

Craig, Sondra

From: Allan Andonegui <andoneguiallan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 4:52 PM
To: Craig, Sondra
Subject: Letter

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Dear Members of the La Crosse City Council,

I am writing to formally dispute the denial of my tobacco and vape license. My business, Rolling Trees, has operated in La Crosse for nearly nine years, always ensuring full compliance with regulations and tax obligations.

About a year ago, on a Thursday when I typically work, I found a check addressed to me personally in the office. Following standard protocol, I deposited the check. I held it for five days, waiting for any issues. It wasn't until nearly two months later, after the check had cleared, that Capital One contacted me, informing me it was tied to a crime. At the time, I had no knowledge of this connection. I stated it was for a job I had done, not knowing what they were referring to at the time. I simply received a payment, and I never profited or spent any of these funds. I don't even know how to make a fake check. My account with Capital One was closed and the funds refunded.

While I thought that was the end of it, I continued my life as normal. A few months after this, I tried to get a position as a medical interpreter through Emplify/Gundersen. I got the job; however, something was flagged on my background check. At this time I found out there were still charges on my record. After months of me going to court appearances to try and have these outrageous charges dropped, my case kept getting moved/pushed back and eventually Emplify rescinded their offer and told me I could reapply once this situation was cleared up.

Despite my innocence, I was accused of forgery and theft. After three court appearances, this has still not been cleared up, while the DA wants a settlement requiring fines and community service, even though I pled not guilty. The charges persist despite the money being returned, and I fear this is a targeted attack on myself and business, given that the claim was made by a direct competitor. This ongoing situation harms not only me but also the city's tax revenue, as I cannot operate fully.

I urge the council to approve my tobacco license and to drop these unjust charges, so I can rebuild both my business and my reputation.

Sincerely,
Allan Andonegui
Owner, Rolling Trees