



# SHARMALAW

LAW OFFICES OF RAVI IVAN SHARMA, P.C.

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March 29, 2018

Susan Stetzer, District Manager  
Manhattan Community Board No. 3  
59 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York NY 10003

**RE: Club Cumming, 505 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Request to Change Method of Operation**

Dear Ms. Stetzer:

Attached please find a copy of the requested questionnaire and materials in advance of the SLA committee meeting scheduled for April 9, 2018.

The materials include:

- twenty-five (25) letters in support received thus far
- proof that the premises is a permitted non-conforming use since 1935
- that a complaint in December 2017 investigated by the New York Department of Buildings turned up no unpermitted activity upon inspection
- a printout of all 311 complaints since 2010 on the entirety of East 6<sup>th</sup> Street indicating no noise complaints ever for this business.

The licensee will supplement this with petitions in support, further letters and will attend the meeting with the owners and supporters who will speak at the meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or further requests.

Very truly yours,



Ravi Ivan Sharma



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

59 East 4th Street - New York, NY 10003

Phone (212) 533-5300

www.cb3manhattan.org - info@cb3manhattan.org

Alysha Lewis-Coleman, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

**Community Board 3 Liquor License Application Questionnaire**

Please bring the following items to the meeting:

NOTE: ALL ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR APPLICATION TO BE CONSIDERED.

- Photographs of the inside and outside of the premise.
- Schematics, floor plans or architectural drawings of the inside of the premise.
- A proposed food and or drink menu.
- Petition in support of proposed business or change in business with signatures from residential tenants at location and in buildings adjacent to, across the street from and behind proposed location. Petition must give proposed hours and method of operation. For example: restaurant, sports bar, combination restaurant/bar. (petition provided)
- Notice of proposed business to block or tenant association if one exists. You can find community groups and contact information on the CB 3 website:  
[http://www.nyc.gov/html/mancb3/html/communitygroups/community\\_group\\_listings.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/mancb3/html/communitygroups/community_group_listings.shtml)
- Photographs of proof of conspicuous posting of meeting with newspaper showing date.
- If applicant has been or is licensed anywhere in City, letter from applicable community board indicating history of complaints and other comments.

Check which you are applying for:

- new liquor license
- alteration of an existing liquor license
- corporate change
- Request to Change Method of Operation

Check if either of these apply:

- sale of assets
- upgrade (change of class) of an existing liquor license

Today's Date: March 28, 2018

**If applying for sale of assets, you must bring letter from current owner confirming that you are buying business or have the seller come with you to the meeting.**

Is location currently licensed?  Yes  No Type of license: OP

If alteration, describe nature of alteration: No Alteration -- seek to change method to add live music and dj

Previous or current use of the location: Bar

Corporation and trade name of current license: Corsica Entertainment Inc. dba Club Cumming

**APPLICANT:**

Premise address: 505 East 6th St. New York, NY 10009

Cross streets: Avenue A and 6th Street

Name of applicant and all principals: Alan Cumming, Daniel Nardicio, Benjamin Maisani and Darren Dryden  
Corsica Entertainment Inc.

Trade name (DBA): Club Cumming

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26 Broadway, 26th Floor  
New York NY 10004  
(212) 537-5957  
ravi@sharmalaw.com

**PREMISE:**

Type of building and number of floors: 6 story residential with bar and grill on ground floor

Will any outside area or sidewalk cafe be used for the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages?  
(includes roof & yard)  Yes  No If Yes, describe and show on diagram: \_\_\_\_\_

Does premise have a valid Certificate of Occupancy and all appropriate permits, including for any  
back or side yard use?  Yes  No What is maximum NUMBER of people permitted? 74

But have a valid letter of no object from DOB

Do you plan to apply for Public Assembly permit?  Yes  No

What is the zoning designation (check zoning using map: <http://gis.nyc.gov/doitt/nycitymap/> -  
please give specific zoning designation, such as R8 or C2):

R7B -- This location is a permitted non-comforming use since 1935

**PROPOSED METHOD OF OPERATION:**

Will any other business besides food or alcohol service be conducted at premise?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe what type: \_\_\_\_\_

What are the proposed days/hours of operation? (Specify days and hours each day and hours of  
outdoor space) 7 days a week/ 6p.m. - 4a.m. (no outdoor space)

Number of tables? 6 Total number of seats? 25

How many stand-up bars/ bar seats are located on the premise? 1 - 8 seats

(A **stand up bar** is any bar or counter (whether with seating or not) over which a patron can order,  
pay for and receive an alcoholic beverage)

Describe all bars (length, shape and location): straight

Does premise have a full kitchen  Yes  No?

Does it have a food preparation area?  Yes  No (If any, show on diagram)

Is food available for sale?  Yes  No If yes, describe type of food and submit a menu  
light snacks

What are the hours kitchen will be open? \_\_\_\_\_

Will a manager or principal always be on site?  Yes  No If yes, which? both depending on time

How many employees will there be? 8

Do you have or plan to install  French doors  accordion doors or  windows?

Will there be TVs/monitors?  Yes  No (If Yes, how many?) \_\_\_\_\_

Will premise have music?  Yes  No

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If Yes, what type of music?  Live musician  DJ  Juke box  Tapes/CDs/iPod

If other type, please describe \_\_\_\_\_

What will be the music volume?  Background (quiet)  Entertainment level

Please describe your sound system: 4 small speaker system

Will you host any promoted events, scheduled performances or any event at which a cover fee is charged? If Yes, what type of events or performances are proposed and how often? No

How do you plan to manage vehicular traffic and crowds on the sidewalk caused by your establishment? Please attach plans. (Please do not answer "we do not anticipate congestion.")

Will there be security personnel?  Yes  No (If Yes, how many and when) \_\_\_\_\_  
we admit people directly into the premises if it becomes to busy, we ask people to go elsewhere until phoned that there is space

How do you plan to manage noise inside and outside your business so neighbors will not be affected? Please attach plans.

Do you have sound proofing installed?  Yes  No  
If not, do you plan to install sound-proofing?  Yes  No

**APPLICANT HISTORY:**

Has this corporation or any principal been licensed previously?  Yes  No  
If yes, please indicate name of establishment: Ajjacio Inc. (Benjamin Maisani)  
Address: 40 Avenue C, New York NY 10009 Community Board # 3  
Dates of operation: Current

**If you answered "Yes" to the above question, please provide a letter from the community board indicating history of complaints or other comments.**

Has any principal had work experience similar to the proposed business?  Yes  No If Yes, please attach explanation of experience or resume.

Does any principal have other businesses in this area?  Yes  No If Yes, please give trade name and describe type of business Ajaccio Inc., 40 Avenue C, New York NY 10009

Has any principal had SLA reports or action within the past 3 years?  Yes  No If Yes, attach list of violations and dates of violations and outcomes, if any. 1 pending notice of pleading pending method of operation upon complaint of Community Board no. 3 that this application is addressed

Attach a separate diagram that indicates the location (**name and address**) and total number of establishments selling/serving beer, wine (B/W) or liquor (OP) for 2 blocks in each direction. Please indicate whether establishments have On-Premise (OP) licenses. Please label streets and avenues and identify your location. Use letters to indicate **Bar, Restaurant**, etc. The diagram must be submitted with the questionnaire to the Community Board before the meeting.

