



Alcoholic Beverage Control

CHAIRMAN:
JAMES C. GARDNER

COMMISSIONERS:
JOEL L. KEITH
Wake Forest

KEVIN M. GREEN
Greensboro

ADMINISTRATOR:
MICHAEL C. HERRING

LOCATION:
400 East Tryon Road
Raleigh NC 27610

MAILING:
4307 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4307

PHONE: (919) 779-0700
FAX: (919) 661-5927
<http://abc.nc.gov/>

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ABC COMMISSION SUSPENDS ABC PERMITS AT CHARLOTTE AND FAYETTEVILLE CLUBS AFTER LABOR DAY WEEKEND DEATHS

RALEIGH – Recent violent deaths at clubs in Fayetteville and Charlotte prompted the state ABC Commission to suspend the permits at both locations. The action marks the fourth time this year the state ABC Commission has issued summary suspensions of ABC permits at locations due to violence.

Sworn statements of law enforcement officers describe Labor Day weekend incidents at El Gavilan, 3808 Driftwood Drive, Charlotte, and at Chiefs 25, 612 W. Rowan Street, Fayetteville:

- At El Gavilan in Charlotte, law enforcement officers arrived at the location at around 2:15 a.m. on Sept. 1 to find two victims shot; one was dead at the scene and one was in need of hospital care for life threatening injuries. The violence occurred inside the club.
- At Chiefs 25 in Fayetteville, an apparent attempted robbery in the parking lot of the club on the evening of Aug. 30 resulted in a stabbing and shooting; the shooting victim later died.

According to the affidavits, both locations have a history of violence and of violations of the ABC laws and regulations designed to protect the health and safety of the public.

“I am exercising my responsibility and authority to suspend permits to sell alcohol at these locations where our ABC Commission law enforcement partners have reported incidents of deadly violence,” said ABC Commission Chairman James C. Gardner. “The NC ABC Commission is taking a firm position on this very serious issue.”

The summary suspensions are immediate and are in effect until the cases are heard by the Office of Administrative Hearings. The action is authorized under N.C. General Statute 150B-3(c), which directs the ABC Commission to begin hearing proceedings on the matter.

In April 2010, the state ABC Commission announced Last Call – a cooperative initiative with local law enforcement and ALE that streamlines the process for suspending alcohol permits of violent bars and clubs. This week’s actions bring to 19 the number of summary suspensions of permanent ABC permits by the state ABC Commission since Last Call was introduced.

ABOUT THE NC ABC COMMISSION

North Carolina is one of 17 states to regulate alcohol through a control system. Since 1937, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission has provided regulation and control over the sale, purchase, transportation, manufacture, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state of North Carolina. The commission oversees more than 25,000 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 18,000 retail outlets across the state. <http://abc.nc.gov>.

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MEDIA CONTACT:
Agnes Stevens: 919-417-0858
Agnes.Stevens@abc.nc.gov