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EMERGENCY SUSPENSION ORDERED FOR BROCKPORT BAR **Investigation reveals Bouncers were bribed \$10 by Minors for Easy Entry**

Albany, NY – The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) suspended the license of Rocco’s Canal Side Pub at 26 Clinton Street in Brockport today. 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 Wednesday December 23, 2015. Effective immediately, no alcohol can be served or consumed on the premises.

Following recent complaints of underage drinkers gaining entry to Rocco’s Pub after bribing bouncers, the Brockport Police conducted a sting operation utilizing an underage decoy. On Saturday December 13th, the decoy working with the Brockport PD handed her actual ID to a bouncer working the door at Rocco’s Pub, an ID clearly marked “Under 21,” with a \$10 bill folded underneath, as instructed by the police. The bouncer pocketed the \$10, handed the license back to the decoy and allowed her to enter the premise, where she was subsequently served alcohol.

On December 22, 2015 the SLA charged Rocco’s Pub with two violations, selling to a minor and failure to supervise, based on a referral from the Brockport Police. Rocco’s was previously fined \$7,000 in 2012 by the SLA for selling to a minor, in addition to receiving a \$3,500 fine in 2010 for employing unregistered bouncers and a \$5,000 fine for selling to an intoxicated person and purchasing from an unauthorized source, also in 2010.

“Cracking down on underage sales is a priority and the SLA will not hesitate in taking licenses away from those who put profits above public safety,” said SLA Vincent Bradley. “We will continue work with the Brockport Police and our partners in law enforcement across the state to hold licensees accountable.”

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 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.