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CITY OF MILWAUKEE

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LICENSES COMMITTEE

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In the Matter of the Revocation of the Class "B" Tavern  
and Tavern Dance licenses for:

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JOHN W. STREGE  
"SIDE POCKETS SPORTS BAR"

8

9316 West Appleton

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

11

ALD. JAMES WITKOWIAK - Chair  
ALD. JAMES BOHL, JR., - Vice-Chairman

12

ALD. TERRY WITKOWSKI

13

ALD. ROBERT PUENTE

13

ALD. WILLIE WADE

14

LICENSING DIVISION by REBECCA BARRON  
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES by TOM WESSEL

15

HEALTH DEPARTMENT by PAUL ZEMKE

16

POLICE DEPARTMENT by SEARGENT CHET ULICKEY

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY by ATTORNEY BRUCE SCHRIMPF

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Proceedings had and testimony given in  
the above-entitled matter, before the LICENSES  
COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE, on  
the 17th day of July, 2007.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And now for the  
3 final item on our agenda today is file number  
4 070556, a motion relating to the revocation of  
5 the Class "B" tavern and tavern dance licenses  
6 for the premises at 9316 West Appleton Avenue,  
7 the "Side Pockets Sports Bar."

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Could we swear in  
9 the applicant and - - and Alderman Davis here and  
10 get started.

11 (Whereupon Alderman Davis and the  
12 Applicant were sworn.)

13 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Sir, your name and  
14 address for the record.

15 THE APPLICANT: John W. Strege, S-T-R-  
16 E-G-E, Side Pockets Sports Bar, 9316 West  
17 Appleton Avenue.

18 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you. State  
19 your attorney, please?

20 MR. GANZER: Attorney Joe Ganzer,  
21 appearing on behalf of John Strege and Side  
22 Pockets.

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. And  
24 Alderman Davis appears in this matter.

25 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Yes, sir.

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1                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Mr. Schrimpf,  
2 should we read the invitation letter into the  
3 record, or?

4                   MS. SCHRIMPF: I think all you have to  
5 do is make it part of the record.

6                   ALDERMAN BOHL: So moved.

7                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Alderman  
8 Bohl moves to make the record, a formal request  
9 of a revocation hearing, which is dated July  
10 10th, 2007, signed by Alderman Joe Davis of the  
11 2nd District, part of the permanent record in  
12 this hearing. And hearing no objections, so  
13 ordered.

14                   MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman, just so  
15 that the committee understands, the - - the  
16 complaint can be a part of the record. But it by  
17 itself is not evidence. Evidence is testimony,  
18 facts, documents, that come into the record.  
19 It's - - It's here for the limited purpose of  
20 showing that a complaint was filed.

21                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. And just to  
22 the Applicant. Do you admit receiving a copy of  
23 this letter, and that's why you're here today?

24                   THE APPLICANT: Yes, I agree.

25                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Sergeant, could

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1       you give us a - - a police report, please?

2               SERGEANT ULICKEY: On 10/8 of '06 at  
3       12:45 a.m. Milwaukee Police Department conducted  
4       a lawful inspection of the licensed premise, Side  
5       Pockets Sports Bar at 9316 West Appleton Avenue.  
6       Upon arrival, officers conducted a preliminary  
7       count of the amount of persons on the premises,  
8       and it was determined that they were over posted  
9       capacity. Officers advised the staff that they  
10      had to do an official count. As the people  
11      exited the main doors the count was 197 plus - -  
12      people plus the 24 staff, totaling 221, which  
13      exceeds the capacity by 71 people. The capacity  
14      for - - on our citation, rather, for over  
15      capacity was issued to the licensee John Strege.  
16      He was found guilty in Municipal Court and fined  
17      5,000 dollars.

18              On 10/21 of '06 at 1:38 a.m. Milwaukee  
19      Police Department squads were dispatched to Side  
20      Pockets Sports Bar at 9316 West Appleton Avenue  
21      for a possible shooting complaint. Investigation  
22      at the scene revealed that a black male named  
23      Ronnie Rutledge had been jumped and sustained a  
24      laceration above the left eye and bleeding from  
25      the ear. The injuries required ten stitches at

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1 St. Joseph's Hospital. The bar manager, Robert  
2 Mitchell, stated that he had escorted Rutledge  
3 from the bar 20 minutes prior for attempting to  
4 take another unknown black male's necklace. Then  
5 at about 1:30 a.m. Mitchell observed a group of  
6 unknown black males jumping on one male.  
7 Mitchell also stated he did not hear any shots  
8 being fired. There were 12 casings found in the  
9 parking lot just northeast of the entrance to the  
10 tavern. A black male named Ford, John J., stated  
11 that he met some friends at Side Pockets Bar when  
12 a fight broke out in the bar and shots were fired  
13 outside the bar. The group then left and met up  
14 at the Citgo gas station at 8336 West Appleton  
15 Avenue where they were talking to an unknown  
16 female and heard three to four rapid gunshots. A  
17 black male named Alex - - Damon Alexander was  
18 holding his right leg saying he was shot. Side  
19 Pockets Sports Bar was not cited for any of these  
20 incidents.

21 On 6/24 of '07 at 12:50 a.m. Milwaukee  
22 Police Department squads were dispatched to Side  
23 Pockets Sports Bar at 9316 West Appleton Avenue  
24 for a shooting. Investigation at the scene  
25 revealed there was a black male named Grayson

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1 Smith that was involved in a fight outside the  
2 bar and was escorted by security outside the  
3 premise, as well as other subjects. Once Smith  
4 was outside he produced a firearm and fired shots  
5 towards patrons and security. Security guard,  
6 Herbert Raasch returned fire and struck Smith.

7 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Do you have any  
8 questions about the police report?

9 MR. GANZER: The only question I have  
10 is when it - - Item number six, it indicates that  
11 he - - he was outside and produced a firearm. Is  
12 there any indication whether it was in his  
13 vehicle? Did he return to his domicile?

14 SERGEANT ULICKEY: This is a summary of  
15 the events. I don't have the complete  
16 investigation. So that, I couldn't answer.

17 MR. GANZER: Understood. That's all.

18 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Alderman  
20 Bohl.

21 ALDERMAN BOHL: I'm going to make to  
22 move the entire police report part of our record  
23 in this proceeding.

24 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Motion by Alderman  
25 Bohl is to make the entire police report part of

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1 the permanent record in this hearing. And  
2 hearing no objections, so ordered. Okay. Can  
3 - - Alderman Davis, you want to lead off here and  
4 just give us your opening statements.

5 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Thank you, Mr.  
6 Chairman and members of the committee. First of  
7 all, I want to introduce you to some neighbors  
8 from that area. If the members of Team Challenge  
9 can please stand, so that the - - the members of  
10 this committee can see how committed you are to  
11 your neighborhood. Let me tell you, or may I  
12 suggest to you, Mr. Chairman, is that I will  
13 explain the situation in which we are before your  
14 committee in three words. And that is, "Out of  
15 control." Currently, right now, I've appeared  
16 before this committee to support this particular  
17 applicant in the renewal of his application, but  
18 I can tell you that I'm very disappointed.  
19 Because as I came here before this committee and  
20 I also worked with the applicant to discuss a  
21 format in which the applicant would work with me  
22 as the local alderman of the district. He  
23 indicated to me, and also the neighbors, that he  
24 would not have a certain format in his particular  
25 bar. But unfortunately, I'm seeing that the

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1 programming of this particular establishment,  
2 specifically hip-hop music, which he hasn't had  
3 checked on his application, is currently the  
4 format. And it is causing not only an unsafe  
5 environment for the neighborhood and the  
6 neighbors in that area, but it's causing an  
7 unsafe environment for anybody that's in that - -  
8 anybody that's in that vicinity.

9 I will - - I will say that I'm pissed  
10 off. Really pissed off about this particular  
11 applicant taking advantage of the - - the  
12 neighbors who are trying to make sure that they  
13 retain the property value that's in that area.  
14 But also, to continue to increase safety. We  
15 have challenges in that area. There's no doubt  
16 about it. I can tell you, along with the  
17 Milwaukee Police Department, how many drug stings  
18 we did, not only in the apartment buildings just  
19 north of there, but also, to the - - to the east  
20 of that particular establishment. And the  
21 unfortunate reality is that the applicant  
22 continues to conduct himself and the particular  
23 establishment, which he owns and operates, in a  
24 very unproductive way, that is really putting the  
25 neighbors in harm's way. As we know, ammunition



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1 and shots fired has no names on them. The only  
2 thing they have is victims. And the unfortunate  
3 reality that I'm dealing with is that I want to  
4 make sure that we take care of this issue become  
5 - - before it becomes a tragedy. We've already  
6 had issues where, you know, almost loss of life  
7 has occurred. Any time that there are firearms  
8 that are discharged, I think it is a serious  
9 issue. And unfortunately, it's, you know,  
10 members of this particular community will testify  
11 before this committee that in order for the  
12 committee's time, that we don't take too much of  
13 the committee's time, they have elected to choose  
14 representatives to testify before this committee.  
15 So I will - - I will hope that the committee  
16 would make a recommendation to revoke this  
17 particular license, and as I stated in my letter,  
18 this has been a thorn in my side. I tried to  
19 work with the previous bar owner. Tried to be  
20 forthright with him. But I would hope that the  
21 committee also would make this an unfit location.  
22 Thank you.

23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

24 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Alderman, as I'm

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1 going through the reports here, I see one from  
2 JSOnline of a shooting that occurred at Side  
3 Pockets or in the vicinity of Side Pockets on  
4 January 7th, 2007. Yet, there's no police report  
5 on that. Can you enlighten me, or maybe the  
6 Sergeant?

7 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Well, I know that the  
8 incident occurred, and I'm disappointed that it  
9 didn't show up in the police report, also. But  
10 it has been told to me that if it's not part of  
11 the police record, I have to be very careful in  
12 what I testify against, and I choose not to - -  
13 I'm - - I'm - - I'm appreciative, Alderman  
14 Puente, that you raised that issue, but, you  
15 know, I - - I want to make sure that I stay on  
16 the grounds in which I - - in which I have to  
17 govern myself.

18 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.

