

Johnson-Martin, Janice

From: Howell, Arthel
Sent: Friday, December 09, 2011 5:24 PM
To: Johnson-Martin, Janice
Cc: Letteney, Scott; Loop, Nicole; 'Riek, Sharon'
Subject: Rico's Value City (request to deny license renewal)

Importance: High

Janice,

As recently published in the Racine Journal Times (http://www.journaltimes.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/pawn-shop-owner-faces-charges-connected-to-burglaries-drugs/article_f2884880-2199-11e1-911b-0019bb2963f4.html), in partnership with the Mt. Pleasant PD, our department recently completed a major investigation into illegal activity occurring at Rico's Value City located at 1819 State Street.

The owner of this pawn shop (Riad Yasin) was charged with a number of criminal offenses, including possession of stolen property, possession of a firearm while intoxicated, possession of THC, and maintaining a drug trafficking place. The owner was also found to be selling cigarettes which were earmarked and tax stamped for sale in IL.

A number of items seized during the execution of a search warrant at this location were confirmed to be stolen from burglaries from Racine to Chicago. Additionally, a great deal of property found at this location was not properly documented as required by ordinance.

At this time, it is my formal recommendation that we refrain from administratively renewing any and all licenses currently held by this business (cigarette, gold, secondhand dealer, pawn shop, etc.). In lieu of the customary administrative renewal, assuming the PS&L committee would be the proper venue to review and assess this matter, I would like to refer this matter to the PS&L committee for in-depth review and assessment.

We are currently in the process of preparing a detailed report for PS&L committee members relative to this matter. Please advise if this is not the proper venue or procedural manner in which to address this matter.

Thanks in advance.

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