



June 29, 2023

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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535 Telfair Street • Suite 300  
Augusta, Georgia 30901

1803 Marvin Griffin Road  
Augusta, Georgia 30906

**(See Attached)**





# RICHMOND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Richard Roundtree

Law Enforcement Center

400 Walton Way

Augusta, GA 30901

Phone: 706.821.1400 Fax: 706.821.1014

May 18 2023

Julietta Walton  
Augusta-Richmond County  
Planning and Development  
1850 Marvin Griffin Rd  
Augusta, Ga. 30906

Re: 3253 Deans Bridge Rd, Augusta, GA 30906 (Suz Lounge)

Ms. Julietta Walton

On May 12<sup>th</sup> at approximately 0430 in the morning officers were dispatched to the 3200 block of Deans Bridge Road in reference to an assault. Officers learned upon arrival that Suz Lounge was closing letting people out when an altercation occurred which resulted in a female patron ramming cars and shots being fired. The altercation resulted in the death of one person. Suz lounge was closing well passed the allowed hours of operation as well as had a boxing ring set up and fights being held inside the club which is also not allowed without the proper licensing. During the investigation of the murder and what lead up to it, Investigators were able to see video surveillance and observed subjects gambling on a pool table inside the bar. It is this officers belief that this bar's decision to conduct business after allowed hours, as well as allowing its patrons to gamble openly could only lead to altercations which could result in and did result in bodily injury as well as a death of a patron. This Investigator was able to speak with license holder Ms. Mosses who stated she was unaware of the hours the bar was keeping and the gambling which was taking place. Ms. Mosses did further stated she was aware of the Boxing which was taking place but did not know there was anything wrong with it. Due to these events it is our belief that if this bar continues operating in this manner it will only result in additional assaults which the Sheriff's office would like to prevent.

Please consider this a formal request to bring 3253 Deans Bridge Rd, Augusta, GA 30906 (Suz Lounge) before the Augusta Richmond County Commission to have their Alcohol license considered for probation.

Respectfully  
Inv. Jose Ortiz





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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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535 Telfair Street • Suite 300  
Augusta, Georgia 30901

1803 Marvin Griffin Road  
Augusta, Georgia 30906

June 16, 2023

Ms. Samantha Moses  
3614 Meadows Grove  
Augusta GA 30906

RE: Sheriff's Office Investigation and Findings  
Failure to comply with the Augusta-Richmond County Alcohol Ordinance,  
Dance Ordinance, and Occupation Tax Ordinance.

Dear Mr. Moses,

Pursuant to the following codes, the Public Service Committee of the Augusta- Commission will hold a public hearing to consider probation, suspension or revocation of your Alcohol License, Dance License, and Business Tax Certificate for Suz Lounge 2.0, LLC, located at 3243 B Deans Bridge Road, for violating the Augusta Alcohol Ordinance, Dance Ordinance, and the Occupation Tax Ordinance. (Sheriff's Office / attached letter)

**OCCUPATION TAX CODE**

**Sec. 2-1-38. Right to deny, suspend, or revoke a business tax certificate.**

- (a) A Business Tax Certificate under this Chapter may be denied, suspended, or revoked if one or more of the following exists:
- (3) The applicant or holder of the certificate intends to violate or has violated any federal or state law, or local ordinance or any ordinance or resolution regulating such business or intends to violate any regulation made pursuant to authority granted for regulating such business.
- (6) The applicant or holder of the certificate fails to adequately supervise and monitor the conduct of the employees, patrons and others on the subject premises, or on any property owned or leased by the applicant or holder, 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 the establishment of the applicant or holder, in order to protect the safety and well-being of the general public and of those using the properties.

**Sec. 6-2-74. Probation, Suspension & Revocation (Alcohol License).**

Any license issued under this Ordinance may be put on probation, suspended and/or revoked by the Augusta- 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.



**Sec. 6-2-21.** Premises to be kept in orderly manner, with outside gatherings of patrons restricted.

(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.

