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2 CITY OF MILWAUKEE

3 LICENSES COMMITTEE

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5 In the Matter of the Renewal Application for:

6 Class "B" Tavern

REYNAS BAR

7 2566 South 6th Street

8 Applicant: MANUEL RODRIGUEZ

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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ALD. JAMES WITKOWIAK - Chair

11 ALD. JAMES BOHL, JR., - Vice-Chairman

ALD. JOSEPH A. DUDZIK

12 ALD. ROBERT PUENTE

ALD. WILLIE WADE

13

LICENSING DIVISION by REBECCA BARRON

14 NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES by PANDORA BENDER

HEALTH DEPARTMENT by PAUL LEMKE

15 POLICE DEPARTMENT by SERGAENT CHESTER ULICKEY

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY by ATTORNEY BRUCE SCHRIMPF

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19 Proceedings had and testimony given in  
20 the above-entitled matter, before the LICENSES  
21 COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE, on  
22 the 2nd day of January, 2007.

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

2 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And in the 14th  
3 District, Manuel Rodriguez, a Class "B" Tavern  
4 renewal application for "Reynas Bar" at 2566  
5 South 6th Street.

6 Good morning. Buenos dias. Could you  
7 - - Good morning. Could you all raise your right  
8 hands? We'll swear you in.

9 (Whereupon the witnesses were sworn.)

10 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Name and address  
11 for the record, please.

12 THE APPLICANT: Manuel Rodriguez. My  
13 address is (continues reading in Spanish.)

14 MR. RODRIGUEZ: That's where he lives.  
15 The address of the place is 2566 South 6th  
16 Street.

17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. And for the  
18 record, and you are?

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: My name is Rafael  
20 Rodriguez. 1434 South 32nd Street.

21 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And your  
22 relationship to the applicant?

23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Just friends. I'm just  
24 here to translate.

25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. And?

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1 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Patricia Rodriguez.

2 1909 West Arthur Avenue. He's my father.

3 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Health department?

4 HEALTH: Health has no objection.

5 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Neighborhood

6 services?

7 DNS: No objection. The current

8 capacity is 80.

9 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: 80. Okay. And I

10 have to ask Mr. Rodriguez if he received a notice

11 that there's a possibility his application could

12 be denied because of items contained on the

13 police report and neighborhood objections to

14 loitering, littering, loud music, noise, traffic

15 problems, disorderly patrons, fights, drug

16 activity and conduct which is detrimental to the

17 health, safety and welfare of the neighborhood.

18 Did he get one of those notices?

19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, he got the

20 letter.

21 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Sergeant,

22 could we have the police report, please?

23 SERGEANT ULICKEY: On 1 - - Correction

24 - - 3/29 of '06 at 10:55 p.m. Milwaukee Police

25 conducted a license premise check at 2566 South

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1 6th Street. An officer observed a patron with a  
2 youthful appearance playing pool. Requested  
3 identification to verify his age. That patron  
4 was identified and a search of that patron found  
5 a dollar bill which contained a clear plastic  
6 corner-cut baggy. Baggy contained a white  
7 powdery substance which was tested positive for  
8 cocaine. The subject was arrested for possession  
9 of cocaine, and no violations were found  
10 regarding the tavern itself.

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. That's the  
12 only thing on the police report?

13 SERGEANT ULICKEY: Yes, sir.

14 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Do you have any  
15 questions about the police report presented?

16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Basically, I think  
17 she's - - the bartending. She was bartending.  
18 She says that they didn't know nothing about  
19 that, about the situation, up until they got this  
20 letter. That's when they found out about the  
21 situation.

22 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Okay.  
23 Alderman Zielinski.

24 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Chairman. Based on the individual that was

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1 picked up with cocaine on his person, I sent out  
2 notices to the immediate neighborhood in  
3 preparation for this meeting. Received a phone  
4 call from a very concerned neighbor who chose not  
5 to testify for - - for fear of retaliation.  
6 Basically, you know, just in the - - in the  
7 committee's hands because this is all hearsay,  
8 what - - what my constituent told me about is  
9 excessively loud noise, fights, someone that they  
10 witnessed being pistol-whipped out front, drug  
11 dealing. I mean, the whole bit.

12 And so, given the fact that this person  
13 is not willing to testify, you know, it's just up  
14 to the committee, and I have to assume that this  
15 was an isolated incident, that there's no other  
16 problems, but I will be - - This is on my radar  
17 screen now, and I will be paying very close  
18 attention to this property in the future. And if  
19 I do have another drug-related incident or other  
20 types of problems at this bar in the future, I -  
21 - I will come forward with a very strong  
22 recommendation. Thank you.

23 ALDERMAN PUENTE: While they're doing  
24 that, Mr. Chair.

25 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Alderman Puente.

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1 ALDERMAN PUENTE: I have a question for

2 Ms. Barron.

3 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Go ahead.