20 ALDERMAN BOHL: If I may, and I'll - -  
21 I'll be happy to respond to that. This  
22 particular establishment was in my district  
23 before reapportionment. As the districts  
24 currently are aligned, I am, you know, whatever  
25 the distance of - - between his front street to

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1 the median of Appleton Avenue, I split Appleton  
2 Avenue down the middle with - - with Alderman  
3 Davis. So my district is immediately halfway  
4 across the street. I can tell you that - - that  
5 because of some past problems that I've had with  
6 another establishment in my district further  
7 down, that I've monitored the situation at this  
8 establishment every time that I see something in  
9 the paper, because of concerns that I've had with  
10 my own establishment, All Star Sports Bar, just a  
11 little bit down the road. I've contacted  
12 District 4, and I can tell you that I've had  
13 conversations with - - with Captain Moore who  
14 corroborated that this was a shooting that  
15 occurred at this time, and it was - - Because I  
16 was inquiring whether or not it was occurring at  
17 All Star. And he informed me, no, it was - - it  
18 was another shooting that had yet occurred at  
19 Side Table Pocket, right down the road. So, you  
20 know, it disappoints me, as well, too. But I  
21 will tell you since the last time we were here,  
22 we had three shootings at this particular  
23 establishment. Three. And this is from the same  
24 gentleman, and I'll remind this committee, that  
25 called me a - - a darn liar last time when I said

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1       that he had hip-hop music here. And, Mr. Strege,  
2       I guess the proof - - the proof is - - is in the  
3       pudding and the pudding says otherwise. That - -  
4       That you were the damn liar.

5               MR. STREGE: You said we had V100 there  
6       every weekend. All right. I'll be good.

7               CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay.

8               ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

9               CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

10              ALDERMAN PUENTE: May I continue. I'd  
11       still like to know why that we're not getting  
12       police reports on the tavern report regarding  
13       three shootings, when I only saw one so far in  
14       the police report. So maybe the Sergeant can  
15       speak on that, I would appreciate it.

16              SERGEANT ULICKEY: I can't respond, Mr.  
17       chair. And I did do my homework before this  
18       hearing. There was, in fact, a shooting on that  
19       day, as the Journal/Sentinel sort of reported.  
20       The shooting was in the 9300 block of West  
21       Appleton Avenue, and it - - it couldn't be  
22       substantially connected to the tavern. I did  
23       talk with Captain Moore yesterday and expressed  
24       my concern about this. And he said he was aware  
25       of the shooting, also, and also aware that fact -

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1 - or of the fact, rather, that there was not a  
2 tavern report filed or a PA33 filed, because that  
3 shooting could not be substantially linked to the  
4 tavern.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did it occur on the  
6 premises, the parking lot?

7 SERGEANT ULICKEY: No. It occurred in  
8 the - - in the 9300 block of Appleton Avenue on  
9 the street, to the best - -

10 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: If I may, Mr.  
12 Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Go ahead,  
14 Alderman.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. That was one.  
16 Okay. That's two shootings.

17 SERGEANT ULICKEY: That was on the 7th.

18 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Now what about  
19 this third one that was just mentioned?

20 SERGEANT ULICKEY: Well, there was the  
21 shots fired that I read.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Right.

23 SERGEANT ULICKEY: And there was the  
24 shooting after, or after that.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.

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1 SERGEANT ULICKEY: That I read. And  
2 then this one would have been the one on 1/7 of  
3 '07 would have been - -

4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: The shots fired was  
5 not a shooting then. Nobody got hit?

6 SERGEANT ULICKEY: No. That person - -  
7 Go back to that.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Maybe - -

9 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Mr. Chairman.

10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.

11 ALDERMAN DAVIS: You know, on 6/24 the  
12 police report said that it's like a - - a  
13 shootout at the OK Corral. Shots were fired at a  
14 security guard. The security guard started  
15 shooting shots back. You know, it's out of  
16 control up there. It is really out of control.  
17 When people have to carry pistols and they're  
18 exchanging gunfire, you know, there's Timmerman  
19 Field across - - across the street. You know,  
20 we've got child care facilities not too far away  
21 from there. We have Teen Challenge, which has  
22 been in that area, which are tremendously support  
23 - - They've been supportive of this liquor  
24 establishment when they came here before. We've  
25 had numerous meetings trying to support

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1 businesses who are willing to come and meet us  
2 halfway. And I'm - - I'll be very honest and  
3 candid with you. You know, the applicant has no  
4 credibility with me, anymore. He doesn't. You  
5 know, because this is getting - - This is getting  
6 unreal, up into this area.

7 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I'm done, Mr. Chair.

10 Thank you.

11 ALDERMAN BOHL: Let me just tell you  
12 one thing further. And it's - - And it's  
13 something that has frustrated me. And that is  
14 the last couple of years that this particular  
15 establishment was still in my aldermanic  
16 district, they had - - they had a number of other  
17 shootings. And you know what? With the police  
18 department, it was always like it happened to be  
19 across the street. Well, I tell you, this  
20 particular establishment is isolated. They have  
21 this - - this huge little field area where some  
22 people use it as like a little community farming  
23 area.

24 And then on the other side of it, was  
25 - - was a - - what used to be an auto dealership,

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1 and it was a - - it was taken over by Teen  
2 Challenge. And I'll guarantee the shooting isn't  
3 coming from Teen Challenge. So ultimately, this  
4 place is isolated. I've been out there in the  
5 evenings, and I've seen that their patrons fill  
6 up, not only the - - the parking lot, but there's  
7 patrons parking a considerable distance on both  
8 sides of Appleton Avenue. They're their patrons.  
9 I've seen them walk from - - from their cars  
10 across the street. There's no other place for  
11 them to go, unless they want to hop the fence and  
12 run on the runway of Timmerman Field, to the  
13 west.

14 And the shootings were occurring here  
15 in my district when Mr. Strege owned this place,  
16 and the police department wasn't able to  
17 substantiate because somebody was in his parking  
18 lot one time, and there was a shooting there, and  
19 they claimed that it was somebody who just drove  
20 into the parking lot, shot at somebody who was a  
21 patron, and drove off, and that they couldn't  
22 substantiate. Well, you know what? The same  
23 thing occurred across the street. There was  
24 another report of one of their patrons that was  
25 shot at and, well, it was randomly some guy who



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1 just happened to drive by Appleton and just shoot  
2 at his patron.

3 Well, I'm going to tell you, I think  
4 that ultimately the problem is - - is - - it is,  
5 indeed, much more related to his place. It seems  
6 to be a pattern. I don't know what happens when  
7 - - when the police department report, you know,  
8 comes to take a report on this, that somehow it  
9 just always happens to be occurring at this  
10 location or across the street. It always happens  
11 to be occurring with his patrons. It's been  
12 going on for years and years and years. I'm  
13 going to tell you, the shooting is - - is  
14 occurring over and over again. And I agree with  
15 every word that - - that Alderman Davis said,  
16 that this - - this gentleman has absolutely zero  
17 credibility with me, as the former Alderman and  
18 the Alderman across the street. I think that he  
19 runs an awful place. I think that this place is  
20 a danger to the City of Milwaukee. And I think  
21 this place ought - - ought to have its license  
22 revoked.

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: I'd like to see a  
24 show of hands of who may potentially give  
25 testimony here. Please raise your right hands.

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1 THE WITNESS: For or against?

2 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And keep - - keep

3 - - Yeah, keep - - Keep all your right hands

4 raised if you may potentially speak. That

5 doesn't mean you have to. Right hands. Your

6 right hands. We're going to swear you all in at

7 the same time. Okay, everybody. Right hands up.

8 Everybody, if - - if you're potentially going to  
9 speak today.

10 (Whereupon the witnesses were sworn.)

11 MR. GANZER: Mr. Chairman, before we  
12 continue, I just want to point out it's about six  
13 o'clock. I'm going to be at Fox Point Municipal  
14 Court in about an hour. So I would not be  
15 opposed to taking some testimony for the next  
16 half hour or so, and if we could adjourn if we're  
17 trying to squeeze in all these - - all these  
18 potential witnesses.

19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: We all - - We all  
20 have scheduling problems this evening, but we're  
21 here and we're going to - - we're going to hear  
22 this case, so.

23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

24 MR. GANZER: Then - - Then if I may,  
25 Mr. Chair.

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1 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.

2 MR. GANZER: At about 6:30 I'll need to  
3 call and see if I can get somebody to cover for  
4 me.

5 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: We'll see what  
6 happens when we get that far.

7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Yeah, I was just  
8 going to suggest, maybe limiting the testimony.  
9 If there's no opposition from the Alderman.

10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: I - - I want to  
11 hear from the people that are - - are opposed to  
12 the - - the people that support, actually, the  
13 revocation of this license, first. In other  
14 words, the people that are opposed to this  
15 license continuing. And, Alderman Davis, you  
16 said you had some people that wish to speak as -  
17 - as spokesman. But you have to have - - You  
18 have to give us personal testimony, though. But  
19 the other people, the other people who will be  
20 speaking, representing, are in this room, also.  
21 Right? Okay.

22 ALDERMAN DAVIS: That's correct, Mr.  
23 Chairman.

24 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman.

25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.

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1 MR. SCHRIMPF: And in addition, since  
2 this is a revocation hearing, you have to limit  
3 it to what's enclosed in Alderman Davis'  
4 complaint. You've got to yield - - wield on this  
5 one, a very heavy gavel. If it veers off of  
6 what's in the complaint, it cannot be considered.  
7 This is not a renewal. This is a revocation.

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. So I'd like  
9 to hear from the people in opposition. Please  
10 come to the microphone here. State your - -  
11 State your name and address. Also, after you  
12 give us your address, tell us how close you live  
13 to the premises, just roughly, and then give us  
14 your brief testimony and stick to the point. If  
15 we - - If anybody on the committee thinks that  
16 any of the people testifying are veering from the  
17 subject, please feel free to chime in. Name and  
18 address for the record, please.

19 THE WITNESS: Sir, my name is Jordan  
20 Erie. Address is 5319 North 91st Street. I'm a  
21 neighbor to the - -

22 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: How close?

23 THE WITNESS: I'd say about 25 yards,  
24 50 yards.

25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Your

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1 testimony.

2 THE WITNESS: So just first to say with  
3 the police reports that were stated earlier, they  
4 don't even come close to confirming just exactly  
5 what has been happening and what I've witnessed  
6 myself within the past year because of this  
7 establishment. On a regular basis, monthly I  
8 hear gunshots. Just - - Just this Saturday, I'm  
9 sorry, early Sunday morning, there were some  
10 gunshots right from the parking lot.

11 MR. GANZER: Is he straying from the  
12 police reports with new testimony or new  
13 incidents?

14 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Mr. Schrimpf, give  
15 us some guidance on this.

