

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OPEN SESSION  
ILLINOIS LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION**

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**Richard J. Daley Center  
55 W. Washington St.  
Chicago, Illinois 60601**

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**October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
1:00 PM**

**Call the Roll:**

Chair Berg called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Present**                    *(Remote Attendance does not count toward Quorum)*

Thomas Gibbons	<i>Commissioner</i>	
Julieta LaMalfa	<i>Commissioner</i>	<i>Remote</i>
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	<i>Commissioner</i>	
Melody Spann-Cooper	<i>Commissioner</i>	
Brian Sullivan	<i>Commissioner</i>	
Cynthia Berg	<i>Chair</i>	

**Not Present**

Steven Powell	<i>Commissioner</i>
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**ILCC Staff Present:**

Les Peterson	<i>Chief Enforcement Officer</i>
Dusanka Marijan	<i>Licensing Administrator</i>
Persis Dhankher	<i>I.T.</i>
Noel Quanbeck	<i>General Counsel</i>
Nicole Sanders	<i>Industry Education</i>
Avi Zisook	<i>Legal</i>
Rick Haymaker	<i>Legal</i>
Dean Argiris	<i>Acting Commission Secretary</i>

**I. Motion to Allow Commissioner LaMalfa to Participate Remotely**

Commissioner Spann-Cooper made the motion and was seconded by Commissioner Sullivan.

Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes.
Brian Sullivan	Yes		
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	Yes		
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

The motion carried.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gibbons and seconded by Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez to approve the minutes of September 21<sup>st</sup> 2022 ; the motion passed.

Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes.
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	Yes		
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

### **III. Executive Director's Report**

Director Gardner was absent due to illness. In lieu of the Executive Director's report, the division heads gave their reports.

#### **Enforcement**

Chief Enforcement Officer, Les Peterson, indicated that Supervisor Kenny Williams taught an Underage Compliance course for local law enforcement officers.

Supervisor Williams attended to National Liquor Law Enforcement Association's annual conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This conference brought together liquor law enforcement agencies from across the nation to discuss current trends, future concerns and challenges, and methods to address those issues.

Enforcement conducted 759 inspections and found 382 violations in the month of September. Enforcement issued 99 warnings during new license inspections.

Underage Compliance Checks were conducted in partnership with the Peoria Police Department. 15 establishments were checked, 4 prior violators were retested, and 4 establishments failed the compliance check. None of those that failed were prior violators.

ILCC enforcement continues to monitor online sales of alcohol. Craigslist has the largest volume of illegal alcohol for sale online, with OfferUp, and Facebook Marketplace in the running.

Commissioner Gibbons asked about Underage Compliances due to a lack of participants. CEO Peterson indicated that the issue continues to be the lengthy CMS process for hiring and that the ILCC is continuing to work on streamlining the process to be similar to the Illinois State Police.

Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez indicated that the upcoming College Town Summit might be a potential opportunity to UAC recruitment.

#### **Industry Education**

Industry Education Manager, Nicole Sanders, reported that there has been a successful increase in BASSET training and that Industry Education will continue to be present in communities.

Social Media is steady and continues to reach individuals organically.

Our remote College Town Summit is coming up November 9, 2022.

Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez asked about the current head count for the College Town Summit. Ms. Sanders said they continue to reach out and promote, due to the pandemic, they are working on trying to grow interest.

#### **Legal**

General Counsel, Noel Quanbeck, delivered the report for ILCC's legal division.

There are 48 cases pending, with a breakdown of being 5 distributor cases, 1 supplier case, 39 retailer cases, and 3 Sale of Alcohol to Minor cases. Additionally, legal closed out 65 cases that were in the pipeline.

For Pre-Disciplinary Cases, there are currently 24 cases which have outstanding requests for PDC's, and 15 PDC's were conducted in September.

ILCC legal currently has 20 appeals pending and answered 7 Advisory Opinion Requests.

Commissioner Spann-Cooper inquired about Line Item #29 within the Chief Fiscal Officer, Michael Gentry's report. Chief Fiscal Officer Gentry indicated he would follow up with specific details to the Commissioner's question.

### **Licensing**

The ILCC's licensing manager, Dusanka Marijan, provided the division report for Licensing.

There were 189 in person transactions for September, and 1,833 YTD.

Roben Hall started on August 16, 2022, as our new Executive I position. She is responsible for the Delinquency Cure List, system regression testing and assisting with system enhancement projects.

2,900 licenses were issued in September 2022; a 26% increase compared to the same point in time in 2021.

Additionally, we made changes to our liquor licenses, due to an increase in unlawful altering of the licenses. We now have a watermark and a QR code on the license, which will allow investigators to view the official license on record within the agency.

Also, the ILCC instituted a Pre-Licensing checklist that will help new licensees pass the initial inspection by identifying things our enforcement agents look for.

### **IV. Partner Presentations**

Ben Sprunger, from the Center of Halsted, presented the ILCC with information on the Center and the services it provides.

### **V. Public Comment**

No public comment was given.

### **VI. Child Support Cases**

The Commission moved to dismiss *The Dopest LLC (Brandon Shrome) 22-CS-01* due to coming into compliance. Commissioner Spann-Cooper made the motion and Commissioner Sullivan seconded.

Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	Yes		
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

The motion passed.

**VII. License Revocations (Tax Delinquency Cases)**

In the matter of 22 CR 0004, Commissioner Gibbons motioned to affirm the Illinois Department of Revenue’s findings for revocation. Commissioner Pulido-Sanchez seconded.

Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	Yes		
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

In the case of 22 CR 0005, Commissioner Sullivan made the motion to revoke the license and Commissioner Gibbons seconded.

Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	Yes		
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

**VIII. Comments from the Board**

No comments from the board were made.

**IX. Closing Remarks and Adjournment to Hearing**

Commissioner Spann-Cooper made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Commissioner Sullivan.

Thomas Gibbons	Yes	Melody Spann-Cooper	Yes
Julieta LaMalfa	Yes	Brian Sullivan	Yes
Pat Pulido-Sanchez	Yes		
Cynthia Berg	Yes		

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m. CST.

**ATTEST:**

/S/ Dean Argiris, Acting Commission Secretary

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