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March 2, 2024

Clara Lee  
Empress Chinese Restaurant  
P.O. Box 527  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752-0527

Re: Request for Alcohol Permit

Ms. Lee:

Thank you for you REQUEST FOR ALCOHOL PERMIT, a copy of which is attached hereto.

The residents of Kotzebue have voted twice - in 2009 and 2016 – for the only local alcohol options in Kotzebue to be a City-owned package store, delivery site and bar/restaurant. As such, no private permits can be issued in Kotzebue for the sale of alcohol. It would take a Local Option change pursuant to Title 4 of the Alaska Statutes and 3 AAC 305 of the Alaska Administrative Code for private permits to be available in Kotzebue.

Respectfully,  
CITY OF KOTZEBUE

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Evans".

Joseph W. Evans  
City Attorney

Attachment: Empress Request for Alcohol Permit [1 page]

Request for Alcohol Permit

Established in 2002, Empress Chinese Restaurant strives to serve quality food with exceptional customer service to locals and visitors alike. In the past 20+ years we have noticed a gradual increase in the request for beer and/or wine from residents; and our out-of-town guests visiting Kotzebue.

Our vision is to accommodate and meet the demands of local residents and the many out-of-town visitors with beer and wine at our establishment. We believe our vision will support the increase of tourism to the City of Kotzebue, by providing a safe, and comfortable experience at our establishment for our guests. Additionally, we foresee an increase in tax revenue for the city, which in turn will help the community with additional funds to further facilitate other needs.

Since our inception more than 20 years ago, we have dedicated ourselves to serving the needs of our community and we will continue to do so with the utmost care, love, and responsibility. We respect and appreciate your consideration of our request for the alcohol permit.

Respectfully yours,

Clara Lee  
Empress Chinese Restaurant  
PO Box 527  
Kotzebue, AK 99752  
907) 843-2804