16 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman, it's got  
17 to be related. There's an allegation of an April  
18 18th over capacity. There are two incidents of  
19 October 21st and June 24th that are in the  
20 documents regarding shootings. It cannot be a  
21 generalized kind of thing about shootings. I  
22 mean, this is what is alleged in the complaint.  
23 If this were a renewal, it could go beyond that.  
24 But this isn't a renewal.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Those three days.

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1                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. So your - -  
2 your subject has to be related to April 18th,  
3 which was an overcrowding issue. October 21st of  
4 2006 and June 24th of 2007. What are your  
5 experiences from those three days?

6                   ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

7                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.

8                   ALDERMAN BOHL: I just want a  
9 clarification from the Assistant City Attorney.  
10 In the complaint it states, it lists specifically  
11 two firearm events.

12                  MR. SCHRIMPF: Right.

13                  ALDERMAN BOHL: But it states for  
14 related - - "For firearm related incidents that  
15 continues to jeopardize the health, safety and  
16 welfare of the neighborhood." Does that - -

17                  MR. SCHRIMPF: Yeah, but - -

18                  ALDERMAN BOHL: I just - - I'm asking  
19 you for an opinion on that, Mr. Schrimpf.

20                  MR. SCHRIMPF: And my opinion is that  
21 that's a conclusionary sort of allegation, which  
22 is fine to have in a complaint, but when you're  
23 dealing with stopping somebody's license that's  
24 in force, you got to keep it on the straight and  
25 narrow, and you've got to keep it on the dates

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1           that are specifically alleged.

2                   ALDERMAN BOHL: Thank you.

3                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: April 18th, 2007,

4           which was an overcapacity. October 21st, 2006,

5           June 24th, 2007 for fire - - firearm related

6           incidents.

7                   ALDERMAN DAVIS: Mr. Chairman.

8                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Davis.

9                   ALDERMAN DAVIS: As the complaintee?

10                  CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.

11                  ALDERMAN DAVIS: I put specific  
12           information in there that related to the ongoing  
13           issues in which I have to deal with as the  
14           complaintee. That's the reason why I put related  
15           issues as within the licensing period. Now, had  
16           I - - Had I known that I had to list every  
17           incident in there, it - - this whole dissertation  
18           of me submitting it to the - - to the committee  
19           would have been - - It would have been  
20           burdensome, number one, but yet, and still, it  
21           would have been not to the - - It would have not  
22           been fair to those who wanted to come and  
23           testify, based upon what they saw and based upon  
24           what they've heard and based upon what they know.  
25           It is a detriment to the health, and safety and

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1 welfare of this particular neighborhood. And I  
2 think what you're hearing, people who are coming  
3 here testifying, is the public health, safety and  
4 welfare of their neighborhood. That's what  
5 they're testifying in. If they hear gunshots, I  
6 think that's a safety issue. If they hear  
7 gunshots, I think that's a health issue.

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Question to the  
9 Assistant City Attorney. It says, "In addition  
10 - - In addition, several shooting incidents."  
11 Does that - - Does that cover anything?

12 MR. SCHRIMPF: That's - - That's pretty  
13 broad, and that doesn't really give the licensee  
14 fair notice of what the issues are. I mean, you  
15 know, quite honestly that sort of thing you could  
16 drive a truck through. I'll say it again. This  
17 is a revocation which is stopping an existing  
18 license or interfering or suspending an existing  
19 license.

20 And the - - the burden upon the  
21 committee, the burden upon the complainant and  
22 the burden for the proof is just plain heavier.

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: All right. Do you  
24 have - - Do you have any testimony relative to  
25 April 18, 2007, or October - - which was the



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1 overcrowding incident, or October 21st, 2006 or  
2 June 24th, 2007?  
3 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. June 24th.  
4 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.  
5 THE WITNESS: I heard the - - I heard  
6 the gunshots myself. You know, it was no  
7 surprise to me, the following day to hear news of  
8 it through media. And my question is, you know,  
9 who has to die, who has to catch one of those  
10 bullets before we - - we shut down this  
11 establishment? That's obviously a threat to my  
12 neighborhood. And that's why we're here today.  
13 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Thank you.  
14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.  
15 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman - - Sir,  
16 stay up there. Alderman Puente.  
17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Being only 25 to 50  
18 yards away from this establishment, do you feel  
19 that you are in harm's way, that you could get  
20 shot?  
21 THE WITNESS: Absolutely.  
22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.  
23 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.  
24 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman - - Hold  
25 up. Hold on. Alderman Bohl.

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1 ALDERMAN BOHL: I'm going to further  
2 ask the question, do you believe that - - that  
3 the operation of this bar jeopardizes just the  
4 safety, health and welfare of the neighborhood?

5 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

6 ALDERMAN BOHL: Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And do you have  
8 any questions of this?

9 MR. GANZER: No.

10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Any other  
11 committee members? No. Next person to testify,  
12 please. If you're going to testify, why don't  
13 you just come to this front row here, and then we  
14 can, you know, we can go one after another after  
15 another. Not - - Not like church. You guys can  
16 all sit in front.

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Just those in  
18 opposition.

19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Just those in  
20 opposition for now. Yes, sir, your name and  
21 address for the record.

22 THE WITNESS: My name is Alvin Cox. I  
23 live at 5319 North 91st Street.

24 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. And how far  
25 is that away?

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1 THE WITNESS: The same distance. About  
2 25 to 40, 50 yards.

3 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And, Mr. Cox,  
4 relative to there was an overcrowding incident on  
5 April 18th of 2007, two gunshot incidents that  
6 are reported in the complaint, October 21st, 2006  
7 and June 24th, 2007. Are you familiar with  
8 those?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, I am.

10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And tell us your  
11 testimony on that.

12 THE WITNESS: I moved back to Milwaukee  
13 and started working at Teen Challenge a second  
14 time in September of 2006. I definitely remember  
15 in October when there was the gun shooting.  
16 Okay. And like - - like Brother Jordan said, it  
17 made the papers, and, you know, it was a big - -  
18 it was a big ruckus on the street about that.

19 Now I also remember in April - - I also  
20 remember in April when I - - I drive a semi in  
21 the evenings. And so when I came back, the  
22 streets were crowded, that the Side Pocket people  
23 were hanging out in the parking lot. And there's  
24 yelling, there's swearing and there's arguing.  
25 And unfortunately I can only mention it about

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1 April, but that definitely is not the only time  
2 that something like that has happened.

3 I also remember last month in June when  
4 there were gunshots, okay. And we fear for our  
5 safety.

6 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And then, you were  
7 - - you were in the area when these gunshots took  
8 place. You were nearby?

9 THE WITNESS: Yes, I live there. Yes.  
10 I live there and I work there.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Do you fear for  
12 your safety?

13 THE WITNESS: Every day. Every night.

14 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Any questions by  
15 members of the committee?

16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

18 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So you - - You were  
19 there on June 24th, also? You - - You testified  
20 on October 21st but also on June 24th?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes, in June, as well.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Any other  
24 questions by members of the committee?

25 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman.

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1 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Mr. Schrimpf.

2 MR. SCHRIMPF: You were able to

3 identify where the shots were coming from?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes.

5 MR. SCHRIMPF: How?

6 THE WITNESS: Because my window faces -

7 - My window faces the Side Pocket. And when you

8 hear the shots, I got the lights off. I look. I

9 see the crowds.

10 MR. SCHRIMPF: And I take it, there

11 were no crowds in other places?

12 THE WITNESS: Well, sir, where I live,

13 okay, like - - like say you got Wiggins

14 Landscaping as you're facing Appleton to the left

15 of us. And then an auto dealership. To the

16 right of us is like farm land and then a nursing

17 home and then a day care center. There's nothing

18 else open at that time of the day.

19 MR. SCHRIMPF: All right. Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you. Any

21 other questions by members of the committee?

22 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.

24 ALDERMAN BOHL: The other thing is, is

25 I just want to say that the nursing home and the

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1 day care are a relative distance even further  
2 down from - - from where this is located in  
3 proximity to the building that you reside in.  
4 THE WITNESS: Exactly. And the area is  
5 wide open. If somebody's going to come there and  
6 just - - just for giggles and grins, shoot and  
7 take - - and keep going, they're going to be  
8 somewhere where they can just melt into the  
9 shadows. And you can't do it on Appleton.  
10 ALDERMAN BOHL: He did omit that there  
11 was a small little church that's located next to  
12 it.  
13 THE WITNESS: There is. There's a  
14 church there, as well.  
15 ALDERMAN BOHL: I'm really doubting the  
16 church wasn't doing the shooting, either.  
17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Any other  
18 questions of this witness? Counselor, any  
19 questions of this witness?  
20 MR. GANZER: No questions of this  
21 witness.  
22 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Mr. Chairman.  
23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.  
24 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Before the next  
25 testimony, if I may?

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1                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes, Alderman  
2     Davis.  
3                   ALDERMAN DAVIS: As you know, I have a  
4     public hearing.  
5                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.  
6                   ALDERMAN DAVIS: On behalf of the  
7     community on the Economic Development Committee.  
8                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes.  
9                   ALDERMAN DAVIS: And if - - if there  
10    are any further questions, I think I've - - I've  
11    let my position be known, and then if committee  
12    members need to - - If there's any questions for  
13    me before I leave, I - - I would formally ask for  
14    to be excused.  
15                  ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.  
16                  CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes, Alderman.  
17                  ALDERMAN BOHL: I have a question for  
18    Alderman Davis. Alderman Davis, I - - I want to  
19    ask if following the shooting that occurred in  
20    fall here, which I believe is that October  
21    shooting, did you have a conversation with Mr.  
22    Strege regarding that shooting?  
23                  ALDERMAN DAVIS: I had numerous - -  
24    Yes.  
25                  ALDERMAN BOHL: And I just - - Because

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1       this was related to me, and I just - - Did Mr.  
2       Strege tell you at that time that he was  
3       voluntarily going to turn in his license?  
4               ALDERMAN DAVIS:  Yes.  And he - - Yeah,  
5       he did.  
6               ALDERMAN BOHL:  Okay.  And obviously,  
7       Alderman Davis, he has not done so.  Correct?  
8               ALDERMAN DAVIS:  He's still - -  
9               ALDERMAN BOHL:  I'm asking the obvious  
10      here.  
11              CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK:  Okay.  
12              MR. GANZER:  I would like one question  
13      on that.  Was - -  
14              CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK:  Go ahead.  
15              MR. GANZER:  Was there - - Was - - I  
16      just, this conversation, was there a condition.  
17      My client stated if something happens, I'll turn  
18      in my license, or if I can't get a handle on it.  
19      Or did he just say, "Tomorrow I'm turning in my  
20      license."  I'm not - - I don't understand the  
21      context.  
22              ALDERMAN DAVIS:  Mr. Strege indicated  
23      to me that he was frustrated, and he wasn't going  
24      to be in the business anymore.  He was going to  
25      give up his license.  No conditions.  I didn't



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1 put any conditions on him. I just told him I was  
2 disappointed. And before it got that point, he  
3 shut down for a while, and that was it. And I  
4 thought he was out of business.

