



**City of Minneapolis**  
**Licenses and Consumer Services Division**  
 350 South Fifth Street Room 1-C City Hall  
 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415  
[www.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.minneapolismn.gov)

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**FINDINGS OF FACT  
 CONCLUSIONS, AND  
 RECOMMENDATIONS**

In the Matter of License No. L196 50240 LA QUE BUENA  
 for LIQ ON-SALE E W/SS SERIES 2000

Held by:  
**LA QUE BUENA INC**  
**ATTN: JUAN SANCHEZ**  
**1609-11 LAKE ST E**  
**MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55407**

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14-1068627

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This matter came before a License Settlement Conference On September 10, 2014. Appearing for the City were Business License Manager Grant Wilson, Lead License Inspector Julie Casey, Lt Amelia Huffman, and Officer Chris Leum. Appearing for La Que Buena, Inc. was owner, Juan Sanchez and Manager Cindy Leon. Based on the information presented at the hearing the department makes the following findings fact.

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. The Minneapolis Police Department License Investigative Division conducts youth alcohol compliance checks in an effort to verify that retail-alcohol license holders are not serving alcohol to persons under the age of 21.
2. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 the MPD conducted a youth alcohol compliance check at La Que Buena Restaurant located at 1609 E. Lake St. Two shoppers, a 19 and 20 year old, were sent into your business in an attempt to purchase alcohol. The shoppers ordered two bottles of Corona Beer. The bartender asked for the shopper's ID's. The manager, Cindy asked the bartender to verify the year on the ID's and he said 1990. The bartender then opened and served the shoppers each a bottle of Corona beer. The beer was paid for

then opened and served the shoppers each a bottle of Corona beer. The beer was paid for and the change was handed back to the shoppers. At this point, the transaction was complete and the business was considered to have failed the compliance check. As a result of the failure, an administrative citation was issued to La Que Buena in the amount of \$500.00. The fine has been paid by La Que Buena.

3. On July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 the MPD conducted an alcohol compliance re-check at La Que Buena Restaurant. Two underage shoppers, 19 and 20 years old, entered La Que Buena in an attempt to purchase alcohol. Two bottles of Modelo Negro beer were ordered by the shoppers. The bartender did not ask for any ID's and the bottles of beer were served to the shoppers. The beer was paid for. At this point, the transaction was complete and the business was considered to have failed the compliance check. An Administrative Citation was issued to La Que Buena in the amount of \$1000. The fine has been paid.

### CONCLUSION

1. On two separate occasions, employees of La Que Buena Restaurant sold alcohol to persons under the age of 21, in violation of Minneapolis City Ordinance 370.10, Minnesota Statute 340A.503 subd.2(1), and the establishment's compliance check policy and procedures of the City of Minneapolis. These compliance failures both occurred in a period of less than 12 months.
2. The licensee has paid the \$500.00 administrative fine for the first violation. The licensee has paid the \$1000.00 fine for the second violation.

### RECOMMENDATION

1. La Que Buena is assessed a \$1500 sanction and a 30 day suspension. \$1000 of the sanction and the 30 day suspension is stayed pending no same or similar violations for a period of two years with the following stipulations. The \$500 sanction shall be paid within one month of signing this agreement.
  - a. Within 30 days of signing this agreement, La Que Buena will purchase an identification card scanner. This scanner will be used by all employees of La Que Buena to prevent sales to persons under the age of 21.
  - b. La Que Buena shall train all employees, in all aspects of alcohol service including the use of identification cards to prevent the sale of alcohol to minors.
  - c. Samples of identification cards shall be posted in a conspicuous place for use of the employees.
  - d. Four times per year, La Que Buena shall conduct self-check of their employees to ensure they are complying with all their policies to prevent the sale of alcohol to minors. La Que Buena shall maintain records as to the date and conduct of these checks and supply them to the City of Minneapolis Upon request.
2. These recommendations are in addition to the previously signed business license operating conditions.

La Que Buena, Inc. understands that the holding of a business or liquor license in the City of Minneapolis is both a privilege and a responsibility. A minimum standard shall

be met in order to hold such a license. One minimum standard is that a license holder is responsible to ensure that its business operates in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, and regulations. It is understood and agreed that any violation of the above Recommendations shall constitute just and proper cause for the immediate imposition of any stayed penalties. It is further understood that compliance with the above Recommendations is a requirement for continuing to hold a license and that failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in additional adverse license action.

I have read and understand the above findings of fact, conclusions, and recommendations. I agree with their contents and I agree with the above noted Recommendations. I understand that the failure of my business to adhere to this agreement may be cause for further suspension, revocation, or denial of my license. I understand that this report must be accepted and approved by the Minneapolis City Council and Mayor.

Based upon the foregoing, this agreement is FREELY & VOLUNTARILY ENTERED INTO IN GOOD FAITH:

Business

LA QUE BIENA  
By: [Signature]  
(signature)

Its: Owner  
(title)

Dated: 10/3, 2014

For the City of Minneapolis:

[Signature]  
Grant J. Wilson  
Manager

Dated: 10-6, 2014