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**LOCATION:**

How many licensed establishments are within 1 block? 4

How many On-Premise (OP) liquor licenses are within 500 feet? 23

Is premise within 200 feet of any school or place of worship?  Yes  No

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

Please see the Community Board website to find block associations or tenant associations in the immediate vicinity of your location for community outreach. Applicants are encouraged to reach out to community groups. Also use provided petitions, which clearly state the name, address, license for which you are applying, and the hours and method of operation of your establishment at the top of each page. (Attach additional sheets of paper as necessary).

***We are including the following questions to be able to prepare stipulations and have the meeting be faster and more efficient. Please answer per your business plan; do not plan to negotiate at the meeting.***

1.  I will operate a full-service restaurant, specifically a (type of restaurant) \_\_\_\_\_, with a kitchen open and serving food during all hours of operation OR  I have less than full-service kitchen but will serve food all hours of operation.
2.  I will close any front or rear façade doors and windows at 10:00 P.M. every night or when amplified sound is playing, including but not limited to DJs, live music and live nonmusical performances.
3.  I will not have  DJs,  live music,  promoted events,  any event at which a cover fee is charged,  scheduled performances,  more than \_\_\_\_ DJs / promoted events per \_\_\_\_,  more than \_\_\_\_ private parties per \_\_\_\_\_.
4.  I will play ambient recorded background music only.
5.  I will not apply for an alteration to the method of operation or for any physical alterations of any nature without first coming before CB 3.
6.  I will not seek a change in class to a full on-premise liquor license without first obtaining approval from CB 3.
7.  I will not participate in pub crawls or have party buses come to my establishment.
8.  I will not have a happy hour or drink specials with or without time restrictions OR  I will have happy hour and it will end by 8pm.
9.  I will not have wait lines outside.  I will have a staff person responsible for ensuring no loitering, noise or crowds outside.
10.  Residents may contact the manager/owner at the number below. Any complaints will be addressed immediately. I will revisit the above-stated method of operation if necessary in order to minimize my establishment's impact on my neighbors.

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ravi@sharmalaw.com





From: Soretta Rodack [REDACTED]  
Subject: Re: From Club Cumming  
Date: March 28, 2018 at 10:55 PM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED] rav@sharmaaw.com

---

Hello, Benjamin,

Thank you for contacting me. I have contacted the board of 6BC Garden, and we are delighted to support you and welcome Club Cumming to the neighborhood. As a matter of fact, we would like to invite you and your club patrons to visit our garden often, and perhaps even use the garden for a venue (of course, due to Park Department restrictions, any event would have to be alcohol free).

We wish you all success.

Regards,

Soretta Rodack  
for 6BC Garden

*"I am what I am and that's all what I am" - Popeye*

-----Original Message-----

From: Antoine Maisani [REDACTED]  
To: jasparmom [REDACTED]  
Cc: daniel nardicio [REDACTED]; darren dryden [REDACTED]; Ravi Ivan Sharma <[ravi@sharmalaw.com](mailto:ravi@sharmalaw.com)>  
Sent: Wed, Mar 28, 2018 6:14 pm  
Subject: From Club Cumming

To whom this may concern,

My name is Benjamin Maisani, and I am one of the 4 owners of the little bar Club Cumming, located at 505 East 6th street, between Avenue A and Avenue B. We are currently in the process of applying to the State Liquor Authority for a change of our methods of operation, which would allow us to have live music and DJs. As part of this process, we were told by Community Board 3 to send a notice to our block association. I understand that your organization's main focus is on community gardens and preservation, but you seem to be the closest we have to a block association, so I'm reaching out to you in the hope that you could offer your support for our application.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for your assistance.

Best,

Benjamin Maisani



VOTE  
BLUE

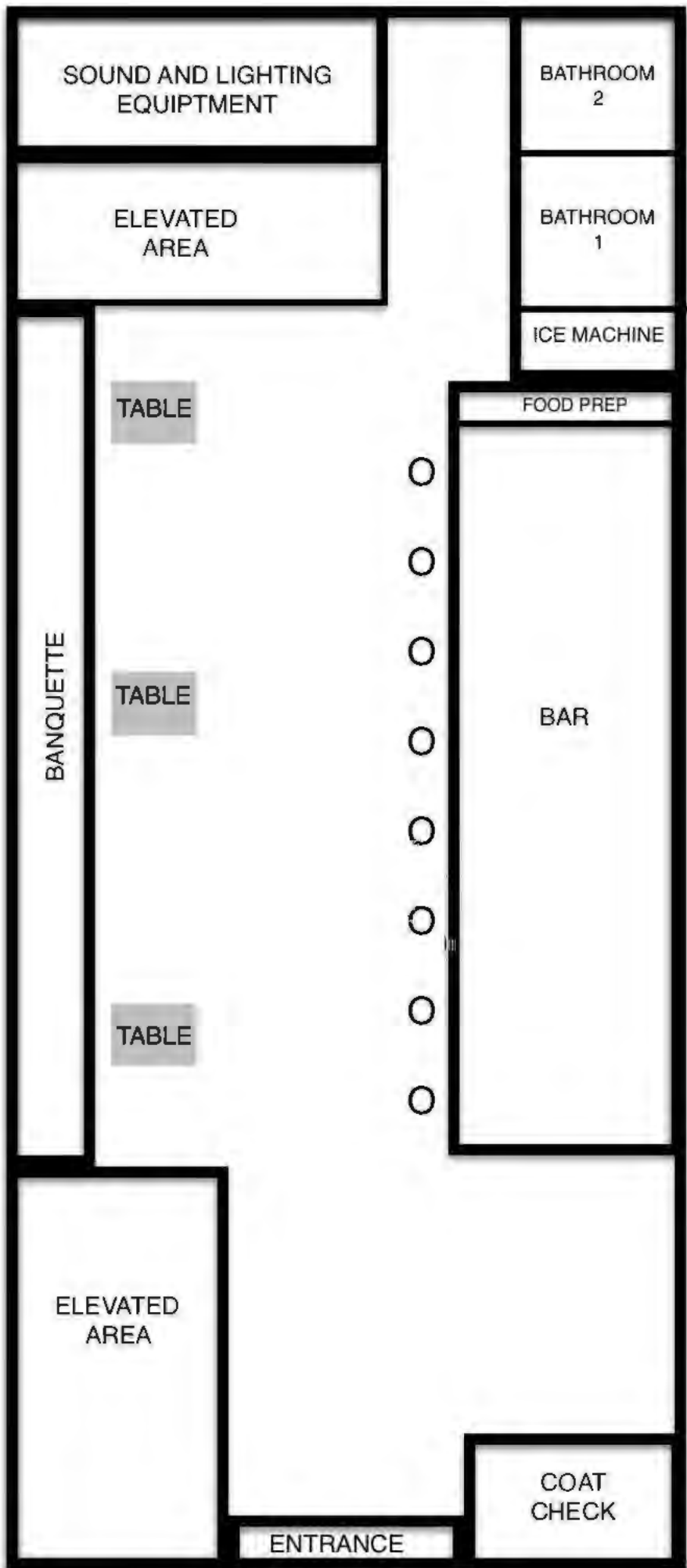
Club  
Cumming











**CLUB CUMMING**

16 FT. WIDE  
51 FT. LONG

BAR IS  
6 FT WIDE  
15 FT LONG



**CLUB CUMMING'S  
TASTY BITS**

**BETTY BUCKLEY'S  
BAWDY BLACK BEAN SOUP**

**\$8**

**BROADWAY BARES  
RED HOT BEEFY BURRITO**

**\$8**

**PATTY LUPONE'S  
PERFECTO VEGETARIAN PIZZETTA**

**\$8**

**CHITA RIVERA'S  
CHA CHA CHEESEBURGER**

**\$8**



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
60 HUDSON STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10013