5 MR. GANZER: That's all I have.

6 ALDERMAN WADE: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Wade.

8 ALDERMAN WADE: Alderman Davis, just  
9 before you leave, I just want to get - - get an  
10 exact idea of what's "shut down for a while."  
11 Was this like a day, a weekend, a month?

12 ALDERMAN DAVIS: I can't remember  
13 exactly how long it was, Alderman Wade. But I  
14 know it was for an extended period of time,  
15 because as I - - As I started interacting with  
16 constituents and going by that area, we know that  
17 it - - it wasn't open. And then there was a - -  
18 someone who had approached my office that was  
19 interested in actually operating the  
20 establishment, also. And that was the applicant  
21 from Nostalgia, who had contacted my offices,  
22 stating that they were interested in purchasing  
23 the building.

24 ALDERMAN WADE: Now, can I just ask,  
25 Mr. Chair, if I may just ask the owner, if he was

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1 shut down, when was he shut down, and how long  
2 was he shut down? Sir.

3 THE APPLICANT: I'm sorry.

4 ALDERMAN WADE: I would just like to  
5 ask, if you shut down, when were you shut down,  
6 and how long were you shut down. And if you - -  
7 If you could, tell me the conditions, the reasons  
8 why you were shut down.

9 THE APPLICANT: I - - To tell you the  
10 truth, I - - I was frustrated with the way things  
11 were going. So I basically, one, I was thinking  
12 about selling the place, because sometimes it  
13 gets hard, y know, you do all the right things  
14 that you can do, and sometimes it just - -  
15 sometimes the bad apple gets the best of you. So  
16 I was kind of frustrated, so I just kind of sat  
17 back a little bit and figured maybe it was time  
18 to change things around, and - -

19 ALDERMAN WADE: So, when was that?

20 THE APPLICANT: I didn't state - - I  
21 don't - - I don't ever remember - - I have never  
22 shut down. I have never shut down. If I said  
23 something to Alderman Davis it was more on the  
24 impression that, you know, I basically am  
25 thinking about leaving. That's basically what I

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1       meant by - - It's - - It's time for me to  
2       maybe - -

3               ALDERMAN WADE:   So you're saying you  
4       weren't shut down, with no - -

5               THE APPLICANT:   No, I never shut down.  
6       I have never shut down.

7               ALDERMAN WADE:   You were not shut down.

8               THE APPLICANT:   Well, you did it to me.  
9       Other than that, no, I never did.

10              ALDERMAN WADE:   Okay.   All right.  
11      Thank you.

12              CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK:  Alderman Davis,  
13      you are excused.   Thank you for being here.

14              ALDERMAN DAVIS:   Thank you.

15              CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK:  I wish - - You  
16      know that I'm on that same committee with you,  
17      and I wish you would please excuse me from that  
18      meeting.   Explain to my constituents where I am  
19      and what I'm doing.   I would like you to ask the  
20      staff assistant to get me a transcript of that  
21      meeting, and - - and assure everyone that's at  
22      that meeting tonight, that I will review the  
23      transcript of the meeting, because we're making  
24      some important decisions on Block Grant Funding  
25      in the near future, and I will get up to speed on

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1 it.

2 ALDERMAN DAVIS: Your request is duly  
3 noted, Mr. Chairman.

4 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you. Next  
5 person to testify, please.

6 THE APPLICANT: My name is Judy Dooley,  
7 and I live at 5321 North 91st Street, Apartment  
8 number three. We're adjacent to the east of the  
9 Side Pocket. On that map you had up there  
10 before, it - - it showed our property. I'm in  
11 the apartment building with all the rest of the  
12 people that are testifying here tonight.

13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

14 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yeah. Yes, we - -  
15 Sherman, Alderman Davis's assistant, is here. He  
16 needs to be sworn in.

17 (Whereupon Sherman Morgan, Legislative  
18 Aide for Alderman Joe Davis, was sworn.)

19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And your name for  
20 the record.

21 MR. MORGAN: Sherman Morgan,  
22 Legislative Aide for Alderman Joe Davis, 2nd  
23 District.

24 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you.  
25 Alderman Puente?

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1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: If I may, real quick.  
2 Could you tell us what your capacity is at Teen  
3 Challenge, what you do there, and just real  
4 briefly, what Teen Challenge is all about.  
5 Because obviously there's people who are watching  
6 TV and may not know your - - what you're all  
7 about.

8 THE WITNESS: Teen Challenge is a faith  
9 based drug and alcohol treatment recovery  
10 program, and it's a residential program for men,  
11 located at 91st - - 92nd and Appleton. We have a  
12 women's facility downtown on 31st Street. And  
13 I'm the office manager and development staff  
14 there. I've been there since 2001. I'm also a -  
15 - a former graduate of Teen Challenge. In 1973 I  
16 graduated from the program in San Francisco. So  
17 I've been free from drug and alcohol addiction  
18 for over 33 years.

19 I wanted to address the - - First, the  
20 most recent incident that I witnessed was on June  
21 24th in the wee hours of the morning. I was  
22 awakened from a sound sleep by eight rapid  
23 gunshots. Pow, pow, pow, pow, pow, pow, pow,  
24 pow. Like that. And I called the police  
25 immediately. I have called the police on many

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1 occasions, and I - - From my kitchen window I can  
2 - - I can open the window, and I poke my head  
3 out, and I can see straight into the parking lot  
4 of the Side Pocket and not - - just a few minutes  
5 later there were sirens and I saw police there.  
6 And it was later, you know, the next day or a  
7 couple days afterwards that I read in the paper  
8 about exactly what had happened.

9 On October - - In October - - Excuse me  
10 - - The January incident I remember - - And I  
11 have called the police many times. I call every  
12 time I hear shots.

13 MR. GANZER: Mr. Chairman, object.

14 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Yeah.

15 THE WITNESS: And I don't know why it's  
16 not reported, why they don't have it. I give  
17 them my name. I give them my telephone number,  
18 and I tell them where it's coming from. I give  
19 the address. Because I know where it's coming  
20 from.

21 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Still, you'll - -  
22 You'll have to keep your - - your comments to  
23 within the - - the constraints of - - of the - -

24 THE WITNESS: Um-hnh. I understand,  
25 but it was mentioned, the January incident. So

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1 that's why I brought it up. And as far as  
2 October goes, you know, I can't specifically  
3 remember, but I - - I've heard lots of shots.  
4 And that's all I have.

5 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: I have one follow-  
6 up question for you, and that is, how do you - -  
7 In terms of where you're located and where you  
8 - - where you reside, how do you feel about  
9 having this - - this operation next door to you?

10 THE WITNESS: Well, it - - it disturbs  
11 me a great deal. It disturbs my sleep. Every  
12 weekend I'm awakened in the middle of the night  
13 with gunshots or hollering. My, you know, the  
14 bouncers are out there trying to get people out  
15 of the parking lot and screaming. And I'm afraid  
16 that, you know, that somebody will just go  
17 driving through and the - - a shot will - - will  
18 come into my house. I've heard of it so many  
19 times in Milwaukee. I'm from North Dakota and I  
20 - - I've never experienced this kind of thing. I  
21 won't walk in that - - in the neighborhood by  
22 myself. And I'm - - I'm afraid. I really am.

23 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by  
24 committee? Alderman Puente.

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How do you know these

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1 shots are coming from this establishment?

2 THE WITNESS: Well, I can hear them,  
3 and then when I look out the window, I can see  
4 the ruckus going on.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay.

6 THE WITNESS: My windows are open. I  
7 often sleep - -

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Have you heard any  
9 gunshots from anywhere else in the area?

10 THE WITNESS: On - - On occasion, I  
11 have heard them from 91st Street, and I can tell  
12 the difference.

13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Do you feel  
14 that your safety and well-being is compromised  
15 because of this tavern?

16 THE WITNESS: Absolutely. Um-hnh.

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.

18 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
19 committee?

20 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman, just a  
21 quick follow-up question.

22 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Mr. Schrimpf.

23 MR. SCHRIMPF: Thank you. Ma'am, when  
24 you say you look out your window and you see the  
25 ruckus, okay. First of all, what is the ruckus



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1           that you're referring to?

2           THE WITNESS: Well, I see many, many  
3 cars, and sometimes, police cars. And I see a  
4 lot of people milling around in the parking lot,  
5 pouring out of the bar, and a bouncer or someone,  
6 people hollering and shouting at each other.

7           MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay. And when you're  
8 talking about the parking lot, this is the  
9 parking lot - -

10          THE WITNESS: The parking lot right at  
11 the Side Pocket.

12          MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay.

13          THE WITNESS: I can see it clearly from  
14 my window. There's nothing obstructing my view.

15          MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay. And when you see  
16 security, does - - does the security have any  
17 distinctive wear that you can identify the fact  
18 that they are security?

19          THE WITNESS: No.

20          MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay.

21          THE WITNESS: I mean, I assume it's a  
22 security, because he's hollering, "Get out of  
23 here," whatever they say.

24          MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay. But there's no  
25 doubt in your mind that this is associated with

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1 Side Pockets.

2 THE WITNESS: There's nothing else  
3 there.

4 MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay.

5 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Other questions by  
6 committee? Counsel, any questions?

7 MR. GANZER: No questions.

8 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Thank you. Thank  
9 you, Judy. Next witness, please. Name and  
10 address for the record, please.

11 THE WITNESS: Arlisia Rainey, 5321  
12 North 91st Street.

13 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: R-A-N-E-Y. Last  
14 name, spelling?

15 THE WITNESS: Um-hnh. R-A-I-N-E-Y.

16 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: R-A-I. Thank you.

17 THE WITNESS: Rainey, with the E-Y,  
18 then. And I could testify to the June 24th,  
19 because it's the most recent. I was awakened at  
20 night by gunshots. Once again. I - - I did get  
21 up at this incident and looked out the window, my  
22 bedroom window, because my window is right there.  
23 And you asked the question to many of them, did  
24 you feel that your life is in jeopardy. And,  
25 yes, I do, because my window is right there. My

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1 bedroom window, where I lay down and sleep at.  
2 And so I can testify, yes, and it does bother me.  
3 I do feel that my life in danger. And it's not  
4 only that, it's just everything that goes on that  
5 is associated with that tavern, Side Pocket.

