

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED****Licensing Department**

Millgarth Police Station  
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LS2 7HX

***Leeds District Licensing Department***

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Website:

7 August 2012

**Mr Jean – Claude Dooh,  
59 Bexley Avenue  
Leeds LS8 5LT**

**cc. Entertainment Licensing Section. Leeds City Council, Civic Hall, Leeds. LS1 1UR**

**RE: AFRO-DIASPORA, UNIT 10 SHAFTSBURY PARADE, HAREHILLS LANE, LEEDS LS9 6PJ  
APPLICATION FOR NEW PREMISES LICENCE – LICENSING ACT 2003:  
POLICE – FULL OBJECTION:**

Thank you for submitting your application for the above premises, this application was received, at the address above, on 19 July 2012.

West Yorkshire Police are of the opinion that your application contains insufficient information about how you intend to meet the licensing objectives.

We therefore confirm that we are submitting a formal representation against your application on the grounds of:-

1. the prevention of crime & disorder
2. the prevention of public nuisance, and
3. the protection of children from harm.

**This application seeks the grant of a premises licence for on sales only. The details of the application are set out below:**

**Sale of Alcohol  
Recorded Music  
Provision of facilities for making music**

**Monday – Thursday 1100hrs x 0200hrs  
Friday and Saturday 1100hrs x 0400hrs  
Sunday 1200hrs x 0100hrs**

**Performance of dance  
Provision of facilities for dancing**

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**Monday – Thursday 1900hrs x 0200hrs**  
**Friday and Saturday 2200hrs x 0400hrs**  
**Sunday 1500hrs x 0100hrs**

### **Late night refreshment**

**Monday – Thursday 2300hrs x 0200hrs**  
**Friday and Saturday 2300hrs x 0400hrs**  
**Sunday 2300hrs x 0100hrs**

### **Non-standard timings are not proposed.**

West Yorkshire Police would not support an application of this nature, based on a number of factors. The premises are situated in a predominantly residential area with very few commercial properties and no late night establishments.

The premises have been known previously as The Starlight Bar, The Ibiza Bar, and Byblos. A number of previous applications have been received and refused where concerns have been expressed in relation to the management of the premises and the applicants' ability to run the venue. Whilst the owners of the property have remained the same throughout this period, the proposed 'managers' have differed. What has been constant is their association and links to known persons. The applicants have been considered 'a front' for persons criminally connected, who would not uphold the licensing objectives.

After several proposed changes, and a lengthy period of action planning, a review application was submitted in March 2012. Before the hearing could take place the premises licence holder surrendered the premises licence and no application was received to transfer this document. A chronology of the involvement which has taken place is attached to this letter. This involvement is not just that of WYP but also partner agencies.

The premises has remained closed for several months but it has been brought to my attention that the venue is open and is trading despite there being no licence in place to do so. The first contact I received was on 3 July 2012. A resident contacted the Leeds District Licensing Department to say that the venue was open. Officers were informed that the venue had been open into the early hours of 1 July 2012 and had disturbed local people.

On 4 July 2012 Officers from the Burmantofts and Richmond Hill Neighbourhood Policing Team met with Mr Dooh and explained their concerns. The use of the venue for 'private parties' was also discussed, this has been a tactic used by previous operators when the licence has not extended to cover the desired activities or hours.

Following this contact by NPT officers, further checks were conducted in respect of Mr Dooh. The name was familiar and had come to Police attention previously. Checks of WYP computer systems showed that Mr Dooh and his partner Floberte Ngamo Bon had come to the attention of the Police in 2009, through links to both licensed and unlicensed venues in the Chapeltown area of Leeds. Bon was known to be criminally connected with markers in relation to serious crime and immigration issues.

Following a joint WYP and Immigration Service operation, in February 2010, an unlicensed venue was visited in the Chapeltown area of Leeds. A number of illegal immigrants were deported from the UK as a result of this operation. Floberte Bon was one of these people.

On 4 July 2012 I was copied into an e-mail from Leeds City Council to say that Floberte Ngamou had been in touch with Leeds City Council and also that she had incorporated a limited company called

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Colladera Ltd. Ngamou is actually Bon and the Colladera is one venue she was linked to in the Chapeltown area. This venue is now known as Ritz and is situated at 189 Chapeltown Road Leeds 7.

On 13 June 2012 Bon reported the loss of her Cameroon passport in the name of Ngamou to Millgarth Police Station. Further checks with the Immigration Service show that Bon now has a right to remain in the UK until 2014 and that she has been granted right to remain to be with Mr Dooh.

On 7 July 2012 Officers attended at the premises and spoke to Floberte Bon. Three males were present and were playing cards. Bon was adamant that no sales or supply of alcohol was taking place but admitted having 'family gatherings'. A check of the building located the following stock on site:

- 46 bottles Guinness
- 64 bottles Stella
- 32 bottles Stella
- 20 bottles rose wine
- 7 cases x12 Becks
- 6 cases x12 Stella
- 2 packs x12 Budweiser
- 14 cans fosters
- 1 barrel Tetley's smooth
- 50 empty barrels
- 9 co2 gas cylinders

Bon was warned about 'private parties' and any sale or supply of alcohol.

On 8 July 2012 officers visited and found the premises to be insecure. Once inside they located Bon who was cooking large quantities of food. Bon claimed to be cooking for a large gathering of the Cameroon community. Very little alcohol could be located on site and officers thought that the alcohol had been moved or consumed.

On 12 July 2012 Officers visited the premises and again found them to be insecure. Once inside they located a number of people some of who were in possession of alcoholic drinks. The group denied that the venue was 'a drinking den' and that they had just met up to play cards. Again Bon was present and was advised accordingly.

Due to previous fires at the venue and the apparent use of the building for 'private parties' West Yorkshire Fire Service were contacted and asked to visit the premises. A visit was conducted in an advisory capacity only, however if the application is successful a full inspection will be conducted. The premises were found to be in a very poor state of repair and a number of Fire Service concerns were raised.

On 21 July Officers from Leeds City Council visited the premises and there spoke to a male who identified himself as Alan Persiani. Persiani is actually Alan Zolfaghary who is known to WYP and has been present at the venue when previously visited. Mr Zolfaghary is the owner of the building but has never been the applicant. Large quantities of alcohol were again found on site.

On 1 August 2012 a burglary was reported to have taken place at the premises. The reporting person at this time was Bon however the aggrieved is named as Aman Amiri. Amiri is a previous applicant who has failed on previous occasions to obtain the premises licence for the venue. He links the old to the new management and again raises concerns about this premises and who will actually be in charge. Since the first engagement with Mr Dooh in early July 2012 it has always been Bon who has been the main contact point and who appears to be running the venue.

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Stolen in the burglary was a case of Moët champagne a case of beer and the CCTV system.

West Yorkshire Police would ask that the Licensing Committee reject this application.

L. Dobson  
PC 5783  
Leeds District Licensing

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