

## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

### CHAIR

- Licenses Committee

### VICE CHAIR

- Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development



### MEMBER

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Library Board
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board
- Special Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Wisconsin Center District Board

**MILELE A. COGGS**  
ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

November 12, 2021

To the Honorable, the Common Council

Honorable Members:

Common Council File Number 211096 contains the following recommendations:

Renewal with a ten (10) day suspension based on the police report and aldermanic and applicant testimony of the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises License Renewal Applications for Pickens, Patricia A for the premises located at 2878 N 20th St. ("Rose's Place") in the 15<sup>th</sup> aldermanic district.

Nonrenewal based on the police report, captain's testimony and aldermanic testimony of the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises License Renewal Applications for Cotton, Shanita M for the premises located at 2911 W North Av. ("T Jay's Lounge LLC") in the 15<sup>th</sup> aldermanic district.

Respectfully,

Milele Coggs, Chair  
Licenses Committee

cc: All Council Members  
File 211096



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**MILELE A. COGGS**  
ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

Date: November 12, 2021

To: All Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

From: Licenses Committee

Re: Report of the Renewal Application of the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Shanita M. Cotton, Agent for T Jay's Lounge LLC, for the premises located at 2911 West North Avenue in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("T Jay's Lounge").

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Shanita M. Cotton (hereinafter "the Licensee") is the holder of Class "B" Tavern and PEP Licenses for the premises located at 2911 West North Avenue in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("T Jay's Lounge"). Said licenses expire at midnight on December 4, 2021.
2. An application to renew said licenses was filed with the Office of the City Clerk on October 6, 2021.
3. Pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the matter was referred to the Milwaukee Police Department for investigation. On October 7, 2021, the Milwaukee Police Department responded with a report that could form the basis for nonrenewal of said licenses.
4. On October 26, 2021, the City Clerk's Office provided timely notice to the Licensee pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes of the police report. The matter was scheduled for a hearing on the police report on November 9, 2021, commencing at approximately 10:35 a.m. in Room 301-B of the third floor of City Hall. At said date, time and place, the Licensee appeared and admitted receipt of the notice of hearing, together with a copy of the Milwaukee Police report.
5. Based upon the sworn testimony heard and the evidence received at the hearing, the Committee finds the following:



A. On January 3, 2021 at 1:53 p.m., Milwaukee Police were dispatched to 5000 West Chambers for a sexual assault complaint. Investigation revealed that the victim was at 2911 West North Avenue drinking and does not remember what happened during the night. The victim woke up the next morning and had injuries from an unknown source, so she went to the hospital.

B. On February 12, 2021 at 1:35 a.m., Milwaukee Police were dispatched to 2911 West North Avenue for a subject with gun complaint. Investigation revealed that the caller was upset because he was denied entry into the club and security did not have a firearm with him during the encounter with police.

C. On March 7, 2021 at 12:47 a.m., Milwaukee Police, along with the city's health department, conducted a licensed premise check at 2911 West North Avenue. Officers observed patrons standing shoulder to shoulder, wall to wall, and dancing inside the tavern. Few patrons were wearing masks and the tavern was over capacity. The health inspectors spoke with the manager, who was cooperative, and told him they would be issuing four citations. No citations were found at the time of this report.

D. On March 19, 2021 at 12:16 a.m., Milwaukee Police were dispatched to 2911 West North Avenue for a tavern violation (underage presence). Officer arrived on scene, told the manager why they were there, and performed a walk-through of the establishment. Officers did not see any evidence of underage patrons and the manager said that he denied a group of females earlier in the evening which might have triggered the call for service.

E. On April 18, 2021 at 1:54 a.m., Milwaukee Police were flagged down for an entry to auto at 2911 West North Avenue. After taking the entry to auto report, it appeared to officers that the tavern was over capacity and there were vehicles leaving the area recklessly and at a high rate of speed. Additional police squads responded to the location to monitor the crowd and deter criminal behavior.

F. On May 13, 2021 at 5:05 p.m., Milwaukee Police, along with a Department of Revenue Agent, DNS Inspector, and an ADA, performed a license premise check at 2911 West North Avenue. The Agent confiscated 27 boxes of various liquor because the manager could not provide purchase orders or because the items were contaminated. One box of tobacco was also confiscated because the Licensee does not have a tobacco license. The manager admitted to buying liquor from a store other than a distributor. The Licensee was also issued a citation for building code violations.

