## NOEL D. GERRY BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

## REGISSED CITY CLERK'S OFFICE SECRETARIAT IOW

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1120 Finch Avenue West Suite #601 Toronto, Ontario M3J 3H7

Telephone: 416-972-1161 Fax: 416-900-6077

Cell: 416-720-1492 Email: gerrylaw@rogers.com

October 19, 2015

Licensing and Standards Committee City of Toronto, Council 10th floor, West Tower, City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Sirs:

Re: LS7..2 – Prohibiting Hookah (Waterpipe) Use in Licensed Establishments Licensing and Standards Committee Consideration on October 22, 2015

I am writing again on behalf of my several owners of Hookah establishments in the City of Toronto (list attached).

Once again, I am unable to attend the meeting personally as I am required to appear in proceedings at the Toronto Licensing Tribunal and court. I had scheduled time to appear before the Committee on the original meeting date of October 19, 2015 but cannot attend on the rescheduled date of October 22, 2015.

In any event, I have reviewed the report dated October 9, 2015 and advise that my clients would support the implementation of licensing requirements for their establishments. My clients are prepared to consult with MLS in the drafting of a business licence by-law and are prepared to submit to such reasonable regulations that are "aimed at addressing some of the negative impacts on patrons, employees, neighbors, and the general public" (page 5). The general outline of the requirements for a licensing regime as set in Attachment 1 to the report are, with exception of prohibiting the sale and service of refreshments, reasonable under the circumstances and my clients are confident that MLS, with the aid of consultation from stakeholders could craft a by-law that balances both the interests of the general public and the licence holders. There is simply no need to impose a ban and in the process, destroy a viable business constituency that employs many individuals and serves the thriving Middle Eastern and North African ethnic community in this City.

We kindly request that this agenda item be deferred to allow MLS to begin the process of drafting a proposed by-law.

I would kindly request that I be informed of any consultations, meetings, reports etc. that arise as a result of this process.

I thank you for taking the time to review and consider these comments.

Yours very truly,

Noel D. Gerry

3 Kings Café & Lounge

Alexandria Café

Argileh Café Rotana Café

Hot Pot Café

Nile Palace Café

Sequoia Lounge

Dreams Café

Arabian Palace

Layali Elshark

Um Kalthoum

Golden Restaurant

Mavi Café

Shishawarma Inc.

2061 Lawrence Avenue East, 1940 Lawrence Avenue East, Scarborough 361 Younge Street, 1530 Danforth Ave, Toronto, ON 1336 Danforth Ave, Toronto, ON 1950 Lawrence Avenue East, Unit 3, Scaroborugh 2034 Lawrence Avenue East, Scaroborugh 2088 Lawrence Avenue East, Scaroborugh 1331 Warden Avenue, Unit #3, Scarborough, ON 1883 Lawrence Avenue East, Scarborough, ON, M1R 2Y3 2175 Lawrence Avenue East, Scaroborugh 1375 Danforth Road, Units 11-12, Scarborough, ON, M1J 1GJ 960 Danforth Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4J 2Z9 599 Yonge Street, Toronto, ON, M4Y 1L1