



October 5, 2011

Kasim Reed, Mayor  
City of Atlanta  
55 Trinity Avenue  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mayor Reed,

I am writing on behalf of the Lindridge Martin Manor Neighborhood Association to ask that you uphold the unanimous recommendation of the License Review Board (LRB) to revoke the liquor license of Girls Galore, Inc. d/b/a Bliss Atlanta, Nicholas Stergion, agent. This adult entertainment club located at 2284 Cheshire Bridge Road, NE was brought before the LRB secondary to 15 counts of failure to obtain proper permits and 15 counts of failure to supervise.

There is a history of violation of the COA Alcohol Code at Bliss Atlanta (formerly known as the 24K Club):

- In October 2006, the Atlanta License Review Board found the club guilty of selling alcohol to minors, staying open too late and allowing an underage person to enter the club and voted to suspend its liquor license for 6 months.

Three years later on October 17, 2009, APD raided the club after conducting a 5 month undercover investigation. The following information outlined below was either published in the Atlanta Journal Constitution or by the Fulton County District Attorney's office.

- According to the Fulton County District Attorney's office, between May 13, 2009 and October 17, 2009, Atlanta Police conducted an in-depth undercover investigation. Investigators were able to purchase cocaine, MDMA, and other illegal narcotics from employees of the club, as well as being solicited for sex acts by the employees. Additionally, several of the employees were not licensed by the city. The investigation resulted in a 32-count indictment of 18 individuals, all employees of the establishment.
- Atlanta Police officers obtained 43 arrest warrants and arrested 29 people during a Saturday morning raid in 2009.
- Police reports released to The Atlanta Journal-Constitution showed that employees and others at the nude dancing club offered cocaine, marijuana and prostitution.
- APD booked general manager Greg Stergion, a floor manager, a bartender, and 16 dancers into the Fulton County jail, according to the report.
- Floor manager Wayne Coker was arrested after officers found 23.4 grams of packaged marijuana on the floor between him and customer Antoine Tuner, the report states.
- Sixteen of the 20 dancers did not have permits, according to the report. Several of the dancers told police that management told them they didn't need permits. Two dancers also had outstanding warrants for theft and failure to appear, according to the report.
- The bartender, Stephanie Moore, also didn't have a permit to sell alcohol, police said.

- Police said they also found a 19-year-old, who tested positive for alcohol, with a drink in his hand in the VIP room. He also gave police a fake ID.
- Officers seized marijuana, cocaine, pills, used condoms, cash and a stolen car from the club.

When this club appeared before the LMMNA and NPU-F to obtain its liquor license the agent promised the community he would "clean up" the club and abide by the COA Alcohol Code. As is obvious from the details just provided he has failed to do so.

Having a liquor license is a privilege not a right and our community expects those who hold liquor licenses within this city to be familiar with and abide by its Alcohol Code. Failure to do so should result in harsh penalties, particularly when these are such egregious and repeated failures. Our community grows weary of the continued disregard for this City's Alcohol Code at this location. The revocation of BOTH the liquor license and business license held by this establishment is a reasonable and justified approach by our city, and a long overdue course of action that should be taken for the protection of our neighborhoods.

Please act accordingly on behalf of our community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jane Rawlings".

Jane Rawlings

President Lindridge Martin Manor Neighborhood Association