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BROOKLYN BAR SLAPPED WITH EMERGENCY SUSPENSION **Investigation Reveals Violence and Mayhem at All Night Bar**

New York, NY – The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) ordered an emergency suspension of Sherwyn Toppin Marketing Consultants Inc., doing business as “Temptations Tavern,” a 350 maximum capacity bar at 2210 Church Avenue in Brooklyn. The decision to suspend the license is based on the continuing violence and disorder at the premises including assaults on patrons by security staff, numerous other fights, alleged drug activity and sale of alcohol afterhours.

New York City Police Department (NYPD) reports detail eight violent assaults occurring at bar over the past 15 months, including an incident where the bar’s own bouncers threw three men down a flight of stairs out onto the sidewalk, where they then proceeded to kick, punch and even taser the victims. Other episodes include a bouncer being shot in front of the licensed premises, a patron being slashed with broken glass, and two separate occasions where women were accosted and then beaten inside the premises. NYPD undercover officers were also able to purchase alcohol after 4 a.m. on five separate occasions as well as purchase marijuana at the club.

“This bar was nothing but a haven for violence, a drain on police resources, and a menace to Brooklyn residents,” said Deputy SLA CEO Michael Jones. “The SLA thanks the City of New York and our partners at the NYPD for helping us hold this licensee accountable.”

The suspension was ordered by Members of the SLA, Chairman Dennis Rosen, Commissioner Jeanique Greene, and Commissioner Noreen Healey at a special meeting of the Full Board on Friday, March 18, 2011. Effective immediately, no alcohol can be served or consumed on the premises.

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Background:

The State Administrative Procedure Act authorizes a State agency to summarily suspend a license when the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare requires emergency action. When the SLA summarily suspends a license, it also serves a Notice of Pleading alleging one or more disciplinary violations. In invoking a summary suspension, the SLA has deemed the violation, considering each licensee's disciplinary history, to be sufficiently serious upon initial review to warrant an immediate suspension. The SLA's decision to summarily suspend a license is not a final determination on the merits of the case. The licensee is entitled to an expedited hearing before an administrative law judge. An order of summary suspension remains in effect until such time as it is modified by the State Liquor Authority or a reviewing Court.

The State Liquor Authority regulates and controls the manufacture, sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within the state. The Authority works with local law enforcement agencies and localities across the State to ensure compliance with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law. In addition, the Authority issues and renews licenses and permits to manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and retailers of alcoholic beverages.