6 VICE-CHAIRMAN BOHL: Questions by  
7 committee?

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Counselor, do you  
9 have any questions of this witness?

10 MR. GANZER: No.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you for your  
12 testimony. Next person, please.

13 THE WITNESS: My name is Robert Torres.  
14 I live at 9222 West Appleton, which is the actual  
15 men's center. I, too, can bear witness to the  
16 June incident. Because what I do at nighttime, I  
17 work throughout the night sometimes. And I do  
18 what they call sleepdown. So I have to get up  
19 throughout the night, and I have to make my  
20 rounds around the building, make sure everybody's  
21 okay and everybody's safe. This one particular  
22 night, I did, as well, hear rapid gunfire. And I  
23 didn't see what had happened, but I did hear  
24 about it on the news the next day. It is a major  
25 issue, and - - and as these men can attest, I

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1 mean, they're my responsibility, and it - - it  
2 bothers me a lot that things like this happen.  
3 And, you know, I just don't want to be, you know,  
4 having to go into one of their rooms where it's -  
5 - there's a whole line of windows on that side of  
6 the men's center, and the last thing I want to  
7 find out is that one of my guys got shot by a  
8 stray bullet. You know, the danger is very real,  
9 and it could be any one of us.

10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

12 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So you do feel that  
13 your health, safety and well-being is compromised  
14 by this tavern?

15 THE WITNESS: Without a doubt.

16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: How many people live,  
17 if you can answer it, in the men's section?

18 THE WITNESS: We have about - - We can  
19 house up to 30, but we have about 24, 25 men.

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So on the incident of  
21 June 24th, there were how many people?

22 THE WITNESS: There was probably  
23 roughly about between 20 and 24.

24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. When you were  
25 making your rounds on June 24th, and you heard

00045

1 the gunfire, where were you in proximity to the  
2 tavern?

3 THE WITNESS: I was towards the front  
4 of the building.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So there's no doubt  
6 in your mind that the shots came from the area of  
7 the - - the tavern?

8 THE WITNESS: Most definitely.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did you happen to go  
10 over and look or anything?

11 THE WITNESS: No, I could see the chaos  
12 from the front window.

13 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So you did see chaos?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Could you describe  
16 what you saw?

17 THE WITNESS: What I saw was just like  
18 a crowd of people, and I didn't exactly know what  
19 happened, but I knew the shots came from that  
20 direction. And I found out the rest of it when I  
21 watched it on the news the next day.

22 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Did you hear any  
23 screaming or yelling or?

24 THE WITNESS: No, it as just a bunch of  
25 shots fired, and that was pretty much all I

00046

1 heard.

2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you for your  
4 testimony. Next person to testify, please.

5 THE WITNESS: My name's Jamal

6 Massey - -

7 MR. SCHRIMPF: I didn't get that.

8 THE WITNESS: Jamal Massey. I reside  
9 at 9222 West Appleton Avenue, which is Teen  
10 Challenge Men's Center. On the 24th of June, the  
11 night of the shooting, it was a big drug deal  
12 right down in front of the Center. And later on  
13 that night as I went to sleep, as I tried to go  
14 to sleep, because I take medication. I've been  
15 stopping the medication so that I cannot be on  
16 drugs anymore. That was a big deal to me.

17 It threatened me by seeing a drug deal  
18 first, and then hearing the shots later. So in  
19 my opinion, I'm new here, and all this is right  
20 there, is that bar. And when they - - When the  
21 staff came in the next day, Robert, he's actually  
22 the one said there was a shooting right there,  
23 and that's where it came from. I heard the shots  
24 myself. I hadn't been sleeping lately at that  
25 point in time because I stopped my medication.

00047

1 And so that's how I heard the shots. I was  
2 already up when - - when I heard the shots.

3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

4 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

5 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You said you saw a  
6 drug transaction on June 24th?

7 THE WITNESS: That night, yeah.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And where did that  
9 come from, or where - - where was it happening?

10 THE WITNESS: I seen a - - I seen - -  
11 All of a sudden out in front of the door of Teen  
12 Challenge Center, I seen two cars come out of the  
13 parking lot, turn by our parking lot. It's a  
14 little roundabout right there where you turn,  
15 where you make a U-turn, and they stopped right  
16 there in front of the Teen Challenge property.  
17 They - - One - - One girl got out of one car and  
18 got in the other car with the guy. You could see  
19 them trading the money and trade the drugs, and  
20 it kind of offended me. Well, it didn't offend  
21 me. It threatened me, because I'm a former drug  
22 user. And I turned around, and I ran back  
23 inside. And I just laughed at it.

24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: But you can't  
25 associate that drug deal with this tavern.

00048

1 THE WITNESS: No. They went right - -  
2 As I came inside, I turned around and walked in.  
3 And I'm looking back. They get back in the car  
4 and they go right back into the parking lot of  
5 Side Pockets.

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Oh, okay.

7 THE WITNESS: They drive right back  
8 off.

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You can see both  
10 parking lots.

11 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I can. I was  
12 standing right outside, right in front of the  
13 door.

14 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So you saw them come  
15 out of the parking lot.

16 THE WITNESS: And see them come out,  
17 and make their U-turn. They stopped on the side  
18 street of Appleton, West Appleton Avenue, and  
19 they went back in the parking lot.

20 MR. GANZER: I'm sorry. Object at this  
21 point, Mr. Chairman. I think he's describing  
22 what sounds to me like two different events. The  
23 shooting, and then at some point prior, this  
24 transaction. The transaction wasn't noticed in  
25 Alderman Davis' complaint. So I would object to



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1 that portion of the testimony.

2 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Well, even though  
3 it's the same day.

4 MR. SCHRIMPF: It's not alleged. The  
5 same day has nothing to do with it.

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Well, we'll go back  
7 to the quality of life issue, but, all right.

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: All right. Your  
9 objection is noted.

10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: All right. Thank you  
11 very much, sir. I appreciate it.

12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you. Next  
13 person to testify, please. Are there people here  
14 to testify in support? Okay.

15 MR. GANZER: I have three that I'd like  
16 to call, I think.

17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Please

18 MR. GANZER: Brian.

19 THE WITNESS: Excuse me. Can we be  
20 excused from this hearing now?

21 MR. SCHRIMPF: It's up to the chairman.

22 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: You're free - -  
23 You're free to leave.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you so much.

25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yes, sir. Your

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1 name and address for the record.

2 THE WITNESS: My name is Dan Ziebell,  
3 Z-I-E-B-E-L-L. And my address is 8821 West  
4 Petersik Street.

5 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: What is that?

6 THE WITNESS: 8821 West Petersik  
7 Street.

8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And how close is  
9 that to the establishment?

10 THE WITNESS: About a mile away.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. And your  
12 testimony?

13 THE WITNESS: My testimony is I was - -  
14 I'll testify as the most recent incident. I was  
15 there myself.

16 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: What day - - What  
17 day would that be?

18 THE WITNESS: That would be the 24th of  
19 June.

20 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay.

21 THE WITNESS: I would like to clear a  
22 lot of things up. This police report isn't very  
23 specific. The shooter did not go outside and get  
24 - - produce a handgun. He left, went home, you  
25 know. This is a while later, you know, 20

00051

1 minutes later, 25 minutes later. And I - - I  
2 feel like Mr. Strege has done everything he can.  
3 He has brought in extra security. He has brought  
4 in armed security. He has closed off his parking  
5 lot. The last gentleman just testified, said  
6 they pulled in the parking lot. That's not  
7 possible. It's chained off and blocked off. The  
8 - - The parking lot's regulated. The bar was  
9 regulated. I don't see why he has to regulate  
10 the entire neighborhood.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Was this - - So  
12 you - - you're - - you are referring to the night  
13 of June 24th?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Do you know, was  
16 that - - The gunshots, were they related in any  
17 way, shape or form to the - - the tavern?

18 THE WITNESS: It - - There was a small  
19 fight inside, and the two groups were taken  
20 outside. They went their separate ways. And for  
21 whatever reason, one of the groups went home,  
22 decided to grab a firearm, and he was just drunk  
23 and stupid. And unfortunately, John has to pay  
24 the price for that. And he did everything he  
25 could in his power that night, put all the people

00052

1 in the right place to protect everybody in that  
2 bar, in the parking lot. And as far as I'm  
3 concerned, the only person that got hurt in that  
4 incident was the criminal, the one that probably  
5 deserved it.

6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chair.

7 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

8 ALDERMAN PUENTE: So you were there  
9 that night.

10 THE WITNESS: Yes.

11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And you saw the two  
12 groups get into a fight, get separated and taken  
13 out. Is that correct?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 ALDERMAN PUENTE: You witnessed that.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes.

17 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Then you testified  
18 that one of them went home and got a gun.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 ALDERMAN PUENTE: And you witnessed  
21 that.

22 THE WITNESS: I witnessed them leave.

23 And witnessed - -

24 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Well, no, you  
25 testified that they went home and got a gun.

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1                   THE WITNESS: Obviously I did not go  
2 home with them, so I - -  
3                   ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. So - -  
4                   THE WITNESS: I don't know, but they  
5 did leave the premises.  
6                   ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. So you saw  
7 them leave.  
8                   THE WITNESS: Yes.  
9                   ALDERMAN PUENTE: That's it. Did you  
10 see the shooting?  
11                   THE WITNESS: No, I did not.  
12                   ALDERMAN PUENTE: So how do you know  
13 the same people who left the tavern, went home  
14 and got a gun, came back and did the shooting?  
15                   THE WITNESS: Because I have discussed  
16 it with security, about who was it.  
17                   ALDERMAN PUENTE: What did - - Okay.  
18 Go ahead. I'm sorry. Go ahead.  
19                   THE WITNESS: I asked who it was  
20 outside, and who was the one that came back.  
21 Because obviously, like I said, it was 20 minutes  
22 after the fight had occurred. 20 minutes after  
23 they were put outside. They told me it was the  
24 same people that were involved in the fight that  
25 came back.

