



RICHMOND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Law Enforcement Center
400 Walton Way
Augusta, GA 30901
Phone: 706-821-1000 Fax: 706-821-1064

March 28, 2025

Cecilia Woodruff
Augusta-Richmond County
Planning and Development
1850 Marvin Griffin Rd
Augusta, Ga. 30906

Re: 828 Broad Street Augusta GA 30901 (Tiffany's Eatery)

Ms. Cecilia Woodruff

On February 15th 2025 at approximately 0300 hours Richmond County Deputies entered the business located at 828 Broad Street in Augusta Richmond County (Tiffany's Eatery & Lounge) due to a large crowd which was at the front door of the business attempting to get through security. Upon entering the business officers observed the bartender pouring a glass of Don Julio to a patron. Additionally, there were other patrons at the bar with money in their hands. Officers detected a strong odor of marijuana and a large crowd in the back of the establishment. Lt. Concepcion requested the owner but was told they wouldn't be available. The business was advised to close for the night and the patrons were escorted out. Inv. Jose Ortiz later spoke with the manager (Keonna Warren) who confirmed she was responsible for the business on the night it was observed servicing alcohol past the allowable hours. While speaking with Warren, Inv. Ortiz advised her that all forms of smoking are not allowed in the establishment. Inv. Ortiz also advised the Hookahs that were set out by the business were in violation of the smoking ordinance.

On March 9th 2025 at approximately 0310, Investigator Ortiz made contact with the business agent, Alpha Louis, after noticing a large amount of smoke in the business and observing patrons actively smoking. Louis was advised there was a no smoking ordinance at which time Louis stated he would tell his patrons not to smoke in the business. This Investigator told Louis his manager was advised of the no smoking ordinance on February 21st. Inv. Ortiz left the establishment after Louis stated that he would tell the patrons not to smoke in the business and stood by outside due to the large crowd which was in front of the entrance wanting to get in. At 0330 Inv. Ortiz again entered the business due to the smoke not dissipating and walked to the rear of the business. Inv. Ortiz observed Louis walking by patrons who were actively smoking and not address them. Inv. Ortiz again advised Louis of the ordinance at which time Louis stated he had been telling patrons not to smoke. Louis was advised he was observed by this Inv. walking by two of his smoking patrons and not addressing them. Louis was also told if he was unable to comply with the ordinance he would have to close for the evening. Louis then advised



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he was going to close and tell their security not to let anyone in with cigarettes the from that point on. Inv. Ortiz advised Louis his business can not provide Hookahs either because they too are in violation of the ordinance and told him that his manager Warren was advised of this on the 21st as well. Louis asked Warren if that was true and Warren admitted she was told of the no smoking ordinance to include the Hookahs.

On March 15th, 2025 at 0303 hours Corporal Amanda Donald (C-30) along with Deputy Corby Mcintire (301), Deputy Thomas Ray (302) and Deputy Matthew Cowdrey (K1) were conducting an area check of Tiffany's Eatery & Lounge (828 Broad Street) due to a large crowd outside of the business and only one special duty Deputy (Deputy Tiffany Dixon T5) working outside. While in the area Deputies observed a large crowd begin to exit as well as commotion from within the business. An unknown male exited the business highly irate with a bloody nose and mouth however he did not want to speak with Deputies and left the scene. The commotion that had begun within the business continued outside at which point multiple fights broke out on the side walk. Deputies separated all parties involved and entered Tiffany's Eatery & Lounge where they observed alcohol being served despite the time being after 0300 hours. Upon entering the establishment, Deputies also detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the building. Tiffany's Eatery & Lounge continues to serve alcohol under the pretense that they are also selling food however, it has increasingly become a problem in the area, leading to multiple fights. Chrislynn Thompson and Keonna Warren were the employees working at the time of the incident.

On March 16th 2025, at approximately 0200 hours Inv. Ortiz entered the business and observed that all the chairs had been moved against the wall. Some of the tables were also stacked on top of each other at the front of the business. In rear of the business all the tables and chairs were also moved against the wall and people were observed sitting on the tables and on top of the both seats. One patron was even observed dancing on top of a table. A DJ has also been present in the business every time this Investigator enters the business.

On March 23rd 2025 at approximately 0300 hours, Inv. Ortiz stood outside Tiffany's Eatery & Lounge, observing a large crowd in front of the business, hearing loud dance music, and the doorman charging a cover to enter, which made it clear that it was now a club, not a restaurant. Inv. Ortiz entered the business and approached Louis, and told him he was not able to charge people to enter a business if it was a restaurant. Louis then told Inv. Ortiz that "Inv. Ortiz told me I could." Inv. Ortiz told Louis that was not true and he could not charge at the door. Louis again advised "Inv. Ortiz told me I could". Louis continued, stating that he was using that money for the food sales because of the 50 percent rule. Inv. Ortiz told Louis that he was speaking to Inv. Ortiz and that he was never advised he could do so. Inv. Ortiz also advised Louis that what he was doing was falsifying food sales because none of the money collected at the door was not for the purchase of food but a fee to enter a restaurant which he could not do. Louis then stated "Oh you shaved your beard". Louis then stated that he was never told he wasn't



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able to do that. Inv. Ortiz advised Louis he knew he could not charge cover or say that the cover was food sales. Louis again stated that no one told him he wasn't able to do that.

On February 25th 2025 Inv. Ortiz contacted License and Inspections and was advised, while Alpha Louis was attempting to get a restaurant license in the summer of 2024, he asked if he was allowed to charge at the door and was told unless he obtained a Hybrid license he was not allowed to do so. Inv. Ortiz was also advised he was given an ordinance book which clearly states what he is allowed to do and not do. Inv. Ortiz also learned during that conversation Louis does not have a Dance Hall License and has been utilizing a DJ there and making room for a dance floor without applying for proper licenses.

Due to all of these events, it is our belief that this bar/restaurant is knowingly and willingly violating the ordinance of Augusta Richmond County. It is also evident that Louis is willing to lie to law enforcement officers stating that I, Investigator Ortiz, who he did not recognize at the time, told him it was ok to do something which he knew was against county ordinances. When confronted about his lie Louis then stated he was never told he couldn't which was again found to be a lie. It is this Investigators belief, if this business is allowed to continue operating as it has been doing so, the disregard to the law and ordinances will only continue and probably escalate and put citizens at risk for his monetary gain.

Please consider this a formal request to bring 828 Broad Street Augusta GA 30901 (Tiffany's Eatery & Lounge) before the Augusta Richmond County Commission to have their Alcohol and Restaurant license considered for Suspension.

Respectfully
Inv. Jose Ortiz