

STATE OF INDIANA

BEFORE THE INDIANA ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF

)

THE PERMIT OF

GEORGIA STREET RHYTHM & BLUES LOUNGE INC

)

RR49-39560

28 W. GEORGIA STREET

)

EX-25-004445

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46225

)

PERMITTEE

ORDER ON VIOLATION HEARING

Comes now the Hearing Judge in this matter and having conducted a hearing in the violation filed in the above-mentioned permit number and the above-mentioned Excise Violation now finds as follows:

FINDINGS

1. Andrew Wignall, Esq, appeared as Prosecutor- Larry Jones (hereinafter referred to as "Jones") appeared for Permittee.
2. Each of the above parties had witnesses who testified.
3. IMPD Officer Molina testified that on December 7, 2025, he was on special assigned duty downtown when, at approximately 3 AM, he came upon a situation at the facility of the Permittee's business where he observed a 6'4" security guard in a black shirt with the word "Security" on it repeatedly punch an individual, including beating him about the face, when he was on the ground.
4. The officer further indicated that the individual was injured as shown in Exhibit 3 with injuries to his face and he was bleeding.
5. He further indicated that he went to the victim and arranged for a technician and assistance and then went into the Permittee's business to locate the individual with the security shirt – there was no indication or testimony that the officer or the individual was prevented or had difficulty entering onto the premises of the permittee as the door was closed but unlocked.
6. Once inside, the officer could not locate the security guard who had, according to other testimony, left the premises, and it was testified that while the officer was inside the premises, there were both patrons and employees on the premises of the Permittee.

7. Indiana State Excise Police Officer Swallow investigated the incident and was told that the video equipment was not working on the date of December 7, 2025, and that the ID scanning equipment was also not working.
8. He also was told by Jones that the Permittee had not conducted a background check on the individual who he identified as Michael Wood serving as a "bouncer", a fairly large, light-skinned African-American male who only worked at the facility for short period of time and had an extensive criminal history of criminal mischief, robbery, and two pending criminal charges, all of which a background search would have disclosed.
9. The officer was unable to talk with Michael Wood as he did not return a phone call to Jones regarding this matter.
10. Officer Swallow also testified about an incident which occurred on January 1, 2026, which was a battery on the former employee of the Permittee who came that day, with Jones' permission and identification as a VIP, with her husband, her sister, and another sister was present at the facility that day.
11. The former employee was struck causing her to go to St. Vincent Hospital where she gave a report to law enforcement which officer Swallow was investigating.
12. The former employee in the report indicated that she was there with her husband and two sisters, one of whom had a birth date of February 5, 2005, and was under 21. At that time-again, on this date, the video equipment for the facility was not operating- and this information was provided in the report from St. Vincent's Hospital and only later was it found that her sister was under 21 at the time.
13. The excise officer wrote an incident report under EX-25-00445 for violation of 905 1-27-2 (O) Public Nuisance and IC 7.1.5.7/10(b) Alcohol Beverage – Allowing Minor in a Tavern.
14. Rickey Neblett, a security employee of Permittee assigned to the front desk allowing people in and watching them leave on December 7, 2025, testified that he stopped letting people in at 2:30 AM and they were escorted out a side door sometime around 3 AM.
15. He further testified that there was an incident regarding the victim in paragraph 3 above and a friend and Wood had been escorted out of the premises and that he witnessed the incident between Wood and the victim which was just outside the premises sometime after 3 AM.
16. He further testified that Wood entered the premises and left and then shortly thereafter the IMPD officer entered the facility and asked where the security guard was but that he offered

no information about the incident, what happened that evening, that morning, and what he observed- in addition, he testified that he did not talk to Jones that evening about the incident or the IMPD officer entering the facility to ask questions about the security guard, Wood.