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1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: But you did not  
2 witness that.  
3 THE WITNESS: No, I did not.  
4 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.  
5 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chair.  
6 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman - -  
7 ALDERMAN BOHL: I will ask that a  
8 portion of his - - of his testimony be stricken  
9 as hearsay.  
10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: The portion that -  
11 - The portion that he did not - - The portion  
12 that he did not personally witness cannot be  
13 accepted as evidence, because it is, in fact,  
14 hearsay.  
15 MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman, I have a  
16 question - - or some questions.  
17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Go ahead.  
18 MR. SCHRIMPF: Thank you.  
19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Mr. Schrimpf.  
20 MR. SCHRIMPF: What was your name  
21 again, sir?  
22 THE WITNESS: Dan Ziebell.  
23 MR. SCHRIMPF: Dan Ziebell. Were you a  
24 customer in the place that night on the 24th?  
25 THE WITNESS: Yes, I was.

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1 MR. SCHRIMPF: You - - You didn't have  
2 any official role there. You were just off the  
3 street.  
4 THE WITNESS: Right. Correct.  
5 MR. SCHRIMPF: And how often do you go  
6 to this bar?  
7 THE WITNESS: A handful of times per  
8 week. I shoot pool for them in a couple of  
9 leagues.  
10 MR. SCHRIMPF: So for you it's a source  
11 of entertainment.  
12 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
13 MR. SCHRIMPF: Obviously you don't feel  
14 any danger when you are there.  
15 THE WITNESS: No, I do not.  
16 MR. SCHRIMPF: That's all I have.  
17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Dan, just one  
18 other thing.  
19 THE WITNESS: Sure.  
20 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: What street is  
21 that you live on?  
22 THE WITNESS: It's Petersik.  
23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Peter?  
24 THE WITNESS: Petersik. PETER, S-I-K.  
25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. P-E-T-E-R-

00056

1 S-I-K.  
2 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Is that just south of  
4 Good Hope?  
5 THE WITNESS: Yes, just south of Good  
6 Hope.  
7 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Do you live at home?  
8 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I think I know your  
10 dad.  
11 THE WITNESS: Probably.  
12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: That may be good  
13 or bad. Thank you for your testimony.  
14 THE WITNESS: Thank you.  
15 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Next person to  
16 testify, please.  
17 THE WITNESS: Hi. My name is Robert  
18 Mitchell. I stay on 5134 North 58th Street. I'm  
19 the manager/security bouncer, head of all  
20 security.  
21 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And your  
22 testimony, sir?  
23 THE WITNESS: All right. My testimony  
24 is this. I knew actually what happened that day.  
25 Nobody can't say nothing different. I'm the one



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1 that went through it all.

2 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Did you witness it  
3 personally?

4 THE WITNESS: I witnessed it  
5 personally. I was there.

6 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Tell us  
7 what you saw.

8 THE WITNESS: What happened was is - -

9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Identify which day,  
10 because we got three dates here.

11 THE WITNESS: 24th. It was - - What  
12 happened was - -

13 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: 24th of June. Go  
14 ahead.

15 THE WITNESS: What happened was this  
16 right here. A guy got into it with his baby  
17 mother. The other guy was trying to talk to  
18 them. He said I'm going to let that go, because  
19 I see you're having problems. When the guy  
20 walked away, the guy, out of no reason, tried to  
21 swing on him. Me and the other guard escorted  
22 him out the door, said you all had to leave. The  
23 guy that was - - that we had grabbed, as we  
24 grabbed - - We grab like this, and told him it's  
25 time for you all to leave. No forcing, nothing

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1       like that, or putting him up on the - - It's time  
2       for you all to leave. You're going to have to  
3       leave the premises. When they left, the guy that  
4       got shot by the armed guard, jumped in his car,  
5       tried to hit me and the other armed guard while  
6       he was leaving.

7               CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: With his car?

8               THE WITNESS: With his car. Which  
9       should be in the police report. When that  
10      happened, when the police asked us all this, and  
11      we told him, the guy came back. The two guys  
12      that was with him, his buddy, was like why did -  
13      - And I'm standing there with the bartender on  
14      the other side. "Why did you go home and get a  
15      gun? Why you just didn't leave it as it is?"  
16      That's what he said. And the police testified  
17      with the girl that the guy got shot with, if you  
18      find that in your report, that she said he came  
19      home, got the gun, and left and came back.  
20      Everything by that time was cleared out.  
21      Everybody went back to having fun. We done what  
22      we supposed to do.

23              But, hey, look, we don't have that  
24      here. The drug incident or high risk, they  
25      trying to do, our parking lot is always blocked

00059

1 off. We only let certain people in our parking  
2 lot. And then our parking lot is VIPs like Dan,  
3 or the bartenders, or people we know that come  
4 there, shoot pool or any other thing. We try our  
5 best to make sure everything run as good as  
6 possible as we can. And for a fact, this young  
7 man right here that I'm standing in front of came  
8 in there and told me, "You're doing a pretty good  
9 job." He said, "Just watch your capacity", that  
10 one time. That's it. Besides that, I try to run  
11 the best I can. I try to make sure no fights, no  
12 - - nothing going on. And he will tell you, he  
13 just said, "Just watch your capacity. You're  
14 doing a good job."

15 And that's what we do. We try to do  
16 the best job we can. And we do a good job.  
17 Eventually a guy went home and done something  
18 stupid. Okay. We sorry about that. But some of  
19 the stuff they saying is - - it can't be true all  
20 the time. I mean, you can ride down - - Like he  
21 said, his place, Alderman - - All Star, they had  
22 things - - But you can hear a gunshot - -

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: We're getting off  
24 the track here.

25 THE WITNESS: Okay. What I'm saying is

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1 this right here. You can hear a gunshot from  
2 anywhere in that area, from apartment buildings,  
3 from - - it's plenty of apartment buildings that  
4 have calls that you can look in police reports  
5 saying it's been shootings.  
6 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay.  
7 THE WITNESS: Okay. You just can't  
8 blame it on Side Pockets. Thank you.  
9 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.  
10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you, Robert.  
11 THE WITNESS: Any questions?  
12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.  
13 ALDERMAN BOHL: On the incident on - -  
14 on June 24th, was it - - was it you that - - that  
15 returned fire?  
16 THE WITNESS: No.  
17 ALDERMAN BOHL: Is it - - It was a - -  
18 THE WITNESS: His name is Herbert.  
19 ALDERMAN BOHL: Herbert Raasch?  
20 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
21 ALDERMAN BOHL: Is he a fellow security  
22 guard?  
23 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
24 ALDERMAN BOHL: Are - - Are you legally  
25 armed? Do you carry a legal arm?

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1 THE WITNESS: No, I don't carry  
2 nothing.  
3 ALDERMAN BOHL: The - - Did this - -  
4 Are there other security guards that work for - -  
5 THE WITNESS: No, we have two armed  
6 guards. The rest of us are regular guards.  
7 ALDERMAN BOHL: But you do have two  
8 armed guards.  
9 THE WITNESS: Two armed guards, yes,  
10 sir.  
11 MR. GANZER: Just to clarify. Are they  
12 police officers?  
13 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman, I - -  
14 Whose got the floor here? Me or the attorney  
15 here.  
16 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Go ahead.  
17 Alderman - - Let Alderman Bohl finish first.  
18 ALDERMAN BOHL: You need - - You need  
19 to ask recognition of the Chair. I don't know if  
20 you - -  
21 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Let Alderman Bohl  
22 finish first.  
23 ALDERMAN BOHL: The - - So you have two  
24 security guards that - - that carry legal arms.  
25 THE WITNESS: We have two, I can say,

00062

1 yes, police guards, yes. Yes, we do.

2 ALDERMAN BOHL: Why is there a deemed  
3 need to have security with armed - - that are  
4 armed? Do you know?

5 THE WITNESS: That's for - - for to  
6 have protection to let them know we serious about  
7 what we doing. That's even with handcuff. To  
8 handcuff a person and take down if they done  
9 something wrong, just like we take pictures of  
10 IDs, just in case they done something wrong, we  
11 can fax it to District 4, or our district to let  
12 them know this is, you know, the person that  
13 affected - -

14 ALDERMAN BOHL: How long - - I'm sorry.

15 THE WITNESS: Go ahead. No. Go ahead.

16 ALDERMAN BOHL: How long have you been  
17 working for this establishment?

18 THE WITNESS: I've been working there,  
19 I think four - - about four or five years.

20 ALDERMAN BOHL: Four or five years.

21 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

22 ALDERMAN BOHL: So were - - were you by  
23 chance - - Were you by chance working for this  
24 establishment in January where there was a woman  
25 that was shot in the - - in the butt?

00063

1 MR. GANZER: I'm just going to object.  
2 This date, I think, is beyond what's referenced  
3 in the letter.  
4 MR. SCHRIMPF: Ah-ah.  
5 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yeah, that's - -  
6 Mr. Schrimpf?  
7 MR. SCHRIMPF: Is it beyond what - - I  
8 - - I didn't catch.  
9 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: You asked  
10 something about January?  
11 MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay. No. No, you  
12 can't do that.  
13 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yeah, we can't do  
14 that.  
15 ALDERMAN BOHL: Okay. Were - - Were  
16 you working the evening of - - of April 18th of  
17 this year?  
18 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
19 ALDERMAN BOHL: And how many - - How  
20 many individuals over capacity was the bar cited  
21 for?  
22 THE WITNESS: I'm not - - I'm not for  
23 sure.  
24 ALDERMAN BOHL: But it was - - It was  
25 cited for over capacity.

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1 THE WITNESS: Yes, it was.

2 ALDERMAN BOHL: Do you know by any  
3 chance what night of the week that was? Usually  
4 - - Are your busy nights weekend nights?

5 THE WITNESS: Yes. Friday - - I'm  
6 there seven - - six days a week. From Monday  
7 through Saturday.

8 ALDERMAN BOHL: And you tell me what -  
9 - what type of format of - - of music gets played  
10 at the establishment?

11 THE WITNESS: All kind.

12 ALDERMAN BOHL: All kinds?

13 THE WITNESS: Yes. You get a little  
14 Rock & Roll, you get a little Country, you get  
15 - - You can get R&B. You get a little old  
16 school. You get all kinds.

17 ALDERMAN BOHL: So you do get hip-hop.  
18 You do get rap here.

19 THE WITNESS: What's hip-hop? R&B? If  
20 that's what you're referring, yes. R&B, sure.

21 ALDERMAN BOHL: Okay. Have you ever -  
22 - Have you ever noticed - - Have you ever had any  
23 music radio stations advertising outside the  
24 location?

