

## Good Neighbors Report

To: PS&L Committee

From: Attorney Nhu H. Arn

RE: **Duo Bar & Grill, 1102 Mound Ave., David Lewis, Agent and Owner**

Meeting date: Tuesday, June 15, 2021

PS&L agenda date: Tuesday, July 12, 2021

Departments attended: Attorney & Health Department

License requested: Class "B" and "Class C" (beer and wine)

### **Topics Discussed:**

- This location has been problematic in the past. With the previous licensee, Blues R&B aka Ray's Boom Boom Room, there were numerous complaints about large crowds gathering after hours and drinking on the street. The premises only has off-street parking available. Officers described the previous situation as a large block party every weekend, with traffic jams throughout the block and numerous complaints of illegal parking. Because the premise is located on the corner of five intersecting streets, this can easily turn into a nuisance premises and traffic hazard if not properly controlled. Mr. Lewis was made aware of this issue and given tips to proactively address the matter. He states that he intends to hire off-duty police officers as security, but has been informed that RPD very likely does not have any officers available at this time.
- Health Department and Building Department licenses needed. Mr. Lewis plans to serve food at his establishment, but had yet to apply for a Health Department license at the time of the meeting. Likewise, Mr. Lewis also needs to apply for an occupancy permit to determine capacity limits and to use the space. He was made aware that the previous licensee had an occupancy limit of 100.
- Owner/agent's lack of experience should be noted. Mr. Lewis indicated that he has 4 years of experience working at a casino, including serving alcohol, but did not have an operator's (bartender's) license in that position. Mr. Lewis does not have any experience running a bar or serving as an agent for a retail license. He was given a brief summary of the local ordinances and responsibilities for a licensee.
- Premises description should be amended. Although the license application states "two level building," it should be noted that the upstairs level is a residential complex and therefore cannot be licensed. If the committee approves the application, it would be with this amendment.

**Overall summary:**

Mr. Lewis has some experience working at a casino but has never managed his own bar and is not aware of all the responsibilities associated with being an agent or a licensee for a retail alcohol license. That said, he was quick to follow up and address issues thus far. This location might be challenging but with the right management, Mr. Lewis can succeed here.