

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission 95 Fourth Street, Suite 3 Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150-2358

Jean M. Lorizio, Esq. Chairman

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

November 25, 2024

WAYAMA GROUP LLC D/B/A MARIO'S RISTORANTE 20 G MAIN STREET NORTH READING, MA 01864 LICENSE#: 05110-RS-0838

VIOLATION DATE: 10/05/2023

HEARD: 4/09/2024

After a hearing on April 9, 2024, the Commission found Wayama Group LLC d/b/a Mario's Ristorante violated M.G.L. Ch. 138, § 23 Unlawful Purchase: No license issued under §§ 12, 14, or 15 and no certificate of fitness issued under § 30 shall authorize the sale of any alcoholic beverages other than those purchased from a licensee under §§ 18, 19, or 19F or 19C or from a holder of a special permit to sell issued under § 22A. The Commission suspends the license for a period of four (4) days of which two (2) will be served and two (2) days will be held in abeyance for a period of two (2) years provided no further violations of Chapter 138 or Commission regulations are found by this Commission.

The suspension shall commence on Monday, January 27, 2025, and terminate on Tuesday, January 28, 2025. The license will be delivered to the Local Licensing Board or its designee on Monday, January 27, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. It will be returned to the licensee on January 29, 2025.

You are advised that pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. c. 138 § 23, you may petition the Commission to accept an offer in compromise in lieu of suspension within twenty (20) calendar days following such notice of such suspension. If accepted, you may pay a fine using the enclosed form which must be signed by the Licensee and a Massachusetts Licensed Accountant.

You are advised that you have the right to appeal this decision under M.G.L. c. 30A to Superior Court within thirty (30) days upon receipt of this notice.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

Jean M. Lorizio Chairman

Telephone: (617) 727-3040 * Fax: (617) 727-1510 * www.mass.gov/abcc

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यह दस्तावेज़ महत्वपूर्ण है और इसका तुरंत अनुवाद किया जाना चाहिए Dokiman sa a enpòtan epi li ta dwe tradwi touswit 'Đây là tài liệu quan trọng và cần được dịch ngay' ឯកសារនេះសំខាន់ណាស់ ហើយត្រូវបកប្រែដាបន្ទាន់។

2023-000243-ad-enf

cc: Local Licensing Board
Frederick G. Mahony, Chief Investigator
Katherine McCormick, Associate General Counsel
David Bolcome, Investigator
Melissa Anderson, Investigator
Stephen V. Miller, Esq.
Administration, File



Chairman

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission 95 Fourth Street, Suite 3 Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150-2358

DECISION

WAYAMA GROUP LLC D/B/A MARIO'S RISTORANTE 20 G MAIN STREET NORTH READING, MA 01864 LICENSE#: 05110-RS-0838

VIOLATION DATE: 10/05/2023

HEARD: 4/09/2024

Wayama Group LLC d/b/a Mario's Ristorante (the "Licensee") holds an alcohol license issued pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138, § 12. The Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission ("ABCC" or "Commission") held a remote hearing via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, regarding an alleged violation of M.G.L. Ch. 138, § 23 Unlawful Purchase: No license issued under §§ 12, 14, or 15 and no certificate of fitness issued under § 30 shall authorize the sale of any alcoholic beverages other than those purchased from a licensee under §§ 18, 19, or 19F or 19C or from a holder of a special permit to sell issued under § 22A. Prior to the commencement of the hearing, the Licensee stipulated to the facts alleged in Investigator Anderson's Report.

The following documents are in evidence:

- 1. Investigator Anderson's Report;
- 2. Photographs of Receipts for Alcoholic Beverages;
- 3. Photographs of Bar Area;
- 4. ABCC Licensing Authority Certification, Transfer of License Approved 8/8/2019;
- 5. Licensee's Stipulation of Facts.

There is one (1) audio recording of this hearing.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On Thursday, October 5, 2023, at approximately 6:00 p.m., Investigators Quinn and Anderson ("Investigators"), inspected the business operation of Wayama Group LLC d/b/a Mario's Ristorante ("Licensee") as a result of a complaint filed with this Commission.
- 2. Investigators entered the licensed premises and spoke to Lamiae Raiss, Licensee and Manager of Record.
- 3. Investigators informed Ms. Raiss of the complaint and asked where she purchases alcoholic beverages for the restaurant. Ms. Raiss stated that she purchases her alcohol from Massachusetts wholesalers and provided Investigators with several invoices. She provided

Investigators with two recent invoices from Martignetti, one invoice dated 3/16/2023 for \$752.35 and another invoice dated 8/11/2023 for \$1,697.23. Ms. Raiss provided additional invoices, one from Fantasy Fine Wines Corp. dated 8/10/2023 for \$1,380.00 and one invoice from Merrimack Valley Distributing Co. Inc. dated 2/23/2023 for \$168.70.

- 4. While Ms. Raiss was printing an invoice from her computer, Investigators observed a cardboard box of what appeared to be receipts. Investigators found approximately 27 receipts for retail package store purchases, ranging in dates from August 26, 2023, through October 4, 2023. These receipts were found to be from:
 - o Total Wines & More, 34 Cambridge Street, Burlington;
 - o New England Beverage, 160 Main Street, North Reading;
 - o One Stop Liquors, 265 Main Street, North Reading; and
 - o East Gate Liquors, 20C Main Street, North Reading.
- 5. When questioned by Investigators, Ms. Raiss admitted she did purchase alcoholic beverages from package stores when the wholesalers did not have the products she wanted. Ms. Raiss stated to Investigators that she was solely responsible for the purchase of the alcoholic beverages. She indicated that she used her business credit card and her personal credit card for these alcohol purchases.
- 6. Investigators informed Ms. Raiss that purchasing alcohol from unauthorized sources was a violation of M.G.L. Ch. 138, § 23.
- 7. Investigators advised Ms. Raiss that a violation report would be filed with the Chief Investigator for further review.
- 8. On October 6, 2023, Ms. Raiss sent Investigator Anderson an email stating that she had placed orders for alcoholic beverages through her distributors.
- Ms. Raiss attended the Commission's hearing and testified she had not been aware that it
 was a violation to purchase alcoholic beverages for her restaurant from a retail package
 store.
- 10. The Licensee has held a license under M.G.L. c. 138, § 12 since 2019 with no prior violations.

CONCLUSION

Based on the evidence, the Commission finds the Licensee violated M.G.L. Ch. 138, § 23 Unlawful Purchase: No license issued under § 12, 14, or 15 and no certificate of fitness under § 30 shall authorize the sale of any alcoholic beverages other than those purchased from a licensee under §§ 18, 19, or 19F or 19C or from a holder of a special permit to sell issued under § 22A. As a result, the Commission suspends the license for a period of four (4) days of which two (2) will be served and two (2) days will be held in abeyance for a period of two (2) years provided no further violations of Chapter 138 or Commission regulations are found by this Commission.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

Jean M. Lorizio, Chairman	Hun M. Inigro
Crystal Matthews, Commissioner	Cuptel Matthe
Deborah A. Baglio, Commissioner	Dimeau a Baylia

Dated: November 25, 2024

You have the right to appeal this decision to the Superior Courts under the provisions of Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws within thirty (30) days of receipt of this decision.

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