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## Bar owner gives up license after fatal downtown shooting

### Two people killed outside Visions bar; third man hospitalized

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A downtown bar near where three people were shot - two fatally - early Sunday will not re-open after the owner voluntarily surrendered his license on Monday, city officials said.

*Advertisement* Gary Cash, a first-time club owner who opened Visions at 1013 N. Old World 3rd St. in March, met with police for the first time since the shootings at 8 a.m. Monday. Later on Monday, Cash turned over his tavern license to the city's License Division.

City leaders had earlier said they planned to pursue revoking the license of the club, which had been cited by police for operating over capacity and running a dance club without a proper license, among other offenses.

Police identified the victims of the shooting as Tobias J. Terrell, 29, and Rion A. Johnson, 22. A third man, also 22 and whose name was not released, remained in critical condition at Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital on Monday. Police are looking for two suspects.

Mayor Tom Barrett said bars where problems occur will be dealt with as harshly as possible under state law that governs cities' actions.

"We are not singling out any side of town; we are singling out establishments where there is a pattern of violence," he said.

City officials said it is difficult to revoke a tavern license, and Ald. Bob Bauman said he would seek a change in state law to make it easier.

But officials said gun violence downtown is rare.

"This is a large city, and you are going to have incidents like this on what I believe is an irregular basis," said Barrett, who was signing a measure to add 40 new officers, \$750,000 for overtime, retired officers to do background checks and a pilot program for unarmed officers to handle routine tasks in the

department.

A birthday party was being held late Saturday inside Visions when a fight broke out, said Anne E. Schwartz, a Police Department spokeswoman. The fight rolled into the street when gunfire erupted, she said. Schwartz said the staff at Visions locked up and left the bar when the shooting occurred.

Cash, who was at the club early Sunday, gave a different account. He said there was no party and no fight. The victims were at his bar, he said, but he wasn't sure whether the shooters had been inside. He said that the staff left because they close up early, by 2 a.m., and that they weren't trying to avoid helping police.

Cash said he spoke with police by telephone on Sunday and arranged to meet with a captain at 8 a.m. Monday. At that meeting, it was suggested that he relinquish his license, he said.

Cash said he couldn't continue operating, given the deaths and bad publicity.

Cash's bar and a bar to the south - the Old German Beer Hall, managed by Josh Neureuther - have sparred in recent months. Neureuther says Visions has been a nuisance, with its patrons parking illegally and fighting and urinating in the street.

Cash denied those allegations and said they were leveled because Cash is black and had black customers.

Cash said one police officer also was harassing him, sneaking into his bar around closing time to look for violations. He said that, for that reason, he barred admission to that officer when the officer came in June to check the bar's occupancy.

Cash called for a sergeant, who came in and cited the bar for being over capacity, operating illegally as a dance club and failing to keep a safe exit, according to municipal records. Cash has paid about \$11,000 on the fines and is set to appear in court next month.

Cash portrayed Sunday's shootings as an isolated incident that will re-enforce negative views that some have about black-owned bars.

To the shooters, he said, "You have highlighted that stereotype that has been put on us for years."

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