



**STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY

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**IN REPLYING REFER TO
Albany**

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

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**EMERGENCY SUSPENSION ISSUED FOR ENDICOTT BAR
Sales of Crack Cocaine Leads to SLA Action**

The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) summarily suspended the license of Margaret E. Garren, doing business as "Aunt Effie's Pub" located at 102 O'Dell Avenue in Endicott. The suspension was ordered by the Members of the Authority, Chairman Daniel B. Boyle, Commissioners Jeanique Greene and Noreen Healey at the meeting of the Full Board on Thursday, November 20, 2008.

On August 14, 2008, Endicott Police executed a narcotics search warrant at the licensed premises accompanied by an SLA Investigator. The warrant was issued based on two separate occasions whereby a confidential police informant purchased \$50 worth of crack cocaine in the premises. The bartender and son of the licensee sold the crack cocaine to the undercover informant on or about July and August of 2008. While conducting the raid, Endicott PD and the SLA investigator discovered a small bowl of crack cocaine in the kitchen of the establishment.

"The State Liquor Authority will not tolerate drug activity in our licensed premises," said Chairman Boyle. "This Board will not hesitate to act when a licensee's actions pose a threat to public health and safety."

"This action was prompted by health and safety concerns," said Endicott Police Detective Lieutenant Steven G. Noyes. "The investigations that lead to the search warrant were initiated after numerous reports of criminal activity being allowed to occur in the establishment by both patrons and employees. The Endicott Police will continue to work with the Liquor Authority to prevent establishments from engaging in conduct that is harmful to the residents of the Village of Endicott."

The State Administrative Procedure Act authorizes a State agency to summarily suspend a license when the agency finds that public health, safety. Or welfare imperatively requires

emergency action. When the SLA summarily suspends a liquor license, it also serves upon the licensee a 'Notice of Pleading' alleging one or more disciplinary violations. In invoking a summary suspension, the SLA has deemed the violation(s), considering each licensee's disciplinary history, to be sufficiently serious upon initial review to warrant an immediate suspension.

The SLA's decision to summarily suspend a license is not a final determination on the merits of the case. The licensee is entitled to an expedited hearing before an administrative law judge to address the alleged violation(s) that led to the suspension. An order of summary suspension remains in effect until such time as it is modified by the State Liquor Authority or reviewing Court.

The State Liquor Authority regulates and controls the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within the State. The Authority works with local law enforcement agencies and localities across the State to ensure compliance with the Alcoholic beverage Control Law. In addition, the Authority issues and renews licenses and permits to manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers of alcoholic beverages.

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