

Ald. Maniaci  
May 16, 2012

Bridget

Thank you for caring about the tenants at 556 State Street above Whiskey Jacks. As you know there has been ongoing conflict between the residents living above the bar and the management of the bar for some time now regarding the noise level coming from the bar. Several tenants have moved out and many of them do not enjoy a decent nights sleep

You mediated a meeting on March 13, 2012 where Josh the manager of the bar, some residents, myself as the apartment manager and Gus Paras the building owner were present. There was a lot of emotion at that meeting as to the cause of the excessive sound and what could be done about it.

Whiskey Jacks has tried to adjust sound levels but the problem still exists. There seems to be a lack of consistency as to sound mitigation.

Last Thursday Whiskey Jacks had a live band at the bar. Apparently management realized that there would be a noise problem because someone from management came up into the apartment and warned the resident manager Jeff and advised him to put up warning signs.

Jeff told Josh the bar manager that he would not put up warning signs and the sound should never be so loud that it vibrates the dishes off the table. That Thursday May 10th the band did play and the music was very loud, but the DJ'd music between sets was even louder. So loud again that the base vibration levels made it sound like the apartment was going through an earthquake.

Jeff the resident manager did tell me that he observed that same DJ up in the apartments taking some type of measurement. It was assumed that he was measuring sound; the only problem is that the worse sound issues were emanating from when he was DJing himself, not the band.

We feel that this is due to the placement of the house speakers next to the ceiling.

I called you that next day and you told me to write an account of the incident, this is it. I also called the city attorney's office and did get a call back from Jennifer Zilavy but she was leaving on vacation until May 30th.

We need assurances that the bar will mitigate its noise levels to a tolerable level. The tenant base in the apartment has improved dramatically over the last year; we have a good combination of students, working people in downtown and people who are trying to improve their lives.

They deserve the same respect and quiet enjoyment as any other residents in our downtown not only from Whiskey Jacks but from the policy makers as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Vic Villacrez  
556 State Street.