



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

February 9, 2018

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

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

RE: Entertainment (B), Liquor On Sale-Sunday, Liquor On Sale-101-180 Seats, Liquor On Sale-2AM Closing, Liquor Outdoor Service (Patio) and Gambling Location licenses held by REAS Ethiopian Bar & Restaurant, LLC d/b/a RAS Restaurant & Lounge for the premises located at 2516-7th Street West in Saint Paul
License ID #20100000062

Dear Licensee:

The Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) will recommend adverse action against the Entertainment (B), Liquor On Sale-Sunday, Liquor On Sale-101-180 Seats, Liquor On Sale-2AM Closing, Liquor Outdoor Service (Patio) and Gambling Location licenses held by REAS Ethiopian Bar & Restaurant, LLC d/b/a RAS Restaurant & Lounge for the premises located at 2516-7th Street West in Saint Paul. The basis for the recommendation is as follows:

On February 1, 2018, a sergeant from the Saint Paul Police Department made a pre-super bowl inspection and noticed several license conditions violations. He brought those license condition violations to the attention of the license manager, DJ who told him they would be corrected. In addition, a photograph was taken and sent to the Saint Paul Fire Department showing a wooden door with no handle.

On February 2, 2018 and February 4, 2018, there were two separate inspections where photographs taken showing the license condition violations indicated on February 1, 2018 had not been corrected:

1. Abandoned un-licensed vehicles with expired tabs had been left parked on the lot (no tracks in the snow and no snow under the cars) in violation of license condition #11: *"Licensee agrees to maintain the off-street parking lot area in a manner consistent with the approved site plan on file with the Department of Safety and Inspections dated 02/27/2013. This includes maintaining the striping of the parking lot, compact and handicap parking space signage, vehicle curb-stop parking barriers, trash contain fencing and bike rack."*
2. Curb-stop parking barriers had not been installed to prevent parking on the separate parcel of vacant land and vehicles were parked on the property and vacant lot in violation of the approved site plan and license condition #12: *"Licensee agrees to maintain a barrier sufficient to prevent customer and/or employee vehicles from parking and/or driving on the separate parcel of vacant land with property identification number 212823140004 (located immediately behind this property). The current approved barrier is the curb-stop parking barriers as shown on the approved site plan on file with DSI dated 02/27/2013. Further, licensee agrees to obtain prior written site plan approval from DSI, and to make all necessary improvements to this vacant parcel of land as required under this approval process, before using this property in any manner (e.g., parking of customer and/or employee vehicles, allowing access to this vacant parcel of land from their property, placement of trash/recycling containers, etc.)"*

As a result of these license condition violations, per Saint Paul Legislative Code § 310.05 (m) (1), the licensing office will recommend a \$500.00 matrix penalty.

At this time, you have four (4) options to proceed:

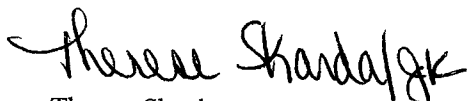
1. If you do not contest the imposition of the proposed adverse action, you may do nothing. If I have not heard from you by **Monday, February 19, 2018**, I will presume that you have chosen not to contest the proposed adverse action and the matter will be placed on the next available City Council Agenda for approval of the proposed remedy.
2. You can pay the \$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 **Monday, February 19, 2018**. 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.
3. 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 **Monday, February 19, 2018**. The matter will then be scheduled before the City Council 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.
4. 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 **Monday, February 19, 2018**. 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 **Monday, February 19, 2018**, 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 next available City Council Consent Agenda for approval of the recommended penalty.

If you have questions about these four (4) options, please contact Julie Kraus, my Legal Assistant at (651) 266-8776.

Sincerely,



Therese Skarda
Assistant City Attorney

cc: Zinash Amde, 8350 Savanna Oaks Lane, Woodbury, MN 55125-9575
Patty Partridge, Community Organizer, Highland District Council, 1978 Ford Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55116-1922

STATE OF MINNESOTA)

) ss.

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL

COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

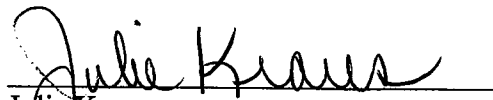
Julie Kraus, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that on the 9th day of February, she served the attached **NOTICE OF VIOLATION** and a correct copy thereof in an envelope addressed as follows:

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


Zinash Amde
8350 Savanna Oaks Lane
Woodbury, MN 55125-9575

Patty Partridge, Community Organizer
Highland District Council
1978 Ford Parkway
St. 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 9th day of February, 2018


Notary Public

