STIPULATION REGARDING ALCOHOL LICENSE(S) NONRENEWAL PROCEEDINGS WITH CHUCK'S BAR LLC, D/B/A CHUCK'S BAR

Background

In May 2026, the City of La Crosse sought the nonrenewal of Chuck's Bar LLC, d/b/a Chuck's Bar, alcohol license for committing three (3) violations of La Crosse Municipal Code within a license year pursuant to City Resolution 44736. The violations related to sale of alcohol to underage individuals and allowing underage individuals on premises. The "Notice of Intent to Not Renew License" issued to Chuck's Bar specifically details the violations and is attached and incorporated by reference. This matter is scheduled to be heard by the Judiciary and Administration Committee on June 2, 2026.

Agreement

This agreement is entered into on the 27 day of May, 2026, by the City of La Crosse and Chuck's Bar LLC, d/b/a Chuck's Bar. The parties agree to the following:

1. The City provided Chuck's Bar written notice and opportunity for a hearing consistent with Wis. Stat. § 125.12(3).

2. Chuck's Bar acknowledges that it committed three (3) alcohol related violations in the license year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. In response to the violations and the pending nonrenewal of its alcohol license, Chuck's Bar has taken efforts to comply with alcohol regulations. This includes a Chronic Nuisance Abatement Plan agreed upon and executed by the parties on May 5, 2026.

3. The parties entered into discussions and reached an agreement regarding this matter.

4. The City will suspend its nonrenewal efforts and recommend that Chuck's Bar's alcohol license be renewed with the following conditions:

    a. The license will be suspended for a period of ten (10) days beginning July 5, 2026.

    b. Alcohol education training with the City of La Crosse Police Department must be completed within sixty (60) days of July 1, 2026, unless the Police Department agrees to extend the time.

    c. All employees at Chuck's Bar must obtain City beverage operator licenses (commonly referred to as "bartender license") within sixty (60) days of July 1, 2026. Any newly hired employees should be licensed within sixty (60) days of employment.

    d. If Chuck's Bar receives three (3) alcohol related convictions during the 2026 – 2027 license year, Chuck's Bar agrees to an automatic revocation of its alcohol license, upon notice and without hearing. Chuck's Bar agrees to not contest such revocation.

    e. Chuck's Bar voluntarily ***waives any right to a hearing on the revocation of its license*** and understand that if revoked it would ***have to wait to reapply for a period of one year from the date of revocation*** pursuant to Code Section 4-75(2).

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f. Although Chuck's Bar waives any right to a hearing, the Common Council still has final approval over any license revocation.

g. Chuck's Bar will comply with all applicable state and local laws.

Signature of Parties

City of La Crosse:

Ellen R. Atterbury
Assistant City Attorney

5-29-26
Date

Chuck's Bar LLC, d/b/a Chuck's Bar:

Brent Smith, Attorney

5/29/26
Date

Melissa Sample
Melissa Sample, Agent

05/29/26
Date

William Skemp, Member

5/29/26
Date

NOTICE OF INTENT NOT TO RENEW LICENSE

William Skemp (Member) and Melissa Sample (Agent) for Chuck's Bar LLC dba Chuck's Bar, 1101 La Crosse Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Basis for Intent to Not Renew

This is to notify you that the City of La Crosse intends to not renew the Combination "Class B" Beer and Liquor License issued to Chuck's Bar LLC for license year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 125.12(3), a municipality may refuse to renew a license for certain violations identified in § 125.12(2)(ag), including violations of municipal code or municipal regulations.

The City of La Crosse alleges that the use of Chuck's Bar LLC is interfering with public health and safety and is grounds for non-renewal of its Combination "Class B" Beer and Liquor License under Wis. Stat. § 125.12(2)(ag) for violations of municipal code or municipal regulations. This is supported by the following:

Resolution 44736 adopted August 13, 1987 established a general policy in connection with alcohol beverage license violations that three (3) violations of the La Crosse Municipal Code and/or State laws per licensed establishment within a license year (July 1 through June 30 of the following year) shall be cause for a hearing before the Judiciary & Administration Committee as to whether the license should be suspended, revoked, or non-renewed.

Chuck's Bar LLC dba Chuck's Bar, 1101 La Crosse Street, committed and was convicted of three (3) violations in the current license year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 for sale of alcohol to underage as follows:

- February 25, 2026, municipal ordinance citation: Ord. 4-10 Allow Underage On Licensed Premise.
  Per Municipal Court records, the citation resulted in a conviction on April 1, 2026.
  Jacob L. Arnold, (beverage server), Chuck's Bar, 1101 La Crosse St.

- February 25, 2026, municipal ordinance citation: Ord. 4-6 Sale/Furnish Malt Beverage to Underage.
  Per Municipal Court records, the citation resulted in a conviction on April 1, 2026.
  Jacob L. Arnold, (beverage server), Chuck's Bar, 1101 La Crosse St.

- September 4, 2025, municipal ordinance citation: Ord. 4-7 Allow Underage in Bar.
  Per Municipal Court records, the citation resulted in a conviction on May 11, 2026.
  Kade D. Vanasten, (bouncer), Chuck's Bar, 1101 La Crosse St.

Your Rights as a License Holder

You have the right to a hearing to contest the nonrenewal of your license. Additionally, you have the right to be represented by an attorney at your own expense, the right to present evidence and testimony, and cross-examine any witnesses produced by the City.

A nonrenewal hearing is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers of La Crosse City Hall, 400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin.

Dated: May 15, 2026

City of La Crosse

Mackenzie Mindel
Judiciary & Administration Chair

Cc: Nikki Elsen, City Clerk
Stephen F. Matty, City Attorney