

STATE OF WISCONSIN CITY OF LA CROSSE LA CROSSE COUNTY
JUDICIARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

CITY OF LA CROSSE
400 La Crosse St
La Crosse, WI 54601

Complainant,
vs.

Revocation of "Class B"
Combination Beer and
Liquor License

LATINO BAR AND GRILL, LLC
d/b/a LATINO BAR AND GRILL
Marissa Acosta Perez, Agent

File No. 25-0176

Licensee.

REPORT OF THE JUDICIARY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

BACKGROUND

On February 10, 2025, a written complaint, sworn by La Crosse resident, Ethan Purkapile, was filed with the La Crosse City Clerk's Office. The complaint requested revocation of licensee's "Class B" combination beer and liquor license. On February 19, 2025, the Judiciary and Administrative Committee (J&A) held a hearing on the complaint. Appearing in support of the complainant were Police Chief Shawn Kudron, Lt. Jon Wenger, Sgt. Nicole Miller, and Sgt. Ethan Purkapile. Appearing in support of the licensee was Jonnathan Vargas Paredez.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Based on the testimony of the parties and the filings submitted, the J&A makes the following findings of fact:

1. Latino Bar and Grill, LLC, holds a "Class B" combination beer and liquor license issued by the City of La Crosse, last renewed for the license period July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, for the premises located at 115 5th Avenue South, La Crosse, Wisconsin.
2. On multiple occasions, law enforcement officers have observed and documented violations of La Crosse Municipal Code and Wisconsin Alcohol Beverage Law at the establishment as set forth in the Lt. Wenger Letter and Summary of Incidents, Graphical Representation of Bar Check and Citation Data, Latino Bar Calls for Service 2022-2024, Memo from Sgt.

Nicole Miller, UWL Police Dept., UWL incident reports, Letter from Dr. Kara Ostlund, 2022 Warning Letter to Latino Bar, and 2024 Chronic Nuisance Notice.

3. Underage individuals have been habitually observed on the premises, in violation of La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-7 and 4-10 and Wis. Stats. §§ 125.07(3) and 125.07(4)(a)3.
4. Underage individuals have been observed consuming alcohol on the premises, in violation of La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-9 and 4-12 and Wis. Stats. §§ 125.07(4)(a)2 and 125.07(4)(b).
5. Underage individuals have admitted to obtaining and consuming alcohol on the premises, in violation of La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-8 and 4-9 and Wis. Stats. §§ 125.07(4)(a)1 and 125.07(4)(a)2.
6. On multiple occasions, underage individuals have commented on the establishment's reputation as an underage or "freshman" bar.
7. The establishment has sold alcohol to underage persons, has allowed the presence of underage persons in the establishment, has failed to take action to prevent illegal consumption of alcohol by underage persons, and has encouraged or contributed to underage presence and underage drinking in the establishment, in violation of La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-6 and 4-7 and Wis. Stats. §§ 125.07(1)(a) and 125.07(3).
8. Police officers, while enforcing alcohol laws, have encountered resistance or interference from staff and management when inspecting or entering the premises, in violation of La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-3
9. The serving of underage patrons by the establishment has resulted in incidents such as excessive noise, trespass, public urination, vomiting, and property damage in the surrounding area. The City of La Crosse has received complaints from neighboring residents and businesses regarding such disorderly conduct linked to the establishment.
10. Multiple underage individuals have been transported to the hospital for detoxification as a result of excessive alcohol consumption.
11. The establishment violated its capacity limit at least once, in violation of La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 18-64.
12. The premises have been designated as a Chronic Nuisance Premises under La Crosse Mun. Code Ch. 30 and licensee failed to comply with the abatement plan.

13. The licensee has failed to meet agent residency requirements as mandated by La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-75.
14. The licensee provided false and incomplete information on alcohol beverage license application documents, violating La Crosse Mun. Code Sec. 4-72 and Wis. Stat. § 125.04(6)(a)1.
15. The activities associated with the establishment put a significant strain on public resources.
16. These violations threaten the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

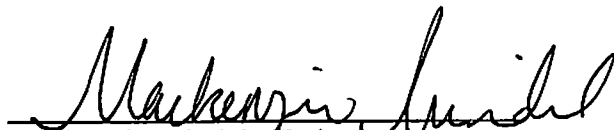
CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the above findings, the Judiciary & Administrative Committee concludes that:

1. Licensee has violated the La Crosse Municipal Code and Wisconsin Alcohol Beverage Law, in violation of Wis. Stat. § 125.12(2)(ag)1.;
2. Licensee has kept or maintained a disorderly riotous, indecent, or improper house, in violation of Wis. Stat. § 125.12(2)(ag)2.; and
3. Licensee fails to possess the statutory and municipal qualifications required to hold the license, in violation of Wis. Stat. § 125.12(2)(ag)4.

The Judiciary and Administrative Committee of the Common Council of the City of La Crosse recommends that Latino Bar's "Class B" combination beer and liquor license be revoked effective immediately. The Judiciary and Administrative Committee submits this report to the Common Council of the City of La Crosse for final determination pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 125.12(2)(b)3.

Respectfully Submitted:


Mackenzie Mindel, Chairperson

2-20-25
Date