# OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY Lyndsey M. Olson, City Attorney



CITY OF SAINT PAUL Mayor Melvin Carter

Civil Division 400 City Hall 15 West Kellogg Blvd. Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102

Telephone: 651 266-8710 Facsimile: 651 298-5619

August 24, 2018

### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Walgreens Tax Department P.O. Box 901 Deerfield IL, 60015

RE:

Cigarette/Tobacco license held by Walgreens Co. d/b/a Walgreens #16476 for the premises located at

398 Wabasha Street North in Saint Paul

License ID #20170004001

#### Dear Licensee:

The Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) has recommended adverse action against the Cigarette/Tobacco license held by Walgreens Co. d/b/a Walgreens #16476 for the premises located at 398 Wabasha Street North in Saint Paul. The basis for the recommendation is as follows:

On June 6, 2018 a letter was sent to all Cigarette/Tobacco license holders notifying you that inspectors from the Department of Safety and Inspections will be conducting unannounced tobacco compliance checks throughout the months of June, July and August.

On July 17, 2018, a tobacco compliance check was conducted at Walgreens #16476 located at 398 Wabasha Street North. A sixteen-year old female entered your establishment and attempted to purchase cigarettes. She was asked to show her identification, and did so. It correctly stated her date of birth, which indicated she was underage. Nevertheless, a clerk sold her a package of Newport cigarettes. Sale of tobacco to an underage person is a violation of Minn. Stat. § 609.685 and Saint Paul Legislative Code § 324.07(c) and (d).

This is the first (1st) violation for the sale of cigarettes to an underage person; therefore, per Saint Paul Legislative Code §324.11 (b) (1) the licensing office will recommend a \$200.00 matrix penalty.

You have four (4) options to proceed:

If you do not contest the imposition of the proposed adverse action, you may do nothing. If I have not heard from you by Tuesday, September 4, 2018, I will presume that you have chosen not to contest the proposed adverse action, and the matter will be placed on the September 19, 2018 City Council Consent Agenda for approval of the proposed remedy.

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- 2. You can pay the \$200.00 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 **Tuesday**, **September 4**, **2018**. A self-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Payment of the \$200.00 matrix penalty will be considered a waiver of the hearing to which you are entitled.
- 3. If you wish to admit the facts but contest the \$200.00 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 no later than **Tuesday**, **September 4**, **2018**. The matter will then be scheduled before the City Council to determine whether to impose the \$200.00 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 by **Tuesday, September 4, 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 Tuesday, September 4, 2018, I will assume that you are not contesting the imposition of the \$200.00 matrix penalty. In that case, the matter will be placed on the September 19, 2018 City Council Consent Agenda for approval of the recommended penalty.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Julie Kraus, my Legal Assistant at (651) 266-8776.

Sincerely,

Thurs Skarda / Sk

Assistant City Attorney License No.: 0240989

Cc: Jon Fure, Director, CapitolRiver Council District 17, 180 E. 5th Street, Ste. 260, St. Paul, MN 55101-1631 St. Paul Wabasha LLC, C/o Walgreens Tax Dept. 16476, P.O. Box 1159, Deerfield, IL 60015-6002

) ss.

## AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE BY U.S. MAIL

## COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

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

Walgreens Tax Department P.O. Box 901 Deerfield IL, 60015

Jon Fure, Director CapitolRiver Council District 17 180 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 260 St. Paul, MN 55101-1631

St. Paul Wabasha LLC C/o Walgreens Tax Dept. 16476 P.O. Box 1159 Deerfield, IL 60015-6002

(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 day of August 2018

Notary Public

KAREN M. DOUMANY
NOTARY PUBLIC - MINNESOTA
My Commission 2022