



State of North Carolina
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION

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N.C. ABC Commission Suspends Alcohol Permits for High Point's Cristal Nite Club

RALEIGH – In response to allegations that a High Point club poses a threat to the public, to local police and to patrons who go to the location, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission has suspended the alcohol permits issued to Cristal Nite Club located at 509 Ennis Street, High Point.

The summary suspension imposes an immediate suspension of alcohol permits, in the interest of protecting public safety. The action was requested by the High Point Police Department. In June, a shooting occurred within feet of the property, and both victim and the suspect were patrons of the club. In July, an alleged robbery occurred just outside the club entrance, and the victim was pistol whipped by the suspect who then allegedly drew a gun and shot a bystander in the leg. In addition to these incidents, the club has been the site of numerous service calls for fighting, public disturbance, affrays, assaults, drugs, robbery and shots fired. Neighbors report hearing gunfire coming from the property at least once every two weeks.

"The sworn affidavits of local law enforcement officers demonstrate that the pattern of violence is not changing at this establishment, and the neighbors have expressed fear for themselves and the lives of their children," said ABC Chairman Jon Williams, who signed the orders suspending the alcohol permits held by the business. "As a result, the ABC Commission is exercising its authority and duty to work with law enforcement to protect the community in matters related to alcoholic beverages."

He added, the ABC Commission works closely with local law enforcement agencies across the state, and in instances that the Commission finds appropriate, it will suspend permits immediately under the authority of N.C. General Statute 150B-3(c).

"We are working with the ABC Commission and local law enforcement to protect citizens and the community," said ALE Director John Ledford. "The violent activities at this business posed a threat and we worked together to address it."

ABOUT THE ABC COMMISSION

North Carolina is one of 19 states to regulate alcohol through a control system. Since 1937, the state 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. In fiscal year 2008, the Commission returned approximately \$250 million in taxes and revenue to benefit the General Fund and the budgets of local cities and counties that sell alcoholic beverages.

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