JOEL A. MIELE, Sr., P.E., Commissioner

BOROUGH OFFICES:

MANHATTAN  
60 HUDSON ST., 5TH FLOOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10013

BRONX  
1932 ARTHUR AVENUE  
BRONX, NY 10457

BROOKLYN  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
BROOKLYN, NY 11201

QUEENS  
126-06 QUEENS BLVD.  
KEW GARDENS, NY 11415

STATEN ISLAND  
BOROUGH HALL  
ST. GEORGE, NY 10301

December 4, 1995

New York State Liquor Authority  
250 Broadway  
New York, N.Y., 10007

Re: Letter of No Objection  
505 East 6th Street  
Manhattan  
Block: 402 Lot: 63  
No Certificate of Occupancy  
Store and Tenement

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Department has no objection to a Restaurant and Bar, UG.6 (Store, U.G.6) non Place of Assembly less than 75 persons on the first (1st.) story of the referenced premises.

This is based upon departmental records (block / lot : PD 325 /1937).

Sincerely,

JMM:bb

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jose M. Morales  
Asst. to Boro Comm.  
Manhattan

cc: Borough Commissioner E. Livian, P.E.  
Deputy Borough Superintendent M. Shah, P.E.  
Deputy Borough Superintendent L.V.Osorio, R.A.  
L.N.O. File  
Premise File







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NYC Department of Buildings

### Overview for Complaint #:1468498 = RESOLVED

Complaint at: 505 EAST 6 STREET BIN: 1005117 Borough: MANHATTAN ZIP: 10009

Re: OCCUPANCY CONTRARY TO C/O

Category Code: 31 CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY - NONE/ILLEGAL/CONTRARY TO CO

Assigned To: EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Priority: C

Received: 12/21/2017 Block: 402 Lot: 63 Community Board: 103

Owner: MORA MANAGEMENT CORP

Last Inspection: 12/21/2017 - - BY BADGE # 2418

Disposition: 12/22/2017 - I2 - NO VIOLATION WARRANTED FOR COMPLAINT AT TIME OF INSPECTION

Comments: PREMISES IS OPERATING AS A LEGAL EATING AND DRINKING ESTABLISHINGMENT AS A PRE-EXISTING NON-CONFORMING ZONING USE AS PER HPD I-CARD SINCE 1935. PREMISES NOT CROWDED AT TIME OF INSPECTION.

### Complaint Disposition History

#	Disposition Date	Disposition Code	Disposition	Inspection By	Date
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If you have any questions please review these [Frequently Asked Questions](#), the [Glossary](#), or call the 311 Citizen Service Center by dialing 311 or (212) NEW YORK outside of New York City.



# No 311 Noise complaints for premises - none on street since 2014

Full View

311 Service Requests from 2010 to Present  
Service Requests from 2010 to present. This information is automatically updated daily.

Key	Created Date	Complaint Type	Incident Address	Agency	Status
183	07/01/2014 05:16:13 AM	Blocked Driveway	EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
331	01/23/2016 06:34:54 PM	Blocked Driveway	2400-2524 E 6TH ST	NYPD	Open
386	09/28/2017 09:00:47 AM	Damaged Tree	EAST 6TH STREET	DPR	Closed
361	03/08/2018 06:35:11 AM	Damaged Tree	303 EAST 6TH STREET	DPR	Closed
374	08/28/2014 09:13:21 AM	Derelict Vehicle	430 EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
398	08/24/2017 01:13:36 PM	Derelict Vehicle	EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
343	08/19/2014 03:08:47 AM	Homeless Person Assistance	505 EAST 6TH STREET	DHS	Closed
348	09/29/2016 09:14:50 AM	Homeless Person Assistance	1140 EAST 6TH STREET	DHS	Closed
374	04/03/2016 10:58:45 AM	Homeless Person Assistance	E 6TH ST	DHS	Closed
308	10/17/2014 06:42:39 PM	Homeless Person Assistance	888 EAST 6TH STREET	DHS	Closed
318	07/17/2016 07:31:15 AM	Homeless Person Assistance	109 EAST 6TH STREET	DHS	Closed
344	01/23/2016 06:32:02 PM	Illegal Parking	2401-2525 E 6TH ST	NYPD	Open
390	09/13/2015 08:51:46 AM	Illegal Tree Damage	637 EAST 6TH STREET	DPR	Closed
340	10/28/2014 04:01:16 AM	Noise - Commercial	626 EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
385	10/29/2014 02:25:17 AM	Noise - Commercial	630 EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
396	08/19/2014 12:39:31 AM	Noise - Residential	318 EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
321	07/30/2014 11:07:34 PM	Noise - Residential	724 EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
376	09/26/2014 09:01:08 PM	Noise - Residential	724 EAST 6TH STREET	NYPD	Closed
306	11/10/2014 01:11:58 AM	Noise - Residential	532 E 6TH ST	NYPD	Closed
383	01/11/2018 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	724 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Pending
383	10/23/2017 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	530 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Closed
344	10/21/2017 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	318 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Closed
364	12/16/2017 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	906-918 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Closed
317	12/30/2017 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	716 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Pending
364	11/10/2015 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	507 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Closed
372	05/23/2016 12:00:00 AM	Rodent	620 EAST 6TH STREET	DOHMH	Pending

**Filter**

Conditional Formatting

Sort & Roll-Up

**Filter**

Filter this dataset based on c

Street Name - is ▾

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- e. 6th street
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Complaint Type - is ▾

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Not all filter operators may be availa

**+ Add a New Filter Con**

Never created a filter before video.



**Adam Feldman**  
**Theater and Dance Editor | Time Out New York**  
1540 Broadway | 42nd Floor | New York | NY 10036



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

My name is Adam Feldman. I am the theater editor and chief theater critic at *Time Out New York* magazine, where I also cover dance, nightlife and cabaret music. Since 2005, I have served as President of the New York Drama Critics' Circle.

I am writing in enthusiastic support of the beloved Club Cumming, which in a short time has established itself as an essential cultural hub of the East Village. I have been covering the downtown arts scene professionally for more than 20 years, and like many others I have been dismayed at the diminishing number of spaces that foster and nourish performers, writers and musicians. Club Cumming is an oasis of creativity and community, drawing from the best traditions of the past but resolutely planted in the present.