Charge: Building Code Violations  
Finding: Court date on 02/10/22  
Sentence:  
Date:  
Case: 21044295



G. On May 14, 2021 at 12:56 a.m., Milwaukee Police were dispatched to 2911 West North Avenue for a shooting complaint. Investigation revealed that three people were shot inside the tavern and all were receiving treatment at local hospitals. Video surveillance showed the shooting occurred inside the establishment and shows the employees cleaning up and throwing away evidence before police arrival. The bar manager repeatedly lied to police about the incident and was subsequently arrested.

H. Shanita Cotton, the Licensee, stated that she was not there when the shooting incident on the police report happened but the manager called her saying that he did not know how the weapon got in because they searched everyone.

Individuals also present:

I. Captain Glidewell, commanding officer of District 3, said that there have been 40 shots fired incidents in the area since the beginning of this year and 36 of those were in the immediate area around this bar. He expressed that he is very concerned about this renewal.

J. Dameon Ellzey, on behalf of Alderman Stamper, said that this establishment has been a consistent issue since it opened and he is in agreement with the police department in support of non-renewal, particularly based upon cleaning up following a shooting incident. He added that the establishment had previously received a suspension.

K. Alderwoman Coggs asked if the manager still works there. The Licensee said "yes".

L. Alderman Perez moved non-renewal based on the police report, captain's testimony and aldermanic testimony. (Prevailed 5-0)

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Committee has jurisdiction to hold hearings and provide Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and a Recommendation to the full Common Council pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.

2. Based upon the above facts found, the Committee concludes that the Licensee, Shanita M. Cotton who holds Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for the premise located at 2911 West North Avenue in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("T Jay's Lounge") has not met the criteria of Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises. The Committee finds the police report and aldermanic objections as stated above to be true. The Committee based its recommendation on the police report, captain's testimony and aldermanic testimony.

3. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Milwaukee, it is the recommendation of the Licenses Committee that the full Common Council of the City of Milwaukee should exercise its judgment to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment

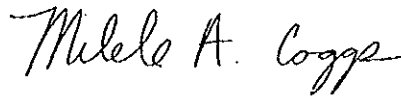
Premise (PEP) licenses for the premises located at 2911 West North Avenue in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("T Jay's Lounge"). The Committee based its recommendation on the police report, captain's testimony and aldermanic testimony.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated above, the Committee, by a vote of five (5) ayes and zero (0) noes, recommends that the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Shanita M. Cotton for the premises located at 2911 West North Avenue ("T Jay's Lounge") in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin not be renewed.

Said nonrenewal is effective December 4, 2021.

Dated and signed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 12 day of November, 2021.



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MILELE A. COGGS  
Chairman, Licenses Committee

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## COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

### **CHAIR**

- Licenses Committee

### **VICE CHAIR**

- Zoning, Neighborhoods and Development



**MILELE A. COGGS**  
ALDERWOMAN, 6TH DISTRICT

### **MEMBER**

- Finance and Personnel Committee
- Library Board
- Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation Board
- Special Joint Committee on the Redevelopment of Abandoned and Foreclosed Homes
- Steering and Rules Committee
- Wisconsin Center District Board

Date: November 12, 2021

To: All Members of the Milwaukee Common Council

From: Licenses Committee

Re: Report of the Renewal Application of the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Patricia A. Pickens, Agent for Rose's Place, for the premises located at 2878 North 20th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Rose's Place").

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Patricia A. Pickens (hereinafter "the Licensee") is the holder of Class "B" Tavern and PEP Licenses for the premises located at 2878 North 20th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Rose's Place"). Said licenses expires at midnight on December 3, 2021.
2. An application to renew said licenses was filed with the Office of the City Clerk on September 23, 2021.
3. Pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the matter was referred to the Milwaukee Police Department for investigation. On September 24, 2021, the Milwaukee Police Department responded with a report that could form the basis for nonrenewal of said licenses.
4. On October 26, 2021, the City Clerk's Office provided timely notice to the Licensee pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes of the neighborhood objections. The matter was scheduled for a hearing based on police the police report on November 9, 2021, commencing at approximately 10:15 a.m. in Room 301-B of the third floor of City Hall. At said date, time and place, the Licensee appeared and admitted receipt of the notice of hearing, together with a copy of the Milwaukee Police report.



