ARNELLIA'S

1183 UNIVERSITY AVENUE

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55104

July 12, 2016

Geoffrey Karls, Assistant City Attorney
400 City Hall
15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Mr. Karls:

As you know, we have not been open during the day in the past year or so. We generally open at 5:00pm. We rent the kitchen out to Big L's Soul Food. We do wish to contest the fine and adverse action being attached to our license. Regarding your letter addressing this sale is not only a violation of Minnesota Stat, but it is in complete violation of our agreement with Mr. Robinson from Big L's Soul Food, he rents the kitchen and the kitchen only he had no authorization to go behind the bar or act in the capacity of a bar tender. I'm not sure how long your checkers sat at the bar, but what this should tell you is that the bar was not open only the kitchen was open at that time. If you were to check with your agents I'm positive that they will inform you that there was no ice in the ice bends which would have been full if the bar had been open, only the kitchen was open.

We have had a serious discussion with Mr. Robinson he says he was just trying to help and understands that he is not to serve bar customers. Mr. Robinson did make a mistake and he doesn't have cash to address the fine and his mistake and we certainly can't afford marks on our license. From your letter it's clear that we did not have staff on duty, we require all bartenders and waitress to take alcohol training.

What we're asking is that you take into consideration that we have not had any issues for quite some time and that Mr. Robinson, while well intended certainly made a mistake and is not our employee; that the fine be waive and no penalty be assessed. If this is not possible we wish to admit the facts but contest the penalty. Will this letter serve that purpose?

For questions or clarification please contact Johnny Howard at 651 894-3216.

Cc: Eric Hudak, DSI Licensing Manager
        Michael Jon Olson, Executive Director, Hamline Midway Coalition