



State of North Carolina
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION

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N.C. ABC Commission Suspends Alcohol Permits for Winston-Salem Night Club

RALEIGH – In response to allegations of violence and careless disregard for safety in November at a Winston-Salem club, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission on Friday suspended the alcohol permits issued to Good Times Lounge, 1415 N. Liberty St., Winston-Salem.

The summary suspension imposes an immediate suspension of alcohol permits, without requiring a Commission vote. The action was requested by the Winston-Salem Police Department and agents of the state's Alcohol Law Enforcement District VI.

On Nov. 21, Winston-Salem police responded to a complaint that shots had been fired inside the club. In their investigation they determined that two club employees had discharged firearms inside Good Times Lounge, resulting in a wound to the left foot of a person leaving the club.

"We have been advised through sworn affidavits that conditions are sufficiently hazardous at Good Times Lounge that local law enforcement officers are reluctant to enter the club without back up," said ABC Chairman Jon Williams, who signed the orders suspending the alcohol permits held by Good Times Lounge. "The club owner has shown an apparent disregard for safety and 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).

"ALE is trying to help solve this problem permanently," said ALE Director John Ledford. "The violent activities occurring at this business are a detriment to the entire community and a strain on law enforcement resources. We are diligently working to be responsive to law enforcement and citizen complaints."

ABOUT THE ABC COMMISSION

North Carolina is one of 19 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. 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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LOCATION: 3322 GARNER ROAD, RALEIGH, NC 27610

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