



Alcoholic Beverage Control

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NC ABC COMMISSION SUSPENDS ABC PERMITS AT GREENVILLE'S PHOENIX NIGHTCLUB AFTER THREE ARE STABBED INSIDE

RALEIGH – After an August 10 fight inside Greenville's Phoenix Nightclub left three people injured from stab wounds, the NC ABC Commission summarily suspended the alcohol permits held by the private club. When the business representatives received the suspension order Thursday night, they voluntarily surrendered their ABC permits permanently for cancellation, effectively closing the business immediately.

In the incident that prompted the action by the Commission two of the injured were underage, and one was just 16 years of age. According to sworn statements by law enforcement officers, the club's staff watched as wounded patrons were carried outside and then told law enforcement officers the injuries had occurred in the alley rather than inside the club.

The Phoenix Nightclub is located at 209 East 5th Street, Greenville. It has held ABC permits since 2003. In addition to the August 10 incident, the sworn statements by law enforcement officers outline a history of violence associated with the business.

This is the seventh summary suspension issued this year by the NC ABC Commission and is part of the Commission's ongoing focus on public health and public safety. In September 2013, ABC Commission Chairman Jim Gardner sent a letter to more than 1,000 businesses in North Carolina that hold permits as private clubs to sell and serve alcohol. The letter provided a recap of the regulations related to private clubs and warned club owners and operators that the Commission may impose substantial fines and penalties for ignoring the law or for allowing violence at these locations.

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 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 18,000 retail outlets across the state. <http://abc.nc.gov>.

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