## **ALCOHOL CODE**

### **Sec. 6-2-32. Violations; unlawful activities.**

(a) Any person holding any license issued pursuant to this Ordinance or any employee or agent of such person who violates any provision of this Ordinance, or directs, consents to, permits, or acquiesces in such violation, either directly or indirectly shall, by such conduct, subject the license to suspension or revocation. For purposes of administering and enforcing this Ordinance, any act committed by an employee, agent or representative of a licensee shall be deemed to be an act of such licensee.

(b) It shall be a violation of this Ordinance for any licensee to permit any person to engage in any activity on the premises for which the license is issued or within the place of business, which is in violation of the laws or regulations of any federal, state, county or municipal governing authority or regulatory agency. With respect to any such activity, it shall be rebuttably presumed that the same was done with the knowledge or consent of the licensee; provided however, that such presumption may be rebutted only by evidence which precludes every other reasonable hypothesis save that such licensee did not know, assist or aid in such occurrence, or in the exercise of full diligence could not have discovered or prevented such activity.

## **DANCE CODE**

### **Sec. 6-6-43. Dance.**

*(g) Right of suspension by Planning & Development Department. The Planning & Development Department shall have the right to suspend any business tax certificate issued under this chapter whenever a person, firm or corporation doing business shall deviate from the normal operation for which the business tax certificate was obtained or fails in performance to meet the required regulations and code as set forth by the Planning & Development Department, Augusta- Sheriff's Office or Augusta-Richmond County Health Department or violates any law or ordinance of the United States, or the State or Augusta-Richmond County, in pursuance of such business conducted under such business tax certificate.*

## **HOURS OF SALE.**

### **Sec. 6-2-14.**

(a) Generally. Any and all holders of licenses under the authority of this Ordinance shall observe the following schedule of hours of operation, which shall be determined by Eastern Standard Time or daylight savings time, whichever is in effect:

(1) Holders of Class A, C, E, G H, I, J, K, L, M, and N licenses (on-premises consumption of Beer, Wine and Liquor, Brewpubs, Brewery, Micro Brewery, Nano Brewery, Pico Brewery, Distillery, Nano Distillery, and Pico Distillery) shall not open for



business earlier than 8:00 a.m. Monday through Friday and may serve any authorized alcoholic beverage until 2:30 a.m. on the next following day; provided, further that said premises shall be vacated of all persons, including employees, by no later than 3:00 a.m. On Saturday, consumption on-premises license holders shall not open for business earlier than 8:00 a.m. and may serve authorized alcoholic beverages until 11:55 p.m. on Saturdays and the two (2) hours immediately following such time; provided, further, that said premises shall be vacated of all persons, including employees, by no later than 2:30 a.m. on Sunday. Where the sale of alcoholic beverages is in conjunction with the sale of food, the aforesaid hours of sale shall be applicable only to the sale of alcoholic beverages and not applicable to the sale of food; provided, however, no alcoholic beverage shall be allowed to remain on any bars, tables, or be in possession of patrons after 3:00 a.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2:30 a.m. Sunday, and the inventory of alcoholic beverages must be secured as described in section 6-2-17 of this Ordinance.

In accordance with the Augusta- County Code, **you are hereby notified a hearing will be held at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Augusta- Public Services Committee, on June 29, 2023, at 2:00 PM, 2nd Floor Commission Chamber of the Municipal Building, at 535 Telfair Street, Augusta, Georgia.** The purpose of the hearing will be for the Committee to consider suspending, revoking, or placing on probation your alcohol license, dance license, and business tax certificate. At that hearing, you will be afforded the opportunity to present your case in response to the evidence presented. Your case may include a personal statement, witness testimony or any relevant evidence. You may question any witness testifying against you. You have the right to have legal counsel, at your own expense, present at the hearing.

If you should have any questions concerning this matter, please give me a call at (706)312-5038.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carla M. Delaney', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Carla Delaney  
Director, Planning & Development Department

Cc: Julietta H. Walton  
Ty Hester  
Jose Ortiz



**According Augusta's Alcohol ordinance Section 6-2-74. Probation, suspension & revocation.**

**Any license issued under this Ordinance may be 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 not limited to, the following:**

**(c ) Failure by the 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 which the license was issued, to adequately supervise and monitor the conduct of the employees, patrons and others on the licensed premises, or 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.**