

Chairman

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

### **DECISION**

FATHER & SON'S PIZZA INC. D/B/A SOPHIA'S PIZZA & SPORTS BAR 463-465 BRECKWOOD BLVD. SPRINGFIELD, MA 01109

LICENSE#: 00028-RS-1226 VIOLATION DATE: 5/11/2024

HEARD: 9/10/2024

Father & Son's Pizza Inc. d/b/a Sophia's Pizza & Sports Bar ("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, September 10, 2024, regarding an alleged violation of 204 CMR 2.05 (2) Permitting an illegality on the licensed premises, to wit: M.G.L. Ch. 138, § 34C Possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under twenty-one years of age (2 Counts). Prior to the commencement of the hearing, the Licensee stipulated to the facts alleged in Investigator Guarino's Report.

The following documents are in evidence:

- 1. Investigative Report of C. Guarino;
- 2. ABCC Form 43, New License Approval, 7/21/1988;
- 3. Licensee's Stipulation of Facts.

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

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On Saturday, May 11, 2024, at approximately 8:25 p.m., Investigators Guarino and Fleming ("Investigators"), investigated the business operation of Father & Son's Pizza Inc. d/b/a Sophia's Pizza & Sports Bar.
- 2. Investigators approached two youthful appearing males at the pool table who were each in possession of a Michelob Ultra Draft beer. Investigators identified themselves and asked to see proof of legal age to possess alcoholic beverages.
- 3. Underage #1, actual date of birth 12/08/2004 (age 19), admitted to Investigators that he purchased a pitcher of Michelob Ultra beer from the bartender. He stated he was not asked for proof of age at the time of the sale and admitted he had produced a fraudulent identification at the licensed premises in the past.

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- 4. Underage #2, actual date of birth 12/8/2004 (age 19), informed Investigators he had received a glass of water from the bartender. After drinking the water, Underage #2 poured himself a glass of Michelob Ultra draft beer from the pitcher purchased by Underage #1.
- 5. The bartender on duty admitted to selling the pitcher of beer to Underage #1 without asking him for any identification.
- 6. Investigators spoke with Julie Makris, Manager of Record, informed her of the violations and that a report would be submitted to the Chief Investigator for review.
- 7. The Licensee has held a license under M.G.L. c. 138, § 15, since 1988.
- 8. Tom Makris, Licensee, appeared at the Commission hearing with Julie Makris. Mrs. Makris testified as to their policies and procedures and staff training practices which were in place at the time of this incident, as well as steps taken following this incident to prevent future sales to underage individuals. All employees were either certified or re-certified via TIPS training. Mr. & Mrs. Makris are usually there and when they are not, they are able to monitor the licensed premises through their camera system. They conduct frequent training sessions themselves, one on one with employees or in groups. Employees are provided with a black light to inspect identifications and there are multiple copies of the state license ID book throughout the establishment. They are in the process of purchasing an identification scanner.

### CONCLUSION

Based on the evidence, the Commission finds the Licensee violated 204 CMR 2.05 (2) Permitting an illegality on the licensed premises, to wit: M.G.L. Ch. 138, § 34C Possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under twenty-one years of age (2 Counts). As a result, the Commission issues a **WARNING**.

## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTROL COMMISSION

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Jean M. Lorizio, Chairman	Stan M. Formio	
Crystal Matthews, Commissioner	Centl Mattho	
Deborah A. Baglio, Commissioner _	Deborar a Baglio	

Dated: October 17, 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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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 ហើយគ្រូវបកប្រែងាបន្ទាន់។

## 2024-000117-ad-enf

cc: Local Licensing Board
Frederick G. Mahony, Chief Investigator
Katherine McCormick, Esq., Associate General Counsel
Caroline Guarino, Investigator
Sean Fleming, Investigator
Administration, File