Already, I have grown deeply attached to it; it is my favorite bar in the city, and I go there at least once a week. I am delighted and encouraged by the range and excellence of the acts that the Club Cumming team presents on a nightly basis. Lance Horne's *Mondays in the Club with Lance* is New York City's best musical-theater open-mic night (and I have seen them all); major Broadway talents share the stage with up-and-coming songwriters, storytellers and theater enthusiasts of all stripes. It is a weekly explosion of joy. On other nights, the club features evenings helmed by rising stars: Frankie Sharp's variety show, *Mary*; Daphne Always's *Happy Hour*; Paul Iacono's *Kismet*; the youthful *Cabernet Cabaret*, with Catherine Cohen and Henry Koperski. It an environment where you can get knocked out by unknown talents one moment and then be surprised in the next to see such culture stars as Paul McCartney, Justin Vivian Bond, Penny Arcade, Murray Hill, Meow Meow, the Hot Sardines, the Paul Taylor Dance Company and, of course, Alan Cumming himself.



It is my understanding that live performance and DJs have been suspended at Club Cumming until approval by the State Liquor Authority of a change of method of operation to include live music. This represents a serious loss, and I hope it will be a brief one. The tradition of East Village performance is rich and long, but it is also endangered; Club Cumming is the neighborhood's best new addition in years. I beseech the SLA to give Club Cumming the permission it needs. It would be heartbreaking if the bar could not continue with its hugely successful and valuable mission: providing employment to myriad performers, showcasing exciting new work and infusing cultural lifeblood into the East Village.

Yours sincerely,



Adam Feldman (Mar 26, 2018)

Adam Feldman



325 HUDSON STREET / NEW YORK, NY 10013 / PH: 212.507.9700 / FAX: 212.507.9701 / [www.embassyrow.com](http://www.embassyrow.com)

My name is Andy Cohen and I have been a long-time patron and supporter of the East Village bar Club Cumming, formerly known as Eastern Bloc. I believe this unique spot is providing a great service to the local community by offering a much-needed haven for creative entertainment. They regularly feature local and up-and-coming talent, and offer a platform for artists, musicians, and performers of all stripes. Over the years, they also have played an important civic role by hosting various local and national political fundraisers (Obama and Hillary election campaigns, Carlina Rivera), and for non-profit organizations such as Gays Against Guns. Every Christmas for the past decade, they have organized a toy drive for local kids. In pursuing their passion for both eclectic entertainment and social activism, I feel that they continue a rich East Village tradition of queer performance and community gathering that have marked the colorful history of nightlife in that neighborhood, and I applaud their track record.

I should emphasize that they have never received any complaints from their neighbors, nor from the police. They have reached out to Raymond Layden, the Community Affairs liaison of the Ninth Precinct, who confirmed that there hadn't been a single problem in the police records for the last 13 years that they have been in operation in this location since their previous incarnation as Eastern Bloc until the present day. They also have excellent relationships both with their landlord and the tenants who live in their building, and who can vouch for their dedicated efforts in acting as responsible bar owners/operators.

I read somewhere that Alan Cumming, one of the four owners of Club Cumming, said that he wanted his bar 'to be a home for everyone of all ages, all genders, all sexualities, who all enjoy letting go and making some mischief. No judgments, no attitude, no rules, except kindness, acceptance and fun.' And I have to say that has actually happened. From their knitting night on Tuesdays to singalong and performance evenings to dance parties, this one-of-a-kind bar has attracted such a range of people of all ages, genders and sexualities, and the overwhelming feedback is that the spirit of inclusion, kindness and support from everyone who comes by is palpable.

It is my understanding that the owners of Club Cumming respectfully ask the State Liquor Authority to grant them a change in their methods of operation which would allow live music, live performances as well as DJs on their premises. This letter is in support of such a petition, as I believe that such allowance is vital in order for Club Cumming to keep conducting business in the way that is best suited to its stated mission.

Thank you,

Andy Cohen

*from the desk of*  
*Julie Garnyé*

March 25, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf and with regards to live music being permitted to be played at Club Cumming in the East Village.

I am a singer and an actress and have sung in spaces in New York City ranging from Carnegie Hall to Broadway show stages to Birdland Jazz Club and never, in my career in New York, have I encountered a place where I can be free to be truly myself and sing with abandon. Club Cumming has given me that gift. In that space, there is a sense of welcome, as energy of inclusion that has been created by Mr. Cumming, Mr. Horne, Mr. Nardicio and the rest of the team there that is breathtaking and intoxicating. And while I spend most of my livelihood preparing music and singing on larger stages, when I arrive at Club Cumming, I can breathe freely in a way I never will anywhere else. I feel enveloped in love and warmth. There is no judgement at Club Cumming - only support and care and joy. I have sung things in that club that I would never dare sing anywhere else in the world because, I know there, the staff and the patrons will welcome my art and my expression with open arms and rejoice that I am willing to try and play. I can't get that anywhere else in the world.

And then there is the diversity of talent! I can get up and sing a huge Celine Dion power ballad, then a beautiful woman will follow me with a sweet lullaby on her ukulele, followed by a seasoned veteran actor telling stories and doing a poetry reading. Where does that happen??? The East Village is world-renowned for its tradition of freedom of performance and the center of the universe for artists of all kinds, shapes, sizes and genres. Club Cumming is reviving that tradition! I has given artists in the East Village a new lease on life for every gender, sexual orientation and age to express themselves - I have seen every one of them in that bar on a single night. People have traveled from all over the world to be there - I have met folks from all four corners of the globe who want to support the artists of New York and the beauty of their self-expression. Club Cumming encourages new talent and veterans alike to be themselves and express who they are freely, lovingly and joyfully.

So please - grant the club the permits they need to operate with live music, live performances and DJs and keep the spirit of the East Village alive.

Thank you for your time,

*Julie Garnyé*

██████████ New York, NY 10023 ~ ██████████ Los Angeles, CA 91601  
phone. ██████████ email. ██████████

# Christian Campbell



March 26, 2018

To whom it may concern,

There is nothing more New York than walking into a bar to see someone on piano and someone behind a microphone with a simple spotlight cutting through the dark. You soon realize you could be seeing the next Stephen Sondheim, Jonathan Larson or Lynn Manuel Miranda sharing from some piece they've been working on.

Club Cumming is a place where master musicians, singers, poets, and storytellers gather to share their craft with one another, New Yorkers and visitors to our city. I am an actor and producer who served as the Vice President of The Player's Club, a private actor's club in NYC, for 3 years. It has been our mission to make sure there continues to be safe spaces for artists in this city. Not many are left here, however, just a scant few in the East Village.

NYC has always been a beacon and hub for artists from around world. We are a core economic contributor to this city's tourist industry for Broadway and Off Broadway. Cabarets, clubs, and bars are the spaces where artists develop, experiment and create the next great American works, plays, films, and musicals.

Without places to gather we are finding it more and more difficult to develop our future works. If this continues, it will have a direct impact on the economic viability of artists being able to live and work in New York City.

