

0836-19

### Good Neighbors Report

To: PS&L Committee

RE: **Jay Goga Maharaj, Inc. DBA Odd Fellows Food & Liquor, 821 Main Street**  
**Sneha Patel, Owner and Agent**

Meeting date: Thursday, August 1, 2019

PS&L agenda date: Tuesday, August 13, 2019

Present dept's: Building, Health, Police, Fire, City Attorney

License requested: Transfer of "CLASS A"

#### Topics discussed:

- **Regular operating hours:** Applicant indicates hours of operation to be Monday through Sunday from 6:00 a.m. (to accommodate first-shifters) through 12:00 a.m. (midnight). These hours differ from the prior licensee, who operated until only 9:00 p.m.
  - Explained that the State of Wisconsin prohibits the sale of
    - intoxicating liquors and wine between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. and
    - beer between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
  - Explained that the City of Racine further prohibits the sale of
    - intoxicating liquors between 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. and
    - beer between 12:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.
  - Explained that city ordinance may be more restrictive than state statute, so be aware of both in all situations.
  - Lt. Smith mentioned general concerns surrounding later operating hours.
  - Applicant will be present from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. daily, but unsure who will be present from 2:00 through 9:00 p.m. when alcohol is sold.
- **Reference guide:** Applicant was provided with a copy of the Wisconsin Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Laws for Retailers from the State of Wisconsin, Department of Revenue.
- **Surveillance:** Applicant stated a 16-camera system will be professionally installed that captures every angle of the premises (i.e. no blind spots).
- **RPD:** Lt. Smith stressed the importance of ensuring that someone on the premises be able to operate the camera system and to provide footage to law enforcement when needed.
- **General:** Suggested that the applicant fully complete the application (e.g. touch up number of employees, security system plan).

**Overall summary:**

Odd Fellows Food & Liquor is a convenience store, ownership of which was recently transferred from Mr. Randy Kong to Jay Goga Maharaj, Inc. (Ms. Sneha Patel as agent). Mr. Kong owned and operated Odd Fellows for more than twenty years, and persons within the community knew Mr. Kong to be risk-averse to the extent that he routinely closed his store at 9:00 p.m. and declined to open for business on certain days (such as the Fourth of July) to avoid potential problems. Ms. Patel operates until 12:00 a.m., which is new for the surrounding community. Ms. Patel has two years of retail business experience gleaned from operating multiple Subway stores in Milwaukee, though none of these required a retail liquor license. Ms. Patel was accompanied by a co-owner of Jay Goga Maharaj, Inc., who eagerly and politely answered all of the questions; Ms. Patel did not object and said very little.