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## **EMERGENCY SUSPENSION ISSUED FOR CORONA PIZZERIA Cocaine Trafficking Charges Lead to Emergency Suspension**

**Albany, NY** – The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) summarily suspended the license of Cucino Amodo Mio Corporation, doing business as “Cucino Amodo Mio” at 5101 108<sup>th</sup> Street in Corona. The suspension was ordered by Members of the SLA, Chairman Dennis Rosen, Commissioner Jeanique Greene and Commissioner Kevin Kim at a special meeting of the Full Board on Monday, March 16, 2015.

On March 11, 2015, the licensee, in addition to his wife and his son, were arrested pursuant to a federal complaint filed in the Eastern District of New York accusing them of using the pizzeria and a Bronx produce business to facilitate the transportation of cocaine from Costa Rica, in addition to money laundering and illegal possession of firearms. Referrals to the SLA from the New York City Police Department (NYPD) report that a search warrant of the pizzeria uncovered six guns and \$100,000 in cash. The license for Cucino Amodo Mio, issued in April of 2013, is suspended effective immediately, prohibiting the sale and service of alcohol on the premises.

SLA Chairman Dennis Rosen said, “This should serve as a message that this agency will not hesitate to take a license when a bar poses a threat to public health and safety by engaging in illegal drug activity.”

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.

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