Club Cumming has already become that quintessential New York cabaret bar from which we create and commune.

Help us make sure there will always be someone at that piano and mic.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Christian Campbell

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christian Campbell".



# America Olivo

March 26, 2018

To whom it may concern,

I love New York City. As an actor/musician/writer, originally from Los Angeles, I chose to live in NYC instead, because it's where art thrives. Los Angeles is an industry. I mention that because over the last couple decades, I have seen that change. More and more artists are being pushed out of the city, struggling to find space to live and perform.

What was once the heart of the underground art scene, is now almost entirely inhospitable to us. More small theatre companies, cabaret clubs, independent theatres are closing while rents are becoming extraordinarily high with foreign money buying up and warehouse properties. An investment group recently pushed out of my Hell's Kitchen apartment by tripling my rent with only a couple weeks notice. I know first hand hard it is to find space in New York where artists can be free of judgment and confines of our budgets. There are fewer and fewer places where we can express ourselves, develop new works, and have a sense of community. That was, until the opening of Club Cumming.

Alan Cumming and Daniel Nardicio's club's commitment to supporting downtown artists in NYC was the first ray of hope in a decade for our survival. Since its opening, I have witnessed it become that safe place for my artistic friends to gather and support one another as a community in the midst of this difficult time. It is our church.

Every city official understands the importance of art and culture to the well being of their society. Please help us continue to keep New York City the best city in the world and permit Club Cumming to continue its live performance.

Thank you for all you do for our wonderful city.



America Olivo

Austin Ruffer



March 25, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

I am writing in support of Club Cumming's application to switch its license to one that accommodates live performance and music. Since its opening in the fall of last year, Club Cumming has established itself as an essential cultural venue not just in the East Village, but the city as a whole. What has been created here builds on the rich tradition of artistic expression in the Village and the area's history of being a home for marginalized people, immigrants, and other outsiders. I write this as a patron, a participant, and now a member of the Club Cumming family that has blossomed these past several months.

Walking into Club Cumming, you will first be struck by the diversity of the makeup of the crowd. People of all backgrounds, sexualities, genders, and bodies mix, mingle, and find acceptance in a way that is truly rare in so often scene-divided New York nightlife. I have heard songs from the Great American Songbook performed in languages as varied as Hebrew and Tagalog and met with rapturous applause. The former frontman of a rock group shows up and takes the stage. A little person gets the rare opportunity to share a romantic duet with a woman of average height. A performer with cerebral palsy is helped to the stage by patrons to deliver a killer song. And this only describes my experiences with the Club's Monday programming. Each night of the week finds a new event, all unique but all with a common theme of fabulous expression and community. Poetry, play readings, dancing, knitting nights, charity fundraisers, and more have all been featured and have all belonged.

This type of venue, now sadly rare, has rich history in this part of Manhattan. The neighborhoods under the purview of Community Board 3 include the locations of some of the earliest known queer-friendly establishments in city during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the sites of countless political movements, and the homes of artists and musicians that came to define and shape popular culture. Club Cumming falls squarely into this history. It is not yet another example of gentrification; it is a continuation of the neighborhood spirit and ethos.

As for myself, I started frequenting Club Cumming not long after it opened. Since then, I have become involved in the hosting of these raucous Monday piano nights. Because of the seemingly bottomless well of inspiring performers, I have discovered a love of photography in order to capture these beautiful, fleeting moments. I've dabbled in DJing, providing kitschy disco beats. Being surrounded by such supportive people, I have become more confident in myself, more willing to take risks and express myself in new ways. While I work for the actors' labor union during the day, it is at Club Cumming I feel that I am doing what I love. And I am not alone; the crowd of Monday regulars grows

weekly. This is a burgeoning artistic community that will be an asset to the neighborhood. That is why I am more than happy to speak on its behalf.

Regards,

  
Austin Ruffer (Mar 26, 2018)

Austin Ruffer

March 26, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

As a regular patron of Club Cumming, I was disheartened to hear about the hiccup regarding its performance license. Club Cumming is a truly special space, a space which allows new talent to mix with established talent to create magic. It is rare to find a venue in New York City where those of all ages and talents can be encouraged to share the same stage.

For the performers, artists, friends, and patrons whose lives are enriched by this unique venue, I encourage you to grant Club Cumming's license.

Best regards,

*Claire Merrill*

Claire Merrill (Mar 26, 2018)

Claire Merrill

[cmerrill90@gmail.com](mailto:cmerrill90@gmail.com)

Danny Ramirez



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

Club Cumming is a unique and most welcome addition to the East Village, and more importantly, to our City. Here's why.

As a resident of New York City for close to 40 years, I speak from keen experience about the constantly evolving dynamics and changes to our cultural scenes. The one constant in all these many years, has been the cherished and deserved reputation of our City as the truly cultural capital of the world.

Let's be honest about what's now ongoing and happening to our City. Whether it's gentrification, rising rents, scarce housing, our cultural advantage diminishes and suffers with each and every loss. Much has been taken from our once thriving artistic community, much has never been replaced. You already know this to be real, with irreparable damage to our City society.

So along comes Alan Cumming and Company with his Club Cumming. This important actor's contribution and place in our City's cultural world speaks for itself. Now he's chosen to share his talents and good fortune with our City, with all of us.

His venture in the East Village is a safe space for all of us, young and old, talented and spectator, neighbor and tourist to gather as community. Everyone is clearly welcome. You'll find me there on Monday nites, when the Club celebrates and showcases the rich NYC musical theatre heritage. A remarkable and beloved pianist, Lance Horne, assembles Broadway actors and musicians, local talent, anyone with a yearn to be heard. I've been able and honored to share on stage my tales of life these many years in this remarkable City.

Please recognize and allow Alan and his Club to sustain his enriching community gathering place. His remarkable accomplishment and investment in our cultural lives should be acknowledged and applauded. Come by and see for yourself, you just might have a tale to tell.

Sincerely,

  
Danny Ramirez (March 26, 2018)

Danny Ramirez  
' pony '



Drew Brody



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

I am writing this letter in support of live performance at Club Cumming.

In the half a year that Club Cumming has been open, it has become a staple of New York City culture, reviving the downtown spirit of a city that desperately needs music and performance more than ever. I'm a musical theater composer/lyricist who had his first Off Broadway show this year, and the community that has built up around Club Cumming is like nothing I've experienced in 20 years in New York City. Most of my time at Club Cumming has been spent on Monday nights for the open mic musical theater nights, and in that time I've seen people brought together in the same room that would never otherwise be together: Broadway directors and actors mingling with aspiring singers and songwriters, people from a diverse range of backgrounds, races, sexualities, and gender orientations, all feeling part of an inclusive atmosphere that encourages artists to engage with each other and the local audiences as they develop their craft.

In short, live performance at Club Cumming is valuable to the artists, the audiences, and the surrounding neighborhood whose lives and neighborhood are positively impacted by a thriving artistic community. Not allowing live performance would be a striking blow to an entire community of artists whose work needs and deserves a home in New York City.

