Paul DSI has met personally with the store owner to educate him about the city's requirements. Further, ANSR has sent all licensed vendors print materials that inform vendors what products are legal and which are not. These materials are graphic with easy to understand pictures so people with limited English language can easily understand the law's requirements. ANSR offers and promotes free online vendor training so managers and clerks can comply and avoid license violations. The goal is compliance, not catching people doing wrong.

During many public hearings before this body, tobacco vendors express their support for enforcement and express their displeasure with 'bad actors.' Based on this vendor's violation, he is one of those bad actors.

The health of the community deserves to be protected from flagrant violators. We strongly support imposing a penalty of a 10-day suspension of the Tobacco Shop License for this retailer.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Weigum  
President, Association for Nonsmokers – Minnesota

Date of visit: 11-22 10-11-22

Store Name: WINNIPEG GROCERY

Store License Number: 20210000879

Store Address: 864 RICE ST ST PAUL MN, 55117

Store Type: Cigarette/Tobacco

Data Collector name(s): Danica Prasley / JW

1. Did

**AMIRA GROCERY INC**

864 RICE ST  
SAINT PAUL, MN 55117-5422

TERMINAL ID: 68993F  
MERCHANT TERM ID: F812521001

CLERK ID: 999  
SEQUENCE NUMBER: 435  
Date/Time: 03/11/2022 11:20

CARD# XXXXXXXXXXXX8124  
STATE: MN  
POST-03/12/22

2. Did\*

Did

	TRAN AMT	END BAL
CASH	\$0.00	\$28.86
FS	\$1.49	\$900.34

FS PUR \$1.49 APPROVED

APPROVAL CODE 003383

