

## Reasons for Modification

### INTRODUCTION:

The VIP Room has been in existence for more than four (4) decades. Community outreach has always been key and the owners of the VIP Room while working toward modifying their license reached out to The Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) representative Scot Knickerbocker and The Office of Planning (OP) Stephen Mordfin, Ward Four Council Member Brandon Todd and Paul Goldstein to discuss the modification they were going to seek. All of these individuals are supportive of our modification.

### I. MODIFICATIONS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED:

1. The VIP Room respectfully requests a modification of condition #1 in BZA Order 12799 which prohibits the sale of alcohol on the premises. This modification would now give The VIP Room the right to sell alcohol, have alcohol on the premises and the right to accept money at the door for various events, without having to continue to get "temporary licenses".

### II. The VIP Room owners believe the board should grant this request for the following reasons:

1. The VIP Room owners have been paying for a temporary license since 2000, which allows them to have a cash bar, take money at the door and to have alcohol on the premises;
2. Other business establishments in the same zone as the VIP Room, with the same license sell alcohol, are allowed to have alcohol on the premises and are allowed to accept money at the door;
3. The VIP Room is paying the same amount for their license as other businesses but is being denied the right to do the same things as other businesses;
4. The VIP Room does not want to lose business due to the different rules being imposed on them contrary to businesses with the same license;
5. The VIP Room has been on 3rd Street, NW since 1963, is a well-respected business and has not had any problems in the neighborhood since the time the order was issued;
6. The VIP Room is in a commercial district and in 1979, the Board indicated that an applicant could operate a restaurant, bar or cocktail lounge;
7. The VIP Room has the support from the ANC who have frequented the VIP Room and seen first-hand the workings of the VIP Room;
8. The VIP Room has wedding receptions, birthday parties, anniversary parties, repasts and other special events and without the ability to serve alcohol, have alcohol on the premises or the ability to accept money at the door, the VIP Room revenue will suffer unlike other businesses who are allowed to do all of the things that the license provides them to do, whereby these businesses make tremendous revenue without restrictions imposed upon them;

We respectfully request modification of our license.