Sincerely,

  
Drew Brody (Mar 26, 2018)

Drew Brody

Ellie Philips



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

I am writing in support of club cumming's application for a change of license to allow live music at the club.

I first came to club cumming at the invitation of two friends with whom I'd worked on a few shows in the past. I'd already heard stories about magical nights friends of mine had there - Paul McCartney singing Disney songs with Emma Stone, catching an incredible drag show, getting up to sing and having a glass raised to them by Alan himself.

And while the thrill of celebrity has its appeal, what I found there was a true artistic community - a playground for queens and queers and storytellers and artists and passersby who stumble in and wind up blowing your mind. After one week at Monday in the Club with Lance, I became a regular. I've even hosted a few evenings. My time in this space has given me a renewed confidence in myself. Even though Monday nights are the end of a seven-show week for me at New World Stages, I always rush down to sing and bask in the incredible talent.

I'm a native New Yorker whose parents met and fell in love in a host of East Village and LES cultural landmarks that now hold designer clothes, for rent signs, and CVS pharmacies. I grew up on stories of the electric creative incubator that was the East Village/Alphabet City/the LES, and how those spaces shaped the neighborhood and the city as a whole.

That is what club cumming is. It is that kind of space that manages to become a temple to art and creativity that manages to be transcendent and totally accessible. I've sung with and before heroes of mine and never felt anything but support. I've seen opera singers and gospel singers do an impromptu duet. I've heard powerful poetry and had long political discussions with strangers. I've made lifelong friends and watched people fall in love.

Last Monday I ran into an old friend who showed up at around 1am and after catching up, they said to me "My friends and I were at another bar uptown and I said 'we should go to club cumming' and my friend asked what was going on and I said 'I don't know, but whenever I've gone, there's always been something incredible happening.'"

This is a beautiful community and a temple of creativity. It is the kind of space that typifies what made the East Village the beautiful, diverse neighborhood it is today.

Sincerely,

  
Ellie Philips (Mar 26, 2018)

Ellie Philips

From: [REDACTED]

DN

[REDACTED]

Dear Community Board (number ),

Thank You for taking the time out to read my letter on behalf of Club Cumming. I'm a native New Yorker born and raised in Our Fine City, in the Soho area in which I still reside.

Club Cumming, the Owners, and Team are very supportive of the Community and Performers. The establishment brings an added enjoyment to the New York City.

Our City has had a major decline in venues that have allowed new artists a stage to be seen and heard, Club Cumming lends itself in showing support to all performers.

Throughout the years I've seen the loss of flavor and soul our fine City has been known for along with the development of New Artist.

Many Great Performers in the past have Thanked New York City for the opportunity and all the stages they've walked on which now are no longer. I stand by and with Club Cumming, and I extend my heart in asking that you do the same.

Thank You again.

Best Always,  
*Frankie C*

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
*"The Column" by Frankie C*  
[www.thecolumnbyfrankiec.com](http://www.thecolumnbyfrankiec.com)  
[www.thecolumnbyfrankiec.blogspot.com](http://www.thecolumnbyfrankiec.blogspot.com)

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Dan e Nard co

Henry Koperski

March 26, 2018

New York State Liquor Authority

To the Chairman and the Members of the Authority:

I am a New York City pianist and Club Cumming has become one of my favorite new places to play. This venue has provided me with steady weekly work since October. They curate their stage with a variety of unique artistic experiences and treat all the performers with respect. Club Cumming pays their performers and staff very fairly, and to lose the regular work I receive at this venue would be detrimental to my regular income.

I am always proud to play here and I think this is an important part of the East Village scene, and New York City nightlife.

Sincerely,

  
Henry Koperski (Mar 26, 2018)

Henry Koperski



Hunter Canning



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

Club Cumming has become a beacon for creatives.

Over the last seven months I've been producing and programming Mondays at the club. For me, it has become a second home. Where everyone is welcome to step onto the stage and express themselves. Painters, performance artists, Broadway belters, poets, musicians ranging from piano standards to classically trained violinists have stepped up to our humble stage and wowed us, inspired us, infused us with hope, pride and camaraderie. The range of expression, talent and passion floors me every week. Club Cumming has become a place for folks to resist and rejoice. To celebrate what we have and bring us together to take action for what we feel others deserve. We've raised funds for Puerto Rico, anti-gun violence as well as offered up the space for free HIV- testing for folks who may not otherwise have access.

Club Cumming is a safe space where everyone is equal. Whatever your means, whatever your background, whatever your age, however you identify, you are welcome here.

Please provide Club Cumming with the necessary permission it needs to continue live music including djs. The joy for live music is universal and it's the glue that has melted this community together.

With deep respect,

[Hunter Canning \(Mar 26, 2018\)](#)

Hunter Canning

Kat Liz Kramer



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

I am a patron, artist, performer, and a friend of Club Cumming. I have found that this is a place I am accepted as I am. I first came to CC after I had finished a performance around the corner. I walked into a club that was welcoming to new faces. As time went on I found that it wasn't just a place I fit in but a place where the faces became friends, and friends turned to family. Specifically for me, Monday nights fill my heart with so much joy. Anyone is able to get up on stage and share their art, sing a song, or read a poem. Club Cumming for me is a place of love and acceptance. I find myself wishing the weekend were over already so I could be Monday night. I hope this issue can be resolved soon so more people can feel the love and acceptance that I feel. This is important to me as it is to so many others. Thank you for your time.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kat Liz Kramer'.

[Kat Liz Kramer \(Mar 26, 2018\)](#)

Kat Liz Kramer

Lauren Elder

March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

Since it opened last fall, Club Cumming has been like a new home to me. Every Monday night I join a growing group of musical misfits, we gather around the piano, and sing and dance our hearts out. I'm a Broadway performer, but this is my favorite stage to sing on. In this Club there is no judgement, no ego, only joy, support, and love - for everyone who walks through the door. It's a truly unique, magical, once in a lifetime kind of place. I have brought all of my friends (gay, straight, trans, everyone), and even my 67 year old mother, and they have all felt welcome and had wonderful (if not life changing) experiences. I have watched people who have been afraid or ashamed of who they are, open up on that stage and have artistic and emotional breakthroughs. I've seen nights where celebrities perform, followed by aspiring performers who just got to NYC, followed by acclaimed jazz musicians, followed by performance artists, followed by drag queens, followed by a magician who just happened to walk in off the street. It's a place where anything can happen - and does! It is a place for everyone to be themselves, to feel a

sense of community and even family. And that's why I keep coming back. There are plenty of places that I can go and perform, but there's a genuine love and acceptance here that you don't find anywhere else. I don't live in the East Village, I come here every week from Queens. It's wonderful, and brings me back to another happy time in my life when I spent a lot of time in the neighborhood. I sincerely hope you will allow us the opportunity to continue live performances at Club Cumming, and I hope you will join us, too.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Elder", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lauren Elder (Mar 26, 2018)

Lauren Elder


March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018

I say without exaggeration, that Club Cumming has brought me more joy in the past year than anything I have found in New York. A friend once asked if I could “get her into Club Cumming.” I laughed because the idea that you needed to know someone to enter this space, couldn’t be further from the truth. In the time I have spent at Club Cumming I have shared drinks with people of all genders, all sexualities, races, and age ranges. This is surprisingly rare. Most bars tend to sort themselves into gay or straight, young or old, locals or tourists. Here we find ourselves not only in the same room, but actively engaging with each other. This has everything to do with the live performances that are happening before us. I have seen artists I was a fan of while I was still in college in the south. I have seen artists I had never heard of before, but now buy tickets any time they perform around the city. They have been funny, deeply personal, polished, messy, confusing, and everything else that thrills me about live performance.