4 ALDERMAN PUENTE: On the license it

5 says it is a renewal, yet, we have a footnote

6 that says it's a new applicant. I'm a little

7 confused.

8 MS. BARRON: In 2006 he was a new

9 applicant.

10 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Oh, that way. All

11 right. Thank you. We are in 2007, aren't we.

12 MR. SCHRIMPF: So, Mr. Chairman, that

13 makes this the first renewal.

14 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: The first renewal.

15 Okay.

16 ALDERMAN PUENTE: Thank you.

17 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Does the applicant

18 understand what Alderman Zielinski said, his

19 concerns?

20 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes. She was telling

21 me that she went and talked to the neighbors when

22 they got the letter, and talked to them to find

23 out if they had any problems, any situations with

24 - - with the businesses. And she said that

25 nobody said anything, didn't - - They even signed

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1 a piece of paper that she took, and she's - - she  
2 got the letter. She's been working on the music,  
3 watching outside for garbage, and she's - - she's  
4 got a guy that is helping her to watch the cars  
5 where they park, tell them not to park and park  
6 where they're supposed to. And even when they  
7 leave - - And now she's got the same guy there  
8 after that before and after they close the bar,  
9 the guy that is helping her, he goes outside to  
10 pick up garbage and make sure that they respect  
11 the neighbors, the customers.

12 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: And I'm sure they  
13 understand that now. In the long run, your - -  
14 your greatest asset is your relationship with  
15 your neighbors, because - - because they can and  
16 - - and as Alderman Zielinski said, he received  
17 one phone call. But if things persist and - -  
18 and finally you'll get people that will come down  
19 and say, well, we're going to come and testify,  
20 then there's not much the committee can do but  
21 - - but deny, if it gets to be more of a problem.  
22 Do you know what I mean?

23 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

24 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Is there - - Can I  
25 ask? Is there anyone here from the audience here

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1 to testify relative to 2566 South 6th Street?  
2 Anyone here from the audience relative to 2566  
3 South 6th Street to testify? Sir, could you  
4 raise your right hand, identify yourself, please,  
5 for the record? Go ahead. Your name and  
6 address?

7 THE WITNESS: My name is Cesar De La  
8 Cruz.

9 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Wait.  
10 (Whereupon the witness was sworn.)

11 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. Now, name  
12 and address for the record.

13 THE WITNESS: Okay. My name is Cesar  
14 De La Cruz. I live in 2564 is - - is right near  
15 the bar, upstairs. So I rent right there, like  
16 three months ago. I got no problem with the bar,  
17 with the music, so I know there are some  
18 problems, but is not for the Reynas Bar. I mean,  
19 it's not the Reynas Bar problems, you know.  
20 There are also people, drunk people outside, but  
21 it doesn't matter for me, because I got no  
22 problem. I got my - - I got two cars in the  
23 parking lot. The people never touch my cars. So  
24 everything is straight right there.

25 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Mr. Chairman.



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1 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: All right.  
2 Alderman Zielinski?

3 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: I just have a  
4 couple questions. I - - I'd like to know how the  
5 proprietor is going to take precautions to ensure  
6 that underage people are not served in his bar.  
7 In other words, what are they going to be doing  
8 differently now that they weren't doing before to  
9 help prevent underage people from being in the  
10 bar.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: She's got somebody at  
12 the door, asking for IDs. And she's got signs in  
13 the bathrooms, like, do not use drugs or - -  
14 She's got the same guy, like watching outside.  
15 And they try to do that almost all the time, so  
16 they will be more on top of the situation for the  
17 neighbors and for the business. So they did pay  
18 on this business.

19 ALDERMAN ZIELINSKI: Okay. Thank you.  
20 That's - -

21 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: Okay. If there's  
22 no further questions by members of the committee,  
23 this matter - - Further questions by members of  
24 the committee?

25 ALDERMAN PUENTE: No, I was just going

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1 to recommend approval with a warning card, but I  
2 see Jim there - -

3 CHAIRMAN WITKOWIAK: This matter is in  
4 committee, and it is the motion of Alderman  
5 Puentes to recommend approval of this renewal with  
6 the issuance of a warning letter, based on items  
7 contained in the police report. Are there any  
8 objections to that motion? Hearing none, so  
9 ordered. Okay. We wish you a - - a happy and  
10 prosperous 2007.

11 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

12 THE APPLICANT: Thank you.

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2 STATE OF WISCONSIN)  
3 MILWAUKEE COUNTY )

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5 I, JEAN M. BARINA, of Milwaukee Reporters  
6 Associated, Inc., do certify that the foregoing  
7 transcript was reduced to writing under my direction  
8 and that it is a true and accurate transcription of  
9 the Licenses Committee Hearing held on January 2,  
10 2007.

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14 JEAN M. BARINA - COURT REPORTER

15 Dated this day of January, 2007

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