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July 27, 2009

Franklin D. Jackson, Chair
The Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners
5012 Rhode Island Avenue, Room 204
Hyattsville, MD 20781
Via fax to: 301-985-3548

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LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
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Dear Mr. Jackson:

As the Senator and Delegates for the 23A District of Maryland, we are writing in advance of your hearing this Tuesday concerning the license transfer application for Rio Sports Bar and Grille. We strongly urge you to deny this transfer unless all current restrictions are upheld and the few additional restrictions requested by the community are made conditions of the license transfer.

As you know, there has been a long history of violence, shooting, and violations at the site located at 13501 Baltimore Ave, Laurel, MD 20707. It is because of that history that in June of 2006, the Commission ruled that any transferee of that license must operate a "family friendly sit down restaurant".

At that time, a restriction was placed that there be no live entertainment either inside or outside the restaurant. We believe that the restriction should be revised to clarify the inclusion of no Disc Jockey (DJ) or Master of Ceremony (MC), as they qualify as "live entertainment".

It is our belief that the proposed business operations described in the license transfer application do not meet the restrictions placed by the commission in June and then reiterated in the Sept 2006 ruling. The safety and welfare of our community is of paramount importance and for the reasons stated above, we vehemently request that the license transfer application be denied unless all outlined conditions are met.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to let us know.

We are sincerely,

Douglas J.J. Peters
Senator

James W. Hubbard
Delegate

Gerron S. Levi
Delegate