

## Item 23-0942: Police Department Report On Alcohol Violation Convictions

### Safety and Licensing Committee

Wed, Aug 09, 2023 5:30PM

#### **Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14)** 47:13

Okay, that's all the action items. Go to information items. We have the two violation convictions, one at the Appleton Clark gas station, which takes them to a total of 160 points. And then Sai Ram restaurant at serving a minor at points, total of 80. Any questions on that? Aldersperson van Zeeland?

#### **Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5)** 47:38

Thank you chair. I wasn't a member of this committee last year, but before that, I've been on this committee, and I've never seen so many violations. From someone who worked in the industry before, I think maybe staffing issues. And based on also what we've heard from other people, I'm starting to get a little bit worried that we are going to see a lot of these, if the people are having trouble finding staff—and not to make light of their, you know, the seriousness of these violations, but I'm wondering if there's any way we can intervene in this situation so that it's not just a matter of you know, the first time I leave my establishment in the hands of a newer bartender, they get a violation. You know, you don't want that to keep occurring or to have people who are losing their licenses. I'm wondering if there's any way we can try to address this ahead of time without compromising the safety of the city.

#### **Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14)** 48:39

Chief Olson, what's your microphone you at? Director three?

#### **Police Chief Polly Olson** 48:45

It's on.

#### **Aldersperson Chris Croatt (District 14)** 48:45

Okay.

#### **Police Chief Polly Olson** 48:46

Thank you. Well, I think my feeling on that is such that the training required hasn't changed over the years, and I sympathize with the owners of these establishments similar to you. And I think that you bring up a valid point in terms of the challenges that certainly finding the right staff can cause.

#### **Police Chief Polly Olson** 49:11

That being said, they all are aware of these challenges and the obligations that they have as licensees to make sure that they can do everything that within their control in terms of providing training and making sure that the folks that they hire understand what's expected of them. So, I don't know that there's really anything addition and we provide all of that to them already.

#### **Police Chief Polly Olson** 49:44

I think that one of the issues that we as a police department have already started talking about though is being a little bit more sympathetic when it comes to the presentation of fake IDs and understanding that due to have, you know, the increases in availability of these IDs that in fact, sometimes even make it past a scanner, that we will be—we will take that in consideration when it comes to writing out citations under those types of circumstances. These—when you're looking at the sting operations. When we go in there with intentionally with

people that are very clearly under the age of 21, because we don't want them to necessarily be failing these compliance checks. That I'm not sure what else we can do from a city standpoint, in terms of holding them accountable.

**Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 50:40**

Go ahead.

**Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 50:41**

It's helpful to know that with the ID situation, you're working with business owners. I guess, you know, I just saw a pattern here that I thought might need some interruption, and I'm really glad to hear that you're already working on it. Thank you.

**Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 50:53**

And I think we've heard that a little bit from Lieutenant, like, Nagel, in the past on how APD has been working with establishments on ID checks and scanners and getting better, because the IDs are getting better. That's the right word for it—the fake IDs. Harder to detect.

**Police Chief Polly Olson 51:09**

Yeah. I mean, and the concern, obviously, that these scanners are not even detecting fraudulent IDs, because the IDs are coming across, to your point, as so well done is a huge concern of ours and one that we are having regular correspondence with our licensees to try to come up with some ways to address that.

**Alderson Chris Croatt (District 14) 51:31**

Anything else? Okay. Anything else on that information item? Okay.