

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3B
GLOVER PARK AND CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS



ANC3B Resolution to Protest the Renewal of Good Guys' Liquor License

WHEREAS, the 3124 Corporation t/a The Good Guys Restaurant ("Good Guys"), ABRA Lic. #000899, has applied to renew its Class CN liquor license;

WHEREAS, Good Guys is an adult entertainment club that was grandfathered into its present location at 2311 Wisconsin Avenue NW in Glover Park when the DC Council adopted legislation in 1994 imposing a permanent citywide moratorium on the licensing of establishments that permit nude dancing;

WHEREAS, the first record the ANC has of a Voluntary or Settlement Agreement between ANC3B ("the ANC") and Good Guys was approved by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board ("the Board") in 1995 after the ANC protested Good Guys' license renewal at a hearing on November 2, 1994;

WHEREAS, between then and 2018, Good Guys has made reasonable efforts to contain within its walls both the adult entertainment and the often unruly consequences of it, with notable exceptions including a firebomb assault with intent to kill on November 3, 2007, and a violent fight among patrons on April 9, 2010, that spilled onto the sidewalk at 6 p.m. trapping pedestrians and a toddler in a stroller in the melee;

WHEREAS, the original owner, who was local and known to the community, sold Good Guys in 2018 to an out-of-state operator, who has since tried to supplement nude dancing on public stages with spaces for private performances, but withdrew the request to create private spaces on the second floor when confronted with ANC opposition and the prohibition in the Settlement Agreement against having nude dancing in places that cannot be seen by all patrons;

WHEREAS, in December 2019 the ANC received allegations from both the establishment's certified manager and a patron about sexual contact and illicit behavior occurring in unauthorized private spaces inside Good Guys, downstairs near the kitchen area, and reported this information to ABRA, requesting an investigation;

WHEREAS, early in 2022, the ANC was told by one of Good Guys' neighbors that "illegal" construction was occurring in the rear at the basement level to create several rooms, potentially spaces for private interactions between patrons and naked performers, which the ANC reported to ABRA, requesting an investigation;

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S. GLOVER PARK
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WHEREAS, the ANC was never advised in either instance if an investigation occurred or if any action was taken to curtail any illegal activity;

WHEREAS, since reopening after COVID-19 shutdowns were ended in late 2021, Good Guys has become a source of almost nightly disruptions of the peace, order and quiet of the residents of Glover Park, many of whom live in buildings that abut or are directly across from Good Guys;

WHEREAS, these disruptions include the following incidents as recorded by neighbors and routinely reported in real time to both Metropolitan Police Department ("MPD") and ABRA:

From Keith Spadafora, resident of The Sheffield, 2320 Wisconsin Avenue, directly across the street from Good Guys. Noise and yelling from clientele occurs throughout the evenings. 4AM however is a constant problem. Clientele hang on the sidewalk after closing and are always loud. I have heard on at least three occasions clientele fighting on the street and threatening to come back with a gun. I called the police the first time it happened. I was told there wasn't anything they could do but to call back if someone does come back with a gun. There were still some of the group fighting. Below is the information I had tracked before I started using a noise blocker:

4-Apr Clients on sidewalk after 11 got into a fist fight and continued fighting up by [Guy Mason] park - police called

10-Apr Robbery

23-Apr Arrest

29-Apr Police show up 1:19 AM

30-Apr Fight 3:15 in the morning

9-May Fight around midnight

Another resident of The Sheffield took a video, time-stamped 1:05 am, that shows four people exiting and lingering while one finishes a beer he brought outside with him. There is loud music blaring outside Good Guys in violation of ABRA's noise restrictions which prohibit sound from escaping the premises of a licensed establishment except when the door is opened to allow patrons to enter and exit. Police were called and after they arrived the music was no longer audible inside The Sheffield.

Elizabeth Webber of the Sheffield reports that patrons exiting at closing time urinate on the walls alongside the condo building, sit on the ledge outside talking loudly and smoking, often marijuana, and routinely cause disruptions at 3 and 4 am. A local business owner on the same block as Good Guys reports having to clean up vomit on the steps to his door frequently in the mornings.

WHEREAS, all of this disruption of the peace, order and quiet can be attributed to Good Guys because there are no other licensed establishments in Glover Park that remain open as late;

WHEREAS, Good Guys applied to extend its open hours to 4 am based on the premise that closing time would be less disruptive if there was an hour between last call for alcohol and actual closing so that all patrons would not be forced to exit at the same

time, which the ANC regrets agreeing to in the 2018 amended Settlement Agreement because the change did nothing but shift the exiting disturbances from 3 am to 4 am;

WHEREAS, the ANC was informed by MPD at its April 14, 2022, meeting that on Monday, April 11 shortly after midnight, an altercation inside Good Guys among several patrons who had brought concealed weapons into the establishment fortunately was thwarted before gunfire erupted, and that MPD got photos and knows the suspects, but no arrests had been made at the time of the meeting;

WHEREAS, the ANC learned subsequently from MPD that the April incident was one of two gun incidents inside Good Guys in recent months;

WHEREAS, the ANC and the community rely on ABRA's enforcement of the Settlement Agreement that was last amended and ordered by the Board on July 11, 2018, to control disruptions of the peace, order and quiet emanating from Good Guys, yet we are unaware of any sanctions or penalties levied for these disruptions;

WHEREAS, MPD has been reasonably responsive to the disruptions caused by patrons of Good Guys, but cannot regulate the behavior of the establishment itself with regard to security and effective control of patrons;

THEREFORE, in light of the failure of Good Guys' owner and management to contain its business inside its walls and protect the peace, order and quiet of the surrounding neighborhood, ANC3B RESOLVES TO PROTEST the renewal of Good Guys' liquor license.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Commissioner Blumenthal or her designee is authorized to represent the Commission on this matter.

This Resolution was APPROVED by a vote of 5-0 at a duly noticed public meeting of ANC3B on Thursday, October 13, 2022, at which a quorum was present. (Three of the five members constitutes a quorum.)



Brian Turmail, Chairman



Ann Mladinov, Secretary