17. Jones testified that he was at the facility on December 7, 2025, but was not aware of anything that happened as mentioned above – at the time, no one told him about it or that anything happened.
18. He stated that he did not witness anything but he has talked to a number of people about the incident and had an opinion about events that occurred commenting on the victim who was injured and his actions inside the facility and being escorted out, and what happened outside the facility; and the time that it happened; and whether it happened before 3 AM or just after 3 AM
19. He further testified that is their policy to not let anyone in the facility unless they had an ID that listed a data birth, the ID was scanned, they were known by name and age to the facility or that the individual was obviously over the age of 21 – he said they never, ever in a million years would allow someone in who's underage.
20. He testified that the former employee, her husband and sister may have entered the premises, but that the underage sister did not enter with them- there is no video recording showing the individuals entering the facility because the video was not working, and the scanner was not working that also would have identified the individuals entering.
21. Jones further indicated that the former employee was discharged under unfavorable circumstances and was banned from the facility, but he let her in at her request on January 1, 2026, as a VIP, and even if the scanner had been working, the underaged individual would not have entered in through that method.

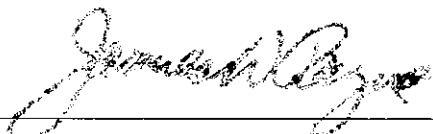
CONCLUSIONS

- A. On December 7, 2025, Michael Wood was a security staff member of the Permittee, was in an altercation with the victim and his friend, was observed by officer Molina striking the victim in a rude, insolent and angry manner while he was both standing up and laying down, causing injury, and then entered the premises of the Permittee from which he left, not telling Jones anything of the incident or remaining to be questioned by the IMPD officer who was on the scene at the time and entered the facility looking for Wood.

- B. On January 1, 2026, a former employee (her husband, sister, and another sister who was underage) worked at the facility of the Permittee and while there other sister was under age with a data birth of February 5, 2005, and that this information was disclosed on that date, January 1, 2026, while the former employee was at St. Vincent Hospital giving a report to law enforcement.
- C. That the Permittee conducted no background check for Michael Wood when he was hired, which would've disclosed significant criminal background information including two pending criminal charges.
- D. That there was a video equipment recording system in place on December 7, 2025, but it was not working and available to document what occurred that evening.
- E. That there was no working ID scanner on December 7, 2025.
- F. That there was a video equipment recording system in place on January 1, 2026, but it was not working and available to document what occurred that evening.
- G. That there was no ID scanner working or recording on January 1, 2026.
- H. That the greater weight of the evidence disclosed that the Permittee, Georgia Street Rhythm and Blues Lounge Inc. created or allowed to be created a public nuisance on the premises at 28 W. Georgia St., Indianapolis, IN on December 5, 2025
- I. That the greater weight of the evidence disclosed that the Permittee, Georgia Street Rhythm and Blues Lounge Inc. created or allowed to be created a situation where an underage minor was allowed onto the premises on January 1, 2026.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the violation filed under permit number RR49-39560 as EX-25-00445 is true and permittee is ordered to pay \$1000 fine to ATC as a result of the violation.

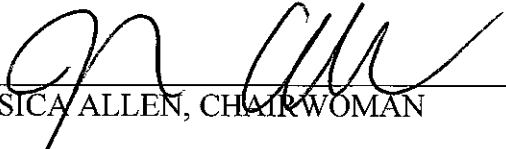
All of which is ordered this 17th day of June 2026.

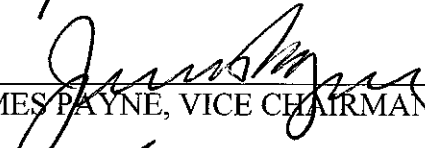

James W. Payne, Hearing Judge

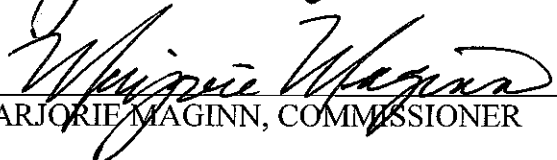
Cc: Andrew Wignall, Esq Prosecutor

Georgia Street Rythm & Blues Lounge Inc, 28 W, Georgia St, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Approved this 4th day of August, 2026


JESSICA ALLEN, CHAIRWOMAN


JAMES PAYNE, VICE CHAIRMAN


MARJORIE MAGINN, COMMISSIONER


MEGAN GARVER, COMMISSIONER