

Re: Savannah Lounge

4 Lancelot Road

Wembley

Middlesex

HA0 2AJ

To whom it may concern

I am writing this in relation to a recent public order incident that took place outside the above establishment, and it is my understanding that Mans, the proprietor, is having his licence reviewed as a result. I am writing this in support of Mans in the hope that it will assist him in retaining his licence and livelihood.

I have known Mans for a while now as a customer of Savannah, and can testify to Mans' decency, moral uprightness and professionalism, and can also testify that he more than satisfies the duty of care that he owes to his customers.

I understand the seriousness of the public order incident that took place, and the results of the incident are most regrettable. However, I believe that there are mitigating circumstances in this particular case that demonstrate that this incident was not due to any wilful or professional negligence on the part of the proprietor and which show that the proprietor should not be held responsible for this incident.

I also understand that I have only heard the story from the point of view of the proprietor. However, if the facts as I understand them are true (and I believe that they are) I submit to you that they provide evidence that should be carefully considered by your department before you make a judgment in this particular case.

Firstly, it is my understanding that the incident took place due to a group of people outside Savannah being provoked by another group of people that had been removed from a neighbouring nightclub in Wembley called Masti. If the people from the neighbouring nightclub had not been present, I submit to you that the provocation would not have occurred and the resulting incident would not have happened. This version of events is made quite clear and supported in witness accounts provided by the SIA Door Supervisors present at the time at Savannah. It is also made clear in these witness accounts that the violence quickly spiralled out of control and could not be contained by the Door Supervisors. I submit to you that these were circumstances which were out of Mans' control. I also submit to you that Mans cannot be held responsible for this, could not be expected to anticipate the likelihood of this happening and did have qualified and experienced Door Supervisors in situ as required by your licencing regulations. Considering the problem seems to have started in the first place due to provocation from customers from another nightclub in

the area, I submit to you that it seems grossly unfair if blame is being allocated unilaterally in this case and if no investigation of the other establishment or their customers and/or their licencing responsibilities is being undertaken.

Secondly, it is my understanding that Mans has received correspondence from your Department requiring that he have ID Scanners installed at his premises and that he employs Door Supervisors recommended by your Department. Mans has already purchased these ID scanners and informed you of this, which I submit must surely indicate his desire to co-operate with you in any way possible to resolve this matter. As for the SIA qualified Door Supervisors, I fail to understand how and why you differentiate between the Door Supervisors which you feel are suitable and the Door Supervisors employed by Mans. My understanding is that Mans employs SIA qualified Door Supervisors who are legally and professionally qualified to do the job. I submit to you that, as long as the Door Supervisors are legally and professionally qualified and capable of doing the job, their company of origin makes no difference whatsoever and I also submit to you that you cannot justify making a request that seems to imply that this is not the case.

Thirdly, Mans has been operating Savannah in Lancelot Road for a number of years, and it is my understanding that there has been no trouble in this time as a result of this (prior to the recent incident that has taken place) and that he is both liked and respected by the local residents. If Mans was a threat to the peaceful and law abiding citizens of the area, I submit to you that this would not be the case and that there would be evidence to support that Mans was not conducive to the good of the area. I submit to you that there is no such evidence. I also submit to you that the recent public order incident under consideration in this case does not constitute evidence of this type and should not be treated as such. I submit to you that the blame for this incident is being disproportionately and unfairly laid at Mans' door. If this is the only evidence you have, I would suggest you carefully consider before making any decisions that could be potentially rash and unjust. It is my understanding that a petition is currently being drawn up which I submit will more than adequately illustrate to your department the esteem in which Mans is held in by the local community.

I do hope that you take what I believe to be powerful and cogent extenuating circumstances into account, and that there can be a satisfactory and expeditious denouement to this matter to the benefit of Mans, Savannah and the local community which he so ably serves.

Regards

25/10/17

Email: