



**STATE OF NEW YORK  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL  
STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY  
[www.abc.state.ny.us](http://www.abc.state.ny.us)**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release

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**EMERGENCY LICENSE SUSPENSION ORDERED FOR YORKTOWN BAR  
Employment of Felons, Drug Sales, Underage Drinking Leads to Suspension**

*Albany, NY* – The New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) summarily suspended the license of Brookside Park Restaurant Inc., doing business as the Miracles Bar and Grill at 345 Kear Street in Yorktown Heights, NY. The suspension was ordered by the Members of the State Liquor Authority, Chairman Dennis Rosen, Commissioner Jeanique Greene, and Commissioner Noreen Healy at a special meeting of the Full Board on Tuesday, November 3, 2009.

The decision to suspend the license was based on an investigation by the Westchester County Police Narcotics Division, the (WCPND) Yorktown Police Department (YPD) and SLA Investigator Richard Frank. On July 10, 2009, an undercover officer from the WCPND purchased cocaine from an employee working as a bouncer at Miracles Bar and Grill. The bouncer was arrested on September 3, 2009 by the WCPND and the Yorktown Police, charged with three counts each of third degree criminal sale and third degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, and second and third degree criminal possession of a weapon. A subsequent investigation by the State Liquor Authority revealed the bouncer was a convicted felon with numerous prior arrests for burglary, larceny, as well as drug and weapons possession offenses. In addition, the bouncer was working off the books and was not licensed as a security guard.

Following this incident, on September 12, 2009, SLA Investigators and officers from the YPD conducted an investigation of the premises that led to eight separate SLA charges, including allowing underage drinking and the employment of two unlicensed bouncers. One of the unlicensed bouncers working that night was also a convicted felon. Following the investigation, the SLA conducted an interview with the owner of Miracles. The interview uncovered an employee hired to manage the bar from October of 2008 until June of 2009 was being paid off the books, in an arrangement that allowed the manager to live rent free at the licensee's residence. In addition, this employee also had a serious criminal record, having been arrested 22 times, with the vast majority of the arrests involving drug

related crimes. Based on these serious charges, the Members of the SLA determined that the bar posed an imminent threat to the public and voted unanimously for an emergency suspension of the license. Effective immediately, no alcohol can be served or consumed on the premises.

“In the short time Miracles Bar and Grill has held a license, they have managed to break every serious law on the books,” said SLA Chief Executive Officer Trina Mead. “Employing felons who peddle drugs and serve alcohol to minors is simply unconscionable, and I commend the swift action taken today by the Members of the State Liquor Authority.”

Since being issued a license on November 13, 2008, the bar has become a focus for law enforcement, as police have been called to the premises over 25 times to respond to fights, disorders, and disturbances. The licensee has several additional charges currently pending with the Authority including selling to minors, permitting the premises to become disorderly, and employing a felon on February 21, 2009. Miracles was also charged with selling alcohol to a minor on September 25, 2009

The State Administrative Procedure Act authorizes a state agency to summarily suspend a license when the agency finds that public health, safety, or welfare imperatives require emergency action. When the SLA summarily suspends a liquor license, it also serves upon the licensee a ‘Notice of Pleading’ alleging one or more disciplinary violations. In invoking a summary suspension, the SLA has deemed the violation(s), 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 to address the alleged violation(s) that led to the suspension. An order of summary suspension remains in effect until such time as it is modified by the State Liquor Authority or 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.

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