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Hastings District

25th February 2014.

Licensing Manager
Environment and Safety Directorate
Aquila House
Breeds Place
Hastings TN34 3UY

Dear Mr. Brown,

**RE: APPLICATIONS FOR TRANSFER AND VARIATION OF THE PREMISES LICENCE AT
IDEAL MINI MARKET 61 QUEENS ROAD HASTINGS EAST SUSSEX. TN34 1RE.
APPLICANT MR. MOHAMMED HASSAN.**

**NOTICE OF OBJECTION under Section 42(6) (Transfer of Premises Licence) and Section 37(5) (Variation to
specify new Designated Premises Supervisor) of the Licensing Act 2003.**

Notice is hereby given on behalf of the Chief Officer of Police for Sussex that the exceptional circumstances of this case are such that it is considered that the granting of these applications would undermine the crime prevention objective.

On the 9th November 2009 Mr. Mohammed Hassan applied for the grant of a premises licence concerning the Ideal Mini Market 61 Queens Road Hastings East Sussex. TN34 1RE. The premises licence was granted on the 11th January 2010 with Mr. Hassan being the named Premises Licence Holder and Designated Premises Supervisor.

The transfer of the premises licence was conducted on both 19th December 2010 to Mr. Sardar Razai and the 18th January 2012 to Mr. Aub Mahmud. Mr. Mohammed Hassan remained as the Designated Premises Supervisor, with no applications for the variation of the premises licence being received.

On the 12th January 2012 East Sussex County Council Trading Standards department conducted an inspection of the premises. Over four hundred (400) bottles of wine were seized, suspected of being counterfeit

On the 31st May 2012 the East Sussex County Council Trading Standards department submitted an application to the Licensing Authority, Hastings Borough Council, for the review of the premises licence.

The Licensing Sub Committee hearing was held on the 1st August 2012 where in light of the evidence submitted the premises licence was revoked.

The Premises Licence Holder at the time the investigation was conducted was Mr. Aub Mahmud. He was unable to provide any adequate traceability or explanation as to where the wine had come from.

At the time of the inspection Mr. Aub Mahmud was not in possession of a valid premises licence. He had not applied for the premises licence to be transferred into his name from Mr. Sadar Razai. Mr. Razai apparently sold the business to Mr. Mahmud on the 23rd July 1011.

Mr. Hassan, the current applicant for the grant of a premises licence, was the Designated Premises Supervisor at the time the premises were investigated and during the review period.

On the 11th September 2013 Sussex Police received an application for the grant of a premises licence. The applicant being Mr. Yasim Ahmed who was the proposed Designated Premises Supervisor. During the period of consultation Mr. Ahmed stated that the previous Premises Licence Holder, Mr. Mahmud was not connected to him by any business, family or other connection. The premises licence was granted on the 11th October 2013.

On the 17th February 2014 the Licensing Authority received an application from Mr. Mohammed Hassan for the transfer of the premises licence to him. There was also an application for variation of the premises licence naming him as the proposed Designated Premises Supervisor.

Approximately 10:30hrs on Thursday 20th February 2014 Anthony Masters, Sussex Police Licensing Officer for the Hastings District, visited the premises in order to speak with Mr. Hassan. He was not available at the time and the male in charge and serving at the time of the visit was Mr. Ayub (Aub) Mahmud.

In addition Sussex Police would like to submit the following information relating to the Pleasant Off Licence 72 Mount Pleasant Road Hastings East Sussex. TN34 3SN.

On the 15th December 2012 East Sussex County Council Trading Standards conducted an inspection of the premises. Twenty one bottles of Vodka were suspected of being duty evaded and not genuine Vodka.

On the 1st February 2012 Louise Baxter on behalf of East Sussex County Council Trading Standards submitted an application for the review of the premises licence. On the 20th March 2012 the Licensing Sub Committee, after hearing all the evidence, revoked the premises licence. The Premises Licence Holder appealed the decision of the Licensing Sub Committee. The appeal was heard on the 3rd August 2012 and was dismissed.

The Designated Premises Supervisor at the time the offences were committed was Mr. Mohammed Hassan.

Mr. Hassan was the Designated Premises Supervisor and involved in the management of two convenience stores which, when investigated by East Sussex County Council Trading Standards Officers, were found to be involved in the sale of illicit and counterfeit alcohol.

By these actions, Mr. Hassan has demonstrated a flagrant disregard for the Licensing Act 2003 and has failed to promote the Licensing Objectives.

It is contended that the above constitutes exceptional circumstances and therefore Sussex Police invite the committee to refuse the application.

Yours Sincerely.



Paul Phelps
Chief Inspector
District Commander, Hastings