



**Contact:** Bill Crowley [william.crowley@sla.ny.gov](mailto:william.crowley@sla.ny.gov) (518) 474-4875

**For Immediate Release:** November 13, 2015

## **SLA ISSUES EMERGENCY SUSPENSION FOR ROCHESTER BAR Multiple Shootings, Assaults Leads to License Suspension**

**Albany, NY** – The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) summarily suspended the license of Po Boys Inc., doing business as “Po Boys Cafe” at 1034 Hudson Avenue in Rochester. The suspension was ordered by Members of the SLA, Chairman Vincent Bradley and Commissioner Kevin Kim at a special meeting of the Full Board on Friday, November 13, 2015. Effective immediately, no alcohol may be served or consumed on the premises.

The summary suspension is based on multiple referrals from the Rochester Police Department detailing a persistent and continuing pattern of violence at the licensed premises. Rochester Police referrals received on November 6, 2015, document an October 18<sup>th</sup> shooting directly in front of Po Boys Cafe stemming from a confrontation inside the bar. Additional referrals document a shooting in the parking lot of the bar on October 3, 2015, a large fight on September 27, 2015 requiring the response of ten officers, an August 17, 2015 incident in which a man was shot outside the bar, and an August 13, 2015 in which a man leaving the bar fired shots into a crowd gathered directly in front of the premises.

“This licensee has shown total disregard for the law and a lack of concern for the safety of their patrons,” said SLA Chairman Vincent Bradley. “The SLA has an obligation to ensure this violence does not continue, and today’s emergency suspension will prevent episodes like these from occurring.”

On November 12, 2015, the SLA charged Po Boys Cafe with 4 violations, including disorderly premises, assault, and unlicensed bouncers and for becoming a police focal point. The license is suspended effective immediately, prohibiting the sale and service of alcohol at the premises.

The State Administrative Procedure Act authorizes a State agency to summarily suspend a license when the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action. When the SLA summarily suspends a license, it also serves a Notice of Pleading alleging one or more disciplinary violations. In invoking a summary suspension, the SLA has deemed the violation, 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. An order of summary suspension remains in effect until such time as it is modified by the SLA or a reviewing Court.

On the Web: [www.sla.ny.gov](http://www.sla.ny.gov)

# # #