



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

Civil Division

400 City Hall

15 West Kellogg Blvd.

Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Telephone: 651 266-8710

Facsimile: 651 298-5619

January 14, 2014

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Zinash Amde  
RAS Restaurant & Lounge  
2516 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street West  
St. Paul, MN 55116

RE: All licenses held by RAS Ethiopian Bar & Restaurant, LLC d/b/a RAS Restaurant & Lounge for the premises located at 2516 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street West in Saint Paul.  
License ID #: 20100000062

Dear Zinash Amde:

The Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) has recommended adverse action against all licenses held by RAS Ethiopian Bar & Restaurant, LLC d/b/a RAS Restaurant & Lounge for the premises located at 2516 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street West in Saint Paul. The basis for the recommendation is as follows:

**On December 30, 2013, you were sent a letter from the Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) requesting a copy of your video surveillance for December 28, 2013 between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and closing. The recording was to include all cameras both inside and outside of the establishment. The request was made to determine on-going compliance with the conditions of your license. You were asked to either mail a copy of the recording or bring it into DSI offices by Monday, January 6, 2014. As of today's date the video surveillance requested has not been submitted.**

**This is a violation of your license condition #1 which states: "The licensee shall provide and maintain working video surveillance cameras and recorders on the premises (both inside and outside) in accordance with Saint Paul Police (SPPD) recommendations. The number of cameras, their placement and their quality must be approved by the SPPD; and there shall be adequate lighting to support the camera placement. This equipment must be in operation during all business hours. Tapes/recordings must be maintained for a minimum of thirty (30) days, and there shall be an employee on-staff at all times with the ability to make them immediately available to the SPPD and/or the Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) upon request...."**

As a result of this license condition violation, per Saint Paul Legislative Code § 310.05(m), the licensing department will recommend a \$500.00 matrix penalty.

At this time, you have three options how to proceed:

1. You can pay the recommended \$500.00 matrix penalty. If this is your choice, you should make payment directly to the Department of Safety and Inspections, at 375 Jackson Street, Ste. 220, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1806 no later than **Friday, January 24, 2014**. A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Payment of the \$500.00 matrix penalty will be considered to be a waiver of the hearing to which you are entitled.
2. If you wish to admit the facts but you contest the penalty, you may have a public hearing before the Saint Paul City Council. You will need to send me a letter with a statement admitting to the facts and requesting a public hearing. I will need to receive your letter by **Friday, January 24, 2014**. The matter will then be scheduled before the City Council for a public hearing to determine whether to impose the \$500.00 matrix penalty. You will have an opportunity to appear before the Council and make a statement on your own behalf.
3. If you dispute the facts outlined above, you may request a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). You will need to send me a letter disputing the facts and requesting an administrative hearing no later than **Friday, January 24, 2014**. At that hearing both you and the City will appear and present witnesses, evidence and cross-examine each other's witnesses. After receipt of the ALJ's report (usually within 30 days), a public hearing will need to be scheduled. At that time, the City Council will decide whether to adopt, modify or reject the ALJ's report and recommendation.

Please note: If you choose an administrative hearing, the Department of Safety and Inspections reserves the right to request that City Council impose the costs of the administrative hearing per Saint Paul Legislative Code § 310.05 (k).

**If you have not contacted me by Friday, January 24, 2014, I will assume that you do not contest the imposition of the \$500.00 matrix penalty. In that case, the matter will be placed on the City Council Consent Agenda for approval of the recommended penalty.**

If you have questions about these options, please feel free to contact me at 266-8710.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Karls  
Assistant City Attorney

cc Kristina Schweinler, Senior License Inspector – DSI  
Zinash Amde, 8350 Savanna Oaks Lane, Woodbury, MN 55125  
Patty Partridge, Community Organizer, Highland District Council, 1978 Ford Parkway, Saint Paul, MN 55116-1922

STATE OF MINNESOTA)  
 ) ss.

**AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL**

COUNTY OF RAMSEY )

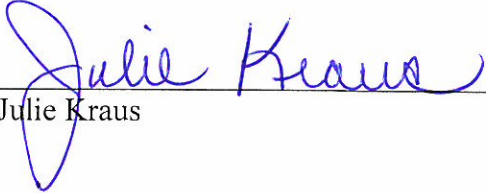
Julie Kraus, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January she served the attached **NOTICE OF VIOLATION** and correct copy thereof in an envelope addressed as follows:

Zinash Amde  
RAS Restaurant & Lounge  
2516 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street West  
St. Paul, MN 55116

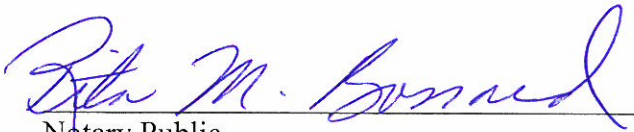
Zinash Amde  
8350 Savanna Oaks Lane  
Woodbury, MN 55125

Patty Partridge, Community Organizer  
Highland District Council  
1978 Ford Parkway  
Saint Paul, MN 55116-1922

(which is the last known address of said person) depositing the same, with postage prepaid, in the United States mail at St. Paul, Minnesota.

  
Julie Kraus

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014

  
Notary Public

