



## Commission Meeting

February 20, 2024

### Suspension of Alcohol License

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<b>Department:</b>	Planning and Development
<b>Presenter:</b>	Brian Kepner
<b>Caption:</b>	Motion to <b>approve one-year suspension</b> of the Alcohol License for Allen Voncelillies, <b>Club Climax a/k/a Club Rain, 1855 Gordon Highway</b> , for failure to comply with Augusta-Richmond County Alcohol Ordinance. <b>(Approved by Public Services Committee February 13, 2024)</b>
<b>Background:</b>	Allen Voncelillies, Club Climax a/k/a Club Rain has a Business and Alcohol License to operate as an entertainment venue serving on premise beer, wine, and liquor with dance. The Sheriff's Office letter dated January 23, 2024, (see attached Sheriff's Office letter) requests a hearing before the Public Services Committee and the Augusta Commission to consider taking action against the Alcohol License for Allen Voncelillies, Club Climax a/k/a Club Rain, 855 Gordon Highway.
<b>Analysis:</b>	<p>On January 23, 2024 approximately at 0200 hours a shooting occurred in front of the club located at 1855 Gordon Highway, Augusta Georgia (Club Rain). One person was shot and killed in the parking lot in front of the club. A prior incident occurred on December 16, 2023, where a person sustained a gunshot wound to his foot inside the club. The request is Augusta Public Service Committee to take action against the Alcohol License. The Alcohol License can be suspended, revoked, or placed on probation pursuant to the following violations and codes; Failure to maintain an orderly place of business, ALCOHOL CODE Section 6-2-21. (a) Owners and/or applicant, managers and employees shall be responsible for keeping an orderly place, and no patron shall cause a disturbance of any kind; nor shall any patron be allowed to stand, sit, mingle, or assemble outside the building, in parking lots or autos, and drink alcoholic beverages except as provided in subparagraph (b) hereof. Section 6-2-74. Any license issued under this Ordinance may be put on probation, suspended and/or revoked by the Augusta-Richmond County Commission after a finding of due cause. Due cause for the probation, suspension or revocation of a license shall include but shall not be limited to, the following: (a) A violation of this Ordinance or any State or federal law governing the manufacture, transport, or sale of alcoholic beverages by the licensee or any person in his employ or in the employ of the establishment for which the license was issued, and (c) Failure by the</p>

licensee, or any person in his employ or in the employ of the establishment for which the license was issued, to adequately supervise and monitor the conduct of the employees, patrons and others on the licensed premises, or on any property owned or leased by the licensee, including but not limited to parking lots and parking areas, or on any parking lots or areas which may be lawfully used by patrons of a licensed establishment, in order to protect the safety and well-being of the general public and of those using the premises.

**Financial Impact:** N/A

**Alternatives:** No action taken

**Recommendation:** Suspension of the Alcohol License for one (1) year for Allen Voncelillies, Club Climax a/k/a Club Rain, 1855 Gordon Highway, for failure to comply with Augusta-Richmond County Alcohol Ordinance.

**Funds are available in the following accounts:** N/A

**REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:** N/A