



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

*“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”*

October 28, 2016

Chief Peter Newsham  
Chief of Police  
Metropolitan Police Department  
300 Indiana Avenue, NW, Room 5059  
Washington, DC 20001  
[peter.newsham@dc.gov](mailto:peter.newsham@dc.gov)

Mr. Donovan Anderson  
Chairperson  
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
2000 14th Street NW, S400  
Washington, DC 20009

Mr. Fred Moosally  
Director  
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration  
2000 14th Street NW, S400  
Washington, DC 20009  
[fred.moosally@dc.gov](mailto:fred.moosally@dc.gov)

**RE: Request for the Immediate Closure of the Shadow Room (ABRA-075871) at 2131 K Street NW Based on Recent Shooting Outside of the Nightclub and History of Operational Concerns**

Dear Chief Newsham, Chairperson Anderson, and Director Moosally,

At its regular meeting on October 20, 2016, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (**6-0-0**), after a motion made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Coder, to adopt the following resolution:

ANC 2A recommends the revocation of the Shadow Room’s alcohol license and permanent closure of this nightclub based on the assaults with deadly weapons and other life-threatening behavior of the club’s patrons in adjacent residential areas, in addition to repeated underage drinking violations, and the failure of the Shadow Room to abide by its license requirement that specifies that the nightclub is to contact the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and arrange for an MPD reimbursable police detail for every night that it is open.

On several occasions, Shadow Room patrons have been arrested for unlawful possession of semi-automatic weapons on 22nd Street NW where they often park when attending the nightclub. Recently, during the early morning of October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Shadow Room patrons engaged in a massive shooting that shut down 22nd Street NW (30 semi-automatic casings recovered; extensive property damage due to bullets). Bullets were recovered from residents’ and business employees’ vehicles, while residents’ and businesses’ windows were blown out by bullets. Bullets landed on residents’ homes—in one case just feet from where an infant



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was sleeping. The actions of the Shadow Room patrons in discharging over 30 rounds of semi-automatic ammunition on 22nd Street NW into residents’ homes, cars, and businesses meets the legal standard for an Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board Order, initiated by MPD Chief Newsham, summarily suspending the Shadow Room’s Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) license. Local residents and business employees are literally in fear of losing their lives and have sustained extensive property damage from the bullets illegally discharged by Shadow Room patrons. During this incident, the Shadow Room opened in contravention of its ABRA license without requesting the required MPD detail, and has failed to request the required detail during other nights of operation.

It is undisputed that Shadow Room patrons caused the above incident on October 10th, 2016, as arrestees admitted to attending the Shadow Room that night. It is also undisputed that the Shadow Room failed to arrange for a police detail that night as required by their ABRA license.

Accordingly, this establishment presents an “imminent danger to the health and safety of the public,” because its patrons discharge illegal semi-automatic weapons with the intent to kill in the neighborhood, and “no immediately available measure to ameliorate” the situation other than closure of Shadow Room is available since the Shadow Room cannot be relied upon to contact MPD to arrange for an MPD detail, which would have prevented the October 10<sup>th</sup> incident, as required by their license. Accordingly, its license should be summarily suspended by Chief Newsham and the permanent suspension should be upheld by the ABC Board. ABRA should further investigate and sanction via revocation of the license for the Shadow Room’s failure to abide by its license requirement of an MPD detail. Moreover, substantial evidence of past ABRA license violations and MPD police reports supports that the establishment has an investigative history that demonstrates that the incident on October 10th, 2016 is not an isolated occurrence, but that violence both inside and outside the establishment has been a reality for this establishment since it opened.

There is no doubt that the Shadow Room nightclub needs to be shut down immediately as local residents are literally fearful for their lives and property due to the illegal weapons brought to the area and discharged by Shadow Room patrons. ANC 2A demands the immediate closure of this nightclub.

Commissioners Florence Harmon ([2A03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A03@anc.dc.gov)), Rebecca Coder ([2A02@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A02@anc.dc.gov)), and Patrick Kennedy ([2A01@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A01@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.



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Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy  
Chairperson

CC: Commander Melvin Gresham, Commander, MPD's Second District  
Lieutenant Edward Aragona, Lieutenant, MPD's PSA 207  
Lieutenant Zenobia McBride, Lieutenant, MPD's PSA 207  
Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward 2  
Sherri Kimbel, Director of Constituent Services, Councilmember Jack Evans  
Steve Acott, Co-Owner, Shadow Room