25 MR. GANZER: Object.



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1                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Yeah, I don't  
2 think that's - - I don't think we can do - -  
3                   ALDERMAN BOHL: I'm finished. Thank  
4 you.  
5                   MR. SCHRIMPF: Mr. Chairman.  
6                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Mr. Schrimpf.  
7                   MR. SCHRIMPF: If Alderman Bohl didn't  
8 cover it, do you know what the music genre was  
9 the night of the 24th?  
10                  THE WITNESS: Was what?  
11                  MR. SCHRIMPF: The night of June 24th,  
12 what the music was?  
13                  THE WITNESS: R&B.  
14                  MR. SCHRIMPF: That's all I have.  
15                  ALDERMAN PUENTE: Mr. Chairman.  
16                  CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Counselor, do you  
17 have any - - Alderman Puente.  
18                  ALDERMAN BOHL: One - -  
19                  CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Hold on. Okay.  
20 Alderman Bohl, followed by Alderman Puente.  
21                  ALDERMAN BOHL: I'll - - I'll  
22 relinquish to Alderman Puente.  
23                  CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.  
24                  ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. What is  
25 your capacity there as a security guard? What do

00066

1           you do?

2                   THE WITNESS:  What I do as a security  
3           guard?

4                   ALDERMAN PUENTE:  Yeah.

5                   THE WITNESS:  What I do is I'm the one  
6           that - - I'm called a floater.  I float around,  
7           make sure everything going.  I got two, a guy and  
8           a girl at the door.  One, she do the counter, the  
9           other one watch the IDs, and we got a guy that  
10          take a picture of all IDs.

11                  ALDERMAN PUENTE:  Okay.  Do you oversee  
12          them?

13                  THE WITNESS:  And when - - Huh?

14                  ALDERMAN PUENTE:  Do you oversee them?

15                  THE WITNESS:  I oversee everybody.  So  
16          while I'm floating around, I come check, is  
17          everything okay, this and that.  I'll check with  
18          the bartenders, everything okay.  Their problems.  
19          Even if it seems like it's going to be a problem,  
20          I catch it, or I try to catch it as best that I  
21          can.

22                  ALDERMAN PUENTE:  So - - So April 18th,  
23          '07, you were working?  And so when there was  
24          overcapacity and you oversaw the person who was  
25          doing the counter and doing the IDs and

00067

1 everything, that was your responsibility?  
2 THE WITNESS: Yeah, we got rid of that  
3 person.  
4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you. Well, no.  
5 THE WITNESS: Oh, yeah. Well, yes.  
6 ALDERMAN PUENTE: But they didn't get  
7 rid of you, did they?  
8 THE WITNESS: No.  
9 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Okay. Thank you.  
10 ALDERMAN WADE: Mr. Chair.  
11 ALDERMAN PUENTE: That's all I have,  
12 Mr. Chair.  
13 ALDERMAN WADE: I think Alderman Bohl  
14 was - - Did you go?  
15 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl?  
16 ALDERMAN BOHL: I just had one - - one  
17 additional follow-up question. And that was, do  
18 you know if you were working October 21st of  
19 2006?  
20 THE WITNESS: Probably so, yes. What  
21 day? If it's a weekend, yes. Monday through  
22 Saturday, I'm there.  
23 ALDERMAN BOHL: That was a - - a date  
24 in which investigation from the police department  
25 at the scene revealed that a - - a black male

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1 named Ronnie Rutledge had been jumped and  
2 sustained a laceration above the eye and was  
3 bleeding from the ear.  
4 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
5 ALDERMAN BOHL: And he required ten  
6 stitches. Did you hear any shooting that  
7 evening?  
8 THE WITNESS: I didn't hear no  
9 shooting.  
10 ALDERMAN BOHL: At about 1:30 a.m.  
11 Mitchell observed a group of unknown black males  
12 jumping on one male. Mitchell also - - also  
13 stated that he heard - - that he did not hear any  
14 shots being fired.  
15 THE WITNESS: I didn't hear no  
16 shooting.  
17 ALDERMAN BOHL: Is that you who was - -  
18 THE WITNESS: That's me. I'm Robert.  
19 ALDERMAN BOHL: Robert Mitchell?  
20 THE WITNESS: Yes. I didn't hear no  
21 shooting.  
22 ALDERMAN BOHL: What happened that  
23 evening?  
24 THE WITNESS: A young man tried to  
25 snatch a young man's change-off. He tried to run

00069

1 out the door. One of his guys tripped him. I  
2 brought - - They was trying to jump him. I  
3 pulled all them guys off of him and brought him  
4 back into the bar. Got a wet towel for him and  
5 told him to call the police. And that's what  
6 happened.  
7 ALDERMAN BOHL: Okay. Thank you.  
8 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Counselor, any  
9 questions of this witness?  
10 MR. GANZER: No more questions.  
11 ALDERMAN WADE: Mr. Chair.  
12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Wade.  
13 ALDERMAN WADE: Yeah, I just wanted to  
14 make sure that I go on record as saying that  
15 sometimes when we have different establishments  
16 and - - and different people, be it citizens, or  
17 bar owners, or sometimes police officers, they  
18 call me or they let me know that when we have  
19 establishments that are frequent - - frequented  
20 by African Americans, that I go in and look at  
21 the establishment and see what they're doing, see  
22 what - - how they're managed, and so on and so  
23 forth. That day I went to All Stars and to your  
24 establishment, spoke with both of the bar owners,  
25 and then I think I may have talked to you about

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1 having your - - your capacity posted.

2 THE WITNESS: Right.

3 ALDERMAN WADE: Some of the other  
4 things that you should be doing.

5 THE WITNESS: Right.

6 ALDERMAN WADE: But what I observed on  
7 that night it seemed to be pretty safe. And  
8 actually it was a fair amount of police officers  
9 inside your establishment on that night.

10 THE WITNESS: Right.

11 ALDERMAN WADE: That I noticed.

12 THE WITNESS: Correct.

13 ALDERMAN WADE: And then went down to  
14 the All Star lounge and did the same thing. And  
15 one of the reasons why I do that is because we  
16 don't have a lot of establishments. So I want  
17 them to get off to a good start and know some  
18 baseline stuff that keep them from coming in  
19 front of us. So that was the encounter that he  
20 and I had at his establishment just for the  
21 record.

22 THE WITNESS: And just for the - - When  
23 he said that, that's when we started tightening  
24 up on a lot of guards. He's just like just keep  
25 doing, get things, and that's what we started

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1 doing. We tried to make our cameras more seeable  
2 for outside, you know, just to keep our - - If  
3 you come in there, you see the TV with the  
4 cameras, everything, just to be safe for  
5 everybody.

6 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Well, on - - on -  
7 - I'll say, on any given night anyplace could be  
8 safe or could be a bad place to be, on any given  
9 night. So just the fact that - - We appreciate  
10 that, the Alderman's vigilance.

11 THE WITNESS: Right.

12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: But, you know, I  
13 mean, I've - - I've had those same experiences,  
14 too, where you've gone into a place that you  
15 heard might be trouble or whatever, and on that  
16 given night you went in there and it was like  
17 church, where everything's fine here, and then  
18 the next weekend something goes wrong, so. Okay.

19 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you for your  
21 testimony. Is there anyone else to testify?

22 MR. GANZER: No other testimony.

23 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Would you like to  
24 give us your closing statements, please?

25 MR. GANZER: I would. What about to

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1 Alderman Davis' representative?

2 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Did you want to?

3 MR. MORGAN: I'll wait until the end.

4 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: You'll defer?

5 Okay.

6 MR. GANZER: Okay. And just - - And  
7 when you said, "testimony," I assumed you meant  
8 witnesses. I didn't know if my client's  
9 statement constitutes testimony or in closing,  
10 any comments.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: No, he may.

12 MR. GANZER: I guess I - - I would just  
13 - - I guess I'll keep this brief. We're quite  
14 late here. But there's a lot of talk about this  
15 June 24th incident. You heard a great deal of  
16 testimony, folks from Teen Challenge obviously  
17 quite upset about this. But as I think the other  
18 testimony indicated, there was a scuffle at the  
19 tavern, gentlemen were escorted out, about, I  
20 think the testimony was, 20 minutes later,  
21 somebody returned with a firearm. I think it's  
22 important to note, and it does, I believe, the -  
23 - in the documents here that Side Pockets was not  
24 cited for this October incident, and they were  
25 not cited apparently for the June incident. And



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1 I think that as you read both, it sounds like  
2 Side Pocket - - Side Pockets is doing a good job  
3 at its perimeter of keeping unarmed people  
4 inside, and any troublemakers escorted outside.  
5 I think these problems seem to stem from people  
6 who leave the premises and leave my client's  
7 control, and that's where we - - we get into  
8 these problems.

9 As Mr. Mitchell testified, they have  
10 extensive security personnel. He mentioned  
11 police officers, off duty. He mentioned the  
12 camera that takes pictures of the ID. Sections  
13 of the parking lot - - parking lot that are  
14 reserved. I think last time we were here in  
15 December, there was a ten day suspension of my  
16 client's liquor license. And my client may add a  
17 few comments to this, but we're aggressively  
18 marketing this property. We have an interested  
19 buyer. Ideally, this will be sold and no longer  
20 my client's concern. Ideally, in the matter of  
21 weeks or 60 days, hopefully, if we can - - if we  
22 can put this together.

23 Obviously, and our main concern is just  
24 to keep this operation, keep his business up and  
25 running and the employee who testified,

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1 obviously, there's a number of employees here  
2 whose livelihoods depend on this business. So I  
3 think we're - - And then, obviously, my client's.  
4 So that's, I think where we're coming from, is my  
5 client is actively trying to find a buyer for  
6 this location, take it out of everybody's hair,  
7 and while at the same time be able to make sure  
8 his employees take home a paycheck.

9 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Did you wish to  
10 say anything to the committee?

