



**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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**ALBANY BAR LOSES LIQUOR LICENSE  
Liquor Authority Summarily Suspends The Library Lounge**

ALBANY – (October 5, 2006) The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) summarily suspended the license of The Library Lounge Inc. at 68 North Lake Avenue in Albany. The suspension was ordered by the Members of the State Liquor Authority, Chairman Daniel B. Boyle, Commissioner Lawrence J. Gedda, and Commissioner Noreen Healey at the full board meeting on Wednesday, October 4, 2006.

On September 22, 2006, SLA Investigators, the Albany Police Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles conducted a surprise inspection of the Library Lounge, targeting underage drinking. The investigation discovered of the 30 patrons at the bar that night, 22 were minors who signed statements admitting they had either directly purchased alcohol or were given alcohol by another patron. The bar, licensed on February 22, 2006, was also cited by the SLA for hiring unlicensed security guards. The Members of the Authority determined the bar posed an imminent threat to the public and voted to summarily suspend the license. Effective immediately, no alcohol can be served or consumed on the premises.

“This irresponsible behavior by the owner of the Library Lounge, where more than half the clientele consuming alcohol are underage, shows a total disregard for the law,” State Liquor Authority Chief Executive Officer, Joshua B. Toas said, “The Members of the Liquor Authority sent a clear message that this type of behavior will not be tolerated.”

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 a 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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