



## Alcoholic Beverage Control

CHAIRMAN:  
A.D. "ZANDER" GUY, JR.

COMMISSIONER:  
DANIEL L. BRIGGS  
Lexington

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) 662-3583  
<http://abc.nc.gov/>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **NC ABC COMMISSION TAKES PERMITS AT FAYETTEVILLE'S BASEMENT LOUNGE AND UPTOP SPORTS BAR**

RALEIGH – Citing recent shootings in the parking area, allegations of alcohol sales after 2:30 a.m. and a history of violence, the NC ABC Commission has suspended the temporary ABC permits held by two businesses operating on separate floors of 3000 Fort Bragg Road, Fayetteville.

The Basement Lounge had held temporary ABC permits since April 27. The UPTOP Lounge's temporary permits had been active since May 24.

"The ABC Commission works closely with state and local law enforcement to protect public safety. When their evidence demonstrates a location is operating recklessly and serving alcohol illegally -- and far after the legal hours of sale -- the Commission will act swiftly to take those ABC permits," said ABC Commission Chairman A.D. Zander Guy.

The Alcohol Law Enforcement Division of the state's Department of Public Safety Friday served the Commission's orders and removed the suspended permits.

Special Agent in Charge David Williams with N.C. Alcohol Law Enforcement stated, "Violent crime at bars and clubs in Fayetteville must be taken seriously by owners of the establishments. Seizing the permits from these two locations is a major step towards improving public safety and easing the burden the locations have created on local and state law enforcement." He continued by saying, "State ALE agents will continue to focus law enforcement efforts on bars and clubs that remain open after 2:30 a.m. These locations are havens for violent crime."

In addition to suspending the temporary permits, the ABC Commission is in the process of rejecting the applications for permanent ones.

#### **ABOUT THE NC 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. The Commission oversees more than 25,000 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 18,000 retail outlets across the state and applies its regulatory authority to benefit public health, public safety and fair commercial regulation of alcohol products. For more information see <http://abc.nc.gov>.

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**MEDIA CONTACT**  
Agnes Stevens  
919-417-0858  
[Agnes.Stevens@abc.nc.gov](mailto:Agnes.Stevens@abc.nc.gov)