11 THE APPLICANT: Well, the only thing I  
12 really got to say here is, you know, what  
13 happened on - - on that 24th. That was - - That  
14 was a freak thing. And the reason I have the  
15 armed guards in the parking lot is so that no one  
16 can do this kind of stuff. So I hired them. And  
17 it cost me an extra 400 dollars on the weekend  
18 just to make them stand out in that parking lot.  
19 And one happened to be an off duty officer. And  
20 the reason I put him out there is for the safety  
21 of the people, and plus five guards inside, and  
22 it's not the music. It is R&B. But I'll tell  
23 you what. I've got Teen Challenge's parking lot  
24 roped off. I have my area roped off, and I have  
25 the church roped off. Do you know what it cost

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1 me to put them poles and chains in? Nobody paid  
2 me back. I put them in on my own. Okay.  
3 And I do care about what happens to  
4 people in my tavern. That's one of the reasons  
5 I'm thinking about selling, because I'm tired of  
6 coming back here for people who decide that they  
7 can do whatever they want. They can take out  
8 their gun whenever they feel like it. Shoot it  
9 in the air. And they think it's a big joke. And  
10 then we're the guys, the owners, that got to  
11 suffer and we got occurrences on us. What - -  
12 You know, my son's 12 years old. You know that?  
13 He's an A student in school and he looks at me  
14 and says, "Dad, why is it always that - - You  
15 know, I know you own it. Why does - - does the  
16 shooter get caught?" I go, "No, most of the  
17 time, son, he gets away." And that's the way  
18 society is.  
19 I - - I try to keep mine tight. And  
20 you can come in my bar any time you want. He's  
21 there every night of the week, whether I'm there  
22 or not. I always have a security guy on. And  
23 they do have their security shirts on, every  
24 Friday, every day of the week, you come in there,  
25 you know who he is. And on Saturday, Sunday, you

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1 can come in my bar anytime you want, and you can  
2 see what I do. I got - - He's not lying. I got  
3 one girl that checks every ID for the girls, and  
4 the guy for the guys. They're all patted down.  
5 There's a door right there. Every picture is  
6 taken with a camera. Time, everything else. It  
7 tells how many people are there. You go, I got  
8 another guard over by the pool tables. I got  
9 another guard up on the dance floor. And I got  
10 him floating. Plus two guards outside. Do you  
11 know what I pay? But I pay for the security of  
12 the people. You think I like to see that stuff?  
13 It's more than just you guys. I got feelings,  
14 too. And I also have a life to live. This is my  
15 livelihood. I take pride in what I do. I don't  
16 care what you say.

17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Sherman, any  
18 closing statements?

19 MR. MORGAN: Yes, sir. Alderman Davis,  
20 when he decided to do this revocation, of course,  
21 revocations aren't taken lightly. I mean, nobody  
22 wants to shut anybody down. That's not, you now,  
23 what one wants to do. But just to give a little  
24 history. Alderman Davis has - - Even though I've  
25 talked to John many times, Alderman Davis has - -

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1 We've worked with him many times over the year  
2 with Teen Challenge and trying to get some  
3 cohesiveness in the area. But ultimately,  
4 Alderman Davis, you know, he had - - he had to  
5 make a decision. Even though most of this has  
6 been geared towards the June 24th incident, there  
7 has been incident, after incident, after  
8 incident, after incident. And granted, it's not  
9 that we think Mr. Strege is doing this on  
10 purpose. He's not purposely inviting people over  
11 to do shootings in his - - in his parking lot.  
12 He's not purposely telling people to come on in,  
13 let's have a fight in my bar. He's not doing  
14 that. But the point is, it's happening. Nobody  
15 here has denied or testified that these shooting  
16 incidents are not happening. They have happened.  
17 And they happen time and time and time again.  
18 Alderman Davis' words were he was disappointed.  
19 Because we've tried to work with Mr. Strege when  
20 he was with The Rock, before he changed to the  
21 Side Pocket. But the point is we have to all  
22 consider, it happens time and time and time  
23 again. It has - - to the point we take a stand  
24 and say, you know, listen, enough is enough. We  
25 just have to. And again, no one wants to shut

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1 anybody down. It's - - But when you have people  
2 testify that there's shootings happening in the  
3 parking lot, whether he - - Mr. Strege's not  
4 inviting this to happen. But, yet, we have  
5 people who live in the area who are afraid for  
6 their safety. Who are afraid that a bullet is  
7 going to come through their window. And we have  
8 to take that into consideration. And, again,  
9 it's nothing personal against Mr. Strege. We've  
10 worked with him over the years. I've talked with  
11 him many times. Alderman Davis has. He's worked  
12 with Teen Challenge on occasions to do things  
13 together. But the bottom line is we just have to  
14 make a stand. Enough is enough. That's why  
15 Alderman Davis made the decision to do the  
16 revocation hearing. And - - And we put it in the  
17 committee's hands, but that's where we stand, and  
18 as - - as the office stands.

19 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: This matter is in  
20 committee.

21 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.

22 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.

23 ALDERMAN BOHL: Based on police reports  
24 and evidence that's testified to by neighbors, I  
25 would move to revoke the license.

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1                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Motion by Alderman  
2 Bohl is to move for revocation of the license,  
3 based on items contained in the complaint and  
4 testimony given here today by neighbors. Is  
5 there discussion on the motion?

6                   ALDERMAN WADE: Mr. Chair.

7                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Wade.

8                   ALDERMAN WADE: I do have to comment on  
9 the motion. The testimony was - - was pretty  
10 crystal clear. He has had incidents at this  
11 place. I personally don't think it rises to the  
12 level of revocation. But I can understand the  
13 people that do. Just based on the consistency of  
14 this committee and what we have done, and what  
15 we've done in situations similar to this, I think  
16 a substantial suspension would be warranted. I  
17 just don't think that this rises to the level of  
18 - - of a revocation. And so, because of that,  
19 because of the consistency, because of the  
20 precedent set by this committee, I won't be  
21 supporting that - - that motion.

22                   CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Thank you. Is  
23 there any other discussion on the motion? We'll  
24 take a roll call on the motion.

25                   CLERK ELMER: Alderman Bohl?

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1 ALDERMAN BOHL: Aye.  
2 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Puente?  
3 ALDERMAN PUENTE: No.  
4 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Wade?  
5 ALDERMAN WADE: No.  
6 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Witkowski?  
7 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: No.  
8 CLERK ELMER: Mr. Chair.  
9 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Aye.  
10 CLERK ELMER: Failed. Two to three.  
11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Motion fails. Two  
12 to three. This matter is still in committee.  
13 ALDERMAN BOHL: Mr. Chairman.  
14 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Bohl.  
15 ALDERMAN BOHL: Based on police report,  
16 as well as neighborhood objections as testified  
17 to on the report, I would move for renewal of the  
18 license with a 90 suspension. I would - - I  
19 would move for a - - I'm sorry. I would move for  
20 a 90 day suspension of the Class B tavern  
21 license. I would move for nonrenewal of the  
22 tavern dance license.  
23 MR. SCHRIMPF: I think that would be  
24 revoke the tavern dance.  
25 ALDERMAN BOHL: I'm sorry. I - - Let



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1 me - - Let me restate the motion. I would, based  
2 on neighborhood objections and police report, I  
3 would move for a 90 day suspension of the - - of  
4 the Class "B" tavern license. I would move to  
5 revoke the tavern/dance license.

6 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Restating Alderman  
7 Bohl's motion. He - - He would move for a 90 day  
8 - - Based on police report and neighborhood  
9 testimony he moves for a 90 day suspension of the  
10 Class "B" tavern license, and revocation of the  
11 tavern/dance license. Is there any - -

12 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman  
14 Witkowski.

15 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: Just - - Just for  
16 clarification. I - - This is probably the first  
17 revocation hearing that I'm sitting through. I  
18 really didn't realize we had other options at  
19 this point in time. And I guess I would ask the  
20 Assistant City Attorney as - - as to what our  
21 options sit at for this type of procedure.

22 MR. SCHRIMPF: A, you can, first of  
23 all, it operates under a couple of different  
24 licenses. One is the Class "B" tavern license.  
25 And under State law that can be revoked for

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1 anywhere from a minimum of ten day - - It can be  
2 suspended, pardon me. It can be revoked, or  
3 suspended for a minimum, not less than a minimum  
4 of ten days nor more than a maximum of 90 days.  
5 Under other portions of our ordinances, the  
6 tavern entertainment license can be dealt with  
7 entirely separately. The notice covers both,  
8 right? Covers, yeah. And that could be revoked  
9 or it can be suspended for not less than ten days  
10 nor more than 90 days made parallel with the  
11 State Statute on the Class - - on the Class "B"  
12 tavern license. And, yes, you can deal with the  
13 two separately.

14 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: All right. I  
15 guess I just didn't see anything in the letter  
16 here addressing either of the licenses, that's  
17 all.

18 MR. SCHRIMPF: Well - -

19 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: Or do you just  
20 assume that he holds those licenses.

21 CLERK ELMER: The letter by Alderman  
22 Witkowiak addresses what he has. Class "B"  
23 tavern and tavern dance.

24 MR. SCHRIMPF: Right. And so does the  
25 summons.

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1 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: The - - And it's

3 actually listed on the agenda with the file

4 number. It says, "Revocation of a Class "B"

5 tavern and tavern dance licenses. So the motion,

6 90 day suspension of the Class "B" tavern license

7 and revocation of the tavern/dance license, based

8 on the police report and neighborhood objections

9 and - -

10 MR. SCHRIMPF: Well, and it would be

11 the complaint of Alderman Davis.

12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And - - And based

13 on the complaint of Alderman Joe Davis. Is there

14 any discussion on that motion? Let's take a roll

15 call on that motion.

16 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Bohl?

17 ALDERMAN BOHL: Aye.

18 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Puente?

19 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Aye.

20 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Wade?

21 ALDERMAN WADE: No.

22 CLERK ELMER: Alderman Witkowski?

23 ALDERMAN WITKOWSKI: No.

24 CLERK ELMER: Mr. Chair.

25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Aye.

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1 CLERK ELMER: Motion is approved.  
2 Three to two.

3 MR. SCHRIMPF: Okay. Mr. Ganzer, the  
4 committee is going to be doing findings of fact  
5 and conclusions of law, recommending revocation  
6 of the tavern dance license and a 90 day  
7 suspension of the Class "B" tavern license. You  
8 will receive a copy of that recommendation. You  
9 will have an opportunity to submit written  
10 objections to that recommendation. If you do so,  
11 they must be received by the close of business,  
12 July 26, 2007, which is 4:45 p.m. in the City  
13 Clerk's office of this building on the 2nd floor.  
14 If you then file written objections to that  
15 recommendation, then you will also have an  
16 opportunity to appear before the Common Council  
17 and argue the matter on July 31st, 2007 at  
18 approximately nine a.m. in the Common Council  
19 Chambers of this building, same floor, but the  
20 opposite end. Okay?

21 MR. GANZER: Understood.  
22 \* \* \* \* \*

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3 STATE OF WISCONSIN )

4 )

5 MILWAUKEE COUNTY )

6

7 I, JEAN M. BARINA, of Milwaukee Reporters  
8 Associated, Inc., 5124 West Blue Mound Road,  
9 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208, certify that the foregoing  
10 proceedings is a full and complete transcript of the  
11 Licenses Hearing for Side Pockets Sports Bar in the  
12 foregoing proceedings.

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JEAN M. BARINA

19

Court Reporter

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21

22 Dated this            day of            , 2007.

23