5. Based upon the sworn testimony heard and the evidence received at the hearing, the Committee finds the following:
- A. On December 31, 2020 at 9:50 p.m., Milwaukee Police conducted a license premise check at 2878 North 20<sup>th</sup> Street. Officers found during the interaction that the establishment had been serving food without a food license. The bartender and Licensee (who was notified by telephone) were advised not to serve food without the proper license. The bartender said that he would comply.
  - B. On June 19, 2021, Milwaukee Police were dispatched to a shooting at 2878 North 20<sup>th</sup> Street. Investigation revealed that a large fight erupted outside, in front of the tavern. The operator of the establishment observed the fight and tried to break it up only to be shot by an unknown subject. The operator then received a ride to the hospital where it was found that another person was also shot during the incident. Officers observed that there are surveillance cameras outside the establishment that would have captured the incident but it was found that the system was unplugged and not working.
  - C. On June 27, 2021 at 9:35 p.m., Milwaukee Police conducted a license premise check at 2878 North 20<sup>th</sup> Street. Upon arrival, officers had to ring a doorbell to gain entrance into the tavern because the door was locked. The person in the tavern opened the door for officers and said the tavern was closed and that the bar manager would be in later to open the establishment. While talking to the employee, officers observed a case of 20 ml liquor bottles on the bar which showed it was purchased at a public liquor store. The employee was informed that all liquor had to be purchased from a distributor and he told officers that they get their liquor from Badger Distributing. When asked about the operator who was shot on June 19, 2021, the employee said that he was at home recovering and that the manager who was coming in tonight was covering for him. Officers observed that the surveillance system was operational but did not record. The officers informed the employee of the parking issues caused by the tavern and said that they would try to make it back to inform the new manager of their issues.
  - D. On July 10, 2021 at 10:17 p.m., Milwaukee Police observed the vehicle owned by the operator of the establishment at 4001 West North Avenue parked out front. Wanting to talk with the operator about the shooting on June 19, 2021, officers decided to enter the tavern. Officers found a single patron inside with a beer and the employee from item C who had a valid bartenders license.
  - E. Patricia Pickens, the Licensee, testified that she has hired a manager after almost 50 years who made changes and has brought more people into the business. She added that she did not know that she needed a food license regarding the item on the police report. She stated that she can be contacted at any time for any concerns and that she is still involved in the operations. Ms. Pickens said that she does not like what is happening outside her business; that it does not start in her business. She is trying to control her crowd, which has become younger.



*Individuals also present:*

- F. Dameon Ellzey testified on behalf of Alderman Stamper and said that in the past there had not been issues with the police, but in the past year there have been, even one person being shot. Ellzey added that he has seen the numbers of cars and patrons increasing and wants to make sure that there is plan for this change of operations. He noted that the Licensee has been in the business for almost 50 years and wants to give her a chance to adapt to the new form of doing business. Ellzey added that Alderman Stamper recommends a 10-day suspension.
- G. Alderman Perez moved renewal with a ten (10) day suspension based on the police report and aldermanic Licensee's testimony. (Prevailed 5-0)

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Committee has jurisdiction to hold hearings and provided Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and a Recommendation to the full Common Council pursuant to Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances.
2. Based upon the above facts found, the Committee concludes that the Licensee, Patricia A. Pickens who holds Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for the premise located at 2878 North 20th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Rose's Place") has not met the criteria of Chapters 85, 90, and 108 of the Milwaukee Code of Ordinances and Chapter 125 of the Wisconsin Statutes to renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises without undergoing a ten (10) day suspension. The Committee finds the police report and aldermanic objections as stated above to be true. The Committee based its recommendation on the police report and aldermanic and Licensee testimony.
3. In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Milwaukee, it is the recommendation of the Licenses Committee that the full Common Council of the City of Milwaukee should exercise its judgment to not renew the Class B Tavern and Public Entertainment Premise (PEP) licenses for the premises located at 2878 North 20th Street in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin ("Rose's Place") without undergoing a ten (10) day suspension. The Committee based its recommendation on the police report and aldermanic and Licensee testimony.



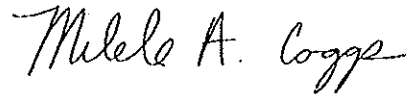


## RECOMMENDATION

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated above, the Committee, by a vote of **five (5) ayes and zero (0) noes**, recommends that the Class "B" Tavern and Public Entertainment Premises (PEP) Licenses of Patricia A. Pickens for the premises located at 2878 North 20th Street ("Rose's Place") in the City and County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin not be renewed without undergoing a ten (10) day suspension.

The suspension is in effect between 12:01 a.m. on December 4, 2021 until 11:59 p.m. on December 13, 2021.

Dated and signed at Milwaukee, Wisconsin this 12 day of November, 2021.



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MILELE A. COGGS  
Chairman, Licenses Committee

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