

October 2, 2006

Alcohol License Review Committee
c/o Maribeth Witzel-Behl, City Clerk
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Rm. 103
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Committee Members,

It has come to the attention of the Alcohol Issues Committee of Capitol Neighborhoods, Inc. (CNI) that Quinton's Bar & Deli, 319 W. Gorham, is operating as a tavern, not as a restaurant as represented in its license application. As evidence, one of our committee members took the enclosed photographs at approximately 12:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 1, 2006.

As the photographs show, there is no food in evidence. There was no food visible on any table. The sidewalk outside was congested as individuals waited to enter, passing through an ID check as seen in one of the photographs. While checking ID's is laudable, it is not an activity usually associated with bona-fide restaurants. Any reasonable person would conclude from these observations that Quinton's is operating as a tavern, not a restaurant.

Based on these observations, we request an immediate investigation of Quinton's, including an examination of business records to ascertain if the food/alcohol ratio (60%/40%) provided on the license application is accurate. In addition, we respectfully request that the Madison Police Department be solicited for their input in determining whether Quinton's is operating as a restaurant or a tavern.

The proposed Alcohol License Density Plan allows new restaurants, but not taverns in the downtown area. Unless the Alcohol License Review Committee (ALRC) is willing to revoke the licenses of restaurants flagrantly operating as taverns, the density plan cannot succeed. CNI's Alcohol Issues Committee requests that you complete your investigation in a timely manner and make your findings public prior to a final vote on the density plan. If your findings confirm our observations, we expect the ALRC to revoke Quinton's alcohol license.

We appreciate your willingness to act promptly on our complaint, and we will continue to bring violations such as these to your attention for appropriate action.

Sincerely,

Jamie McCarville
Chair, Alcohol Issues Committee