For New Yorkers like me, ones that did not grow up here, but always knew it was where we were headed, it can feel like you *just* missed New York. Like every story you heard growing up that made you want to come here, were of the New York that ended about 10 years before your moving van pulled up. However, the years I have spent in this city have taught me to pay attention to when I’m in the good old days. I remember one night, sitting at a table with a cabaret performer I had been a longtime fan of, and a singer I had never heard of and only met through the club. The three of us sat and talked about work and the news of the day, while pausing to watch an NYU student sing for her first time in front of a New York audience outside of a classroom. My friend Pony tells a different story at Club Cumming each Monday. Typically these are about his time in New York in the 70s and 80s. Sitting there, I realized this night will be part of my good old days story.

Club Cumming is evidence that the New York that so many of us dreamed of is possible, and I’m so happy to have found myself a part of it.

Sincerely,

  
Logan Ford (Mar 27, 2018)

Logan Ford

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████████████████  
████████████████



Dear State Liquor Authority or Whom It May Concern,

I am a long-time resident of New York City. I am the Director of Operations at a prominent entertainment events firm, we serve many well-known clients in the film, television and literary arenas. I am a member of the queer population of this city. I am also a friend/admirer of many at Club Cumming.

From all four of these identities, I am writing to you to consider the powerful and positive impact that Club Cumming has had and will continue to have within New York.

A safe space like Club Cumming is becoming rarer, as the old independent institutions fall away due to rent hikes and corporate growth. The inside of the Club creates a magnificent bubble, a happy atmosphere, reminiscent of a speak easy, but without pretension towards its patrons. In my experience the Club has been nothing but inclusive and joyful. As a woman, I have always felt respected and welcome.

This happy space, in this day an age, is something we should fight to preserve. Live entertainment, that is unscripted and original, is something to be treasured. This has been proven again and again. Famous locals such as Don't Tell Mama's and Blue Note Jazz Club are treasured tourist destinations.

Many famous comedy veterans recall honing their craft at Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB), in this same manor does Club Cumming give musicians and other performers that valued platform, one that I believe could thrive for decades, weaving a rich and storied musical history.

Thank you for your time.

*Marisa Frank*

Marisa Frank (Mar 26, 2018)

Marisa Frank  
Director of Operations  
Peggy Siegal Company



# Michael Schulman

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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write as a devotee of Club Cumming, which in the short time it has existed has managed to become part of the lifeblood of the East Village. Like its namesake, Club Cumming is warm and welcoming and full of life, with a community all its own. It's place that brings together men and women (and everyone in between), gay and straight, young and not-so-young. And the binding glue is music. As a regular at Monday-night open mics, I've seen people from all walks of life express themselves through song, from Broadway performers to enthusiastic amateurs like myself. It's a place to gather with old friends and make new ones, and it upholds the best of the East Village's legacy as a breeding ground for performance, inclusiveness, and style. It also provides work for a lot of talented people.

I understand that there's an issue regarding Club Cumming's license for live music and D.J.s, and I hope it gets resolved soon. It just wouldn't be the same place without a piano playing or a beat coming from the speakers. As a journalist who covers arts and culture for *The New Yorker* and the *New York Times*, I've been thrilled to discover new talent and a real artistic spirit at Club Cumming. But more than that, I'm a native New Yorker and former East Village resident who now lives a short walk away, and I know how rare it is for a new spot to not only thrive but establish itself so quickly as an indispensable hub for the community it serves.

Sincerely,



Michael Schulman

March 26th, 2018

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Robert Washko and I'm writing today in support of Club Cumming. I have been a regular patron of Club Cumming since it opened last summer when a friend brought me the first week. The bar is quite far from my apartment in Queens, but I make the trek at least once per week because every time I walk through those doors I know I am going to experience something special.

I'm not from the Broadway crowd. I work in a typical 9-5 job, I don't sing, and while I enjoy the theater, I haven't seen nearly as many shows as I would like. I don't know many musical theater songs, so you'd think I wouldn't have much fun at a musical theater sing-along, but there is something about the atmosphere they create in Club Cumming that is so open and welcoming, even when everyone else is belting out the words to a song I don't know, I still feel right at home amongst friends. That's part of the magic they are creating at Club Cumming, it's a place where anyone can walk in and feel welcome. It's amazing to see the community around the bar continue to grow. Each week there are more "regulars" from every walk of life that connected to this little community and found the same open arms that I did. We're creating a new family full of love, laughter, and support, which is so critical in these divisive times.

The community needs a place like Club Cumming that welcomes all, regardless of age, race, gender, or orientation. It's a place where anyone and everyone can feel comfortable and welcome, and it would be a blow to the community if it were taken away from us.

Sincerely,

*Robert A. Washko Jr.*

Robert Washko



March 26, 2018

To Whom It May Concern,

I am concerned about the future of Club Cumming and appeal to you to please allow it to remain the incredible venue that it is. I am a senior citizen living in southern CA, but I visit NYC several times a year. Club Cumming is always at the top of my list of places I frequent while in the city. I have met people there that have become my long distance friends. I enjoy the impartial and broadminded diversity of the crowd, the wide variety of unique entertainment, and the overall welcoming atmosphere. The performers range from amateurs (including myself), to Broadway veterans and audience participation is always encouraged, along with surprise props often times. I have my next trip planned and am looking forward to being enlightened once again at Club Cumming.

Sincerely,

Ruth Elder

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Signature:   
Ruth Elder (Mar 26, 2018)

Email: elder.ruth@gmail.com

*Sanam Erfani, MFA*

917 361 3979

Monday, March 26, 18

Chairman Vincent Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley:

I am writing in support of Club Cumming and their mission to curate an establishment that carries the torch for a diverse and accomplished artistic presence in the East Village.

Club Cumming is the first of its kind performance and artistic gathering space for creatives. The Club has given artists who would otherwise be without a voice and unknown, an opportunity to share their gifts with an unprecedented audience, from young to old. This incredible venue is a true melting pot of ethnicities, cross-cultural talents, and opportunities for all genders.

On any given performance night at Club Cumming, one encounters an assortment of bar patrons connecting with one another and deepening the roots of New York's East Village artistic legacy as they enjoy the most unique talent this City has to offer. Performers range from newcomers to established talent, and offers a chance for artistic crossover that is the very cornerstone of the New York art scene experience. There simply is no other place in the City where one can find talent of this caliber and unique origin.

