

**CITY OF MADISON
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
Room 401, CCB
266-4511**

DATE: May 19, 2026

TO: Alcohol License Review Committee Members

FROM: Jennifer Zilavy, Assistant City Attorney

RE: 2026 Liquor License Renewal Separations: Sotto Night Club, 303 N.
Henry Street
Plus Entertainment License

This license was separated at the request of the Madison Police Department for concerns regarding an increase in disturbances at Sotto and concerns regarding overserving patrons (which can in turn lead to an increase in disturbances), and security operation concerns. In 2025, there were 116 calls for service associated with Sotto. Since January 2026, there have already been 72 calls for service associated with Sotto. Of those 72 calls, there have been thirteen (13) calls resulting in police reports written for disturbances, batteries (at least one substantial) and fights. Madison Police concerns were heightened after an incident on April 4, 2026, in which the liquor beer agent Carla Ortega and co-manager, Sean Ortega were charged with battery* and resisting/obstructing (for not being truthful about incident in bar), respectively. Carla and Sean also manage Cielo, which gives the City concern over whether that establishment will see similar calls for service down the road.

Sotto also offers full bottle service according to their social media.

*Charges were referred to the District Attorney's Office