



MEMO

To: Mayor John Haila and Ames City Council Members
From: Lieutenant Heath Ropp, Ames Police Department
Date: October 31, 2022
Subject: Beer Permits & Liquor License Renewal Reference City Council Agenda

The Council agenda for November 8, 2022, includes beer permits and liquor license renewals for:

- **AJ's Liquor III** (2401 "A" Chamberlain Street) - Class E Liquor License

A review of police records for the past 12 months found 15 liquor law violations. Fifteen individuals were cited for being underage on premise, and 10 of those individuals were in possession of a fake ID. On October 20, 2022, the above location passed a compliance check.

Although there were several individuals cited in the past 12 months at this establishment, it is important to consider the types of citations. Staff considers compliance checks to be a test of whether an establishment is performing the fundamental due diligence of checking IDs for the appropriate age. These checks are critical to pass, and this establishment has passed its most recent check.

The fact that individuals have been cited on premises with a fake ID is not necessarily an indication that the establishment is failing to perform due diligence. The fake ID holders are actively working to defeat the bar's efforts to check IDs. Therefore, staff does not believe the number of citations indicated above is representative of the bar's efforts to prevent minors from obtaining entry and/or alcohol. It is also important to note that while officers were able to definitively determine 10 of the 15 individuals cited were in possession of a fake ID during the renewal period, the fact that the remaining five citations were written on the basis of other evidence does not necessarily mean a fake ID was not involved to gain entry.

The Police Department will continue to monitor the above location by conducting regular foot patrols, bar checks and by educating the bar staff through training and meetings. The Ames Police Department recommends license renewal for the above business.