

LH-Licensing - 756 Snelling Ave., N.; License #20100004249

From: "Clare H. Brown" <cbrown05@gw.hamline.edu>
To: <LH-Licensing@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Date: 12/17/2010 4:04 PM
Subject: 756 Snelling Ave., N.; License #20100004249
CC: "Douglas P. Anderson" <danderson@gw.hamline.edu>
Attachments: SA_Letter to City_Dec 2010.pdf

Attached please find the letter regarding 756 Snelling Ave., N.; License #20100004249. The original to follow USPS.

Thank you.

Clare H. Brown
Office Manager/Risk Mgmt Specialist
Vice Presidents' Office
Hamline University
MS-A1775
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HAMLIN
UNIVERSITY

December 17, 2010

Legislative Hearing Officer
310 City Hall
15 West Kellogg Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Re: 756 Snelling Ave. N.; License #20100004249

Dear Legislative Hearing Officer,

I am writing to you specifically in reference to the license application for Northern Tier Retail LLC, which does business as SuperAmerica #4358- ID#20100004249, located at 756 Snelling Avenue North in Saint Paul. This property abuts our Saint Paul campus at the southeast corner of Snelling and Englewood.

At Hamline, we have approximately 5,000 students and several hundred faculty and staff members comprising five schools, including a college of liberal arts, and schools of business, education, law, and graduate liberal studies. More than 800 of our students reside in our residence halls on campus, and several hundred more live in the neighboring community.

The license application of the SuperAmerica in question includes requests to continue to sell malt liquor and cigarettes/tobacco and to operate as a gas station, a no-seat restaurant, and a grocery outlet—all on a 24-hour, seven-days-per-week basis.

We have been in discussion with management of Northern Tier Energy, and have found them responsive and respectful of our concerns. They have indicated a commitment to expand security and to work closely with us in response to matters that occur at this store. We are committed, as well, to work with Northern Tier Energy as it implements any changes.

However, our concerns as to hours of operation and the sale of malt liquor remain.

Our students and staff, while appreciating the convenience of having a gas station/store nearby, continue to report incidents of being verbally and/or physically assaulted, propositioned, or otherwise harassed by seemingly intoxicated or threatening persons while passing by the SuperAmerica, particularly in the evening and night hours.

Our university community members are not the only ones concerned. In fact, there have been 88 police calls regarding incidents occurring at SuperAmerica itself in the past 12 months. Many of the calls were for disturbance/disorderly conduct, assault, and theft. In our experience, customers who purchase individual/single serve liquor often loiter in the area, harassing passersby, or venture onto our campus to panhandle for cash, which they then use to purchase another single serve alcoholic beverage. We would request consideration by SuperAmerica to not sell malt liquor at this location.

Vice President for Finance

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It seems to us the hours of operation (24/7) contribute to the challenges. Of the 88 police calls, 50 of the calls occurred between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., and the vast majority of the calls involving violence of any kind occurred during that time frame, as well. We feel that the safety of our students and employees would greatly increase if the SuperAmerica would operate between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns.

Respectfully,



Douglas P. Anderson
Vice President for Finance
Hamline University

CC: Mario Rodriguez, CEO, Northern Tier Energy