I cannot stress the significance of Club Cummings enough, and how this gorgeous venue offers its patrons and artists alike chance to connect on such a profoundly beautiful message of good will. As an ethnic actress and the first Iranian-born actress to graduate Columbia University's MFA Acting program, I am profoundly grateful for Club Cumming and the space it gives artists to share. It is rare to see the cross-pollination of ethnicities coming together through music, entertainment, and spirited audiences.

Please allow Club Cumming to continue the heritage of a wide array of passionate artistry in the East Village, for all of us. This Club is a true New York treasure and we will all be remiss in missing out on hearing, sharing, and delighting in the artistry that this East Village gem brings.

Thank you for your time and with your support, I and countless other artists and audiences hope to remain a patron of Club Cumming for years to come.

With all my heart,



Sanam Erfani (Mar 26, 2018)

Sanam Erfani  
Actress, Writer, Documentarian  
[www.imdb.me/sanamerfani](http://www.imdb.me/sanamerfani)



Ashley Phillips



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

It was recently brought to my attention, and I was saddened to hear, that Club Cumming has stopped providing live music. As an actor myself and with friends and family in the performance world, places like Club Cumming are invaluable. I was first introduced to Club Cumming through Lance Horne and was pleasantly surprised to see how it has brought together communities and created a safe space for people of every age, race, sex and gender. It is a place anyone can come to discover new artists and experience accomplished musical legends. We all know what it is to feel out of place, to not know where we fit, or where to find our community. That is what is able to be found in Club Cumming. It is the over ground of the underground, where the artist community has a place to grow. Without this establishment, for currently such spaces are few and far between, we are losing a gem in the performance community. I ask that you please provide permission for live music at Club Cumming.

Sincerely,

  
Ashley Phillips (Mar 26, 2018)

Ashley Phillips



Ben Durocher



March 26, 2018

Chairman Vincent G. Bradley  
New York State Liquor Authority

Dear Chairman Bradley,

My name is Ben Durocher, and I am writing in support of my favorite establishment in the East Village, and a place I would consider my artistic home: Club Cumming.


I am a 28 year old, gay actor/puppeteer who has lived and worked in New York City for 7 years. Over the last 6 months I have fallen in love with the spirit, opportunity and community at Club Cumming. Entering the club, I am transported to a place that embodies New York's East Village like nowhere else: gay, straight, cisgender, transgender, old, young and everyone in between are welcomed and embraced through the doors of Club Cumming, no one is an outsider, all are family.

I currently perform 8-shows a week starring in the long-running TONY winning musical Avenue Q. After my last performance of the week I make a point of heading to Club Cumming to take part in the Monday night programming. Lance Horne, who hosts Monday night from the piano, generously opens the stages to anyone who wants it: professional cabaret performers, Broadway stars and first time singers, young and old, all have the same share of the stage. Anyone who has a song to sing or a message to share is welcome. I love to come and try out new material, because I know it will always be met with judgement-free warmth from the artistic community that Club Cumming fosters.

That's the thing about Club Cumming, it has created a real artistic community for me, something that I have been hard-pressed to find in this city. In all of New York, I have never experienced this type of camaraderie, especially among artists. The inclusive energy and open-arm policy allow for people to connect and for a community to grow. The Monday night patrons have become more than friends to me, they are family. Club Cumming is the spirit of the East Village, and indeed gives the neighborhood a new lease on life, a gathering place for artists and in particular young artists.

Often the most exhilarating part of Monday nights are when new, undiscovered talent make their way to the stage. Some of the most thrilling performances I've witnessed at the club have been from young performers, new to the city, who have found themselves being cheered on by a room full of New York artists. And these kids come back, week after week, because they know Club Cumming is a safe, open and supportive venue. There is no greater way to develop artistic community than to encourage new talent and give them a stage win which to stand.

It is my belief that Club Cumming is an integral part of the Lower East Side, and should be allowed to continue the tradition of live performance in this neighborhood.

Sincerely,  
  
Ben Durocher (Mar 26, 2018)

Ben Durocher

25 March 2018

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to the SLA and Community Board in support of allowing live music at Club Cumming. I serve as music director for Alan's performances, and host Monday nights at the club, where Broadway and off-Broadway performers and creatives come and mingle with local residents, men and women from across the city and the world, and hopefully hop up and sing a song or two together.

Like many New York musicians for generations, my career began in the East Village, performing sets at the Sidewalk Cafe, CBGBs, the early years of Joe's Pub, dancing to new and old music at Pyramid Club, and gathering with artists weekly at Starlight.

This year, as I headed into a volunteering situation, I was given a wristband which read, "It's not your job, it's your turn." I returned from that week to the inauguration of Club Cumming, and accepted the offer to host Monday nights with that sentiment in mind: I was given a young adult life in the East Village where the arts were accessible to a vibrant community, and know that now, I've been given the opportunity to pay it forward.

On Mondays in the Club, we never charge a cover to come in, never insist on anyone buying drink minimums, and don't have a tip jar for the pianist. It is created by the community, for the community, and it has made a wonderful network of people unlikely to have met otherwise.

Each week, an elder member of the community gets up and tells a different story about his life in New York. Every fortnight, we feature New York poets reading work at midnight to a hushed crowd. I'm on faculty at Juilliard, and my students and former students regularly come down and perform virtuosic numbers, letting the uptown vibe relax in such a safe, nonjudgemental environment, alongside performers we've invited from hearing their extraordinary busking on East Village street corners and in Tomkins Square Park.

We have had Mondays where we pass around a buck for donations to support the memorial scholarship fund for a friend of a weekly regular who lost his daughter in the tragic Florida shooting. We performed the score to the Sondheim musical "Assassins" to protest gun violence and raise money to donate for buses for Florida students to attend March for Our Lives. We passed a bucket and sang songs for Puerto Rico in the wake of the hurricane and for first-responders in Las Vegas after the shooting. In this tumultuous time, the East Village is hungry for a place to gather and release the collective tension in the most healthy of ways, singing and laughing. Each Monday night ends with a little 99c pizza party across Avenue A, and then we say our farewells and share our cabs until the next week.

We are gathering at the Club tonight, and respectfully keeping the lid closed on the piano. I understand that the misfiling is our error, and I hope you can allow us to rectify the filing for the proper license. I would very much like to raise the piano lid and raise the neighborhood's spirits each week going forward.

Many thanks for your time and consideration,  
Lance Horne

*Lance Horne*

Lance Horne (Mar 25, 2018)

# Proximity Report for Location:

March 21, 2018

505 E 6 St, New York, NY, 10009

\* This report is for informational purposes only in aid of identifying establishments potentially subject to 500 and 200 foot rules. Distances are approximated using industry standard GIS techniques and do not reflect actual distances between points of entry. The NYS Liquor Authority makes no representation as to the accuracy of the information and disclaims any liability for errors.

## Closest Liquor Stores

Name	Address	Approx. Distance
NIZGA CORP	58 AVENUE A	545 ft
WINESHOP LLC	438 A E 9TH ST	760 ft
EAST VILLAGE WINES & SPIRITS INC	138 1ST AVE	990 ft
JCCSM INC	45 1ST AVE	1170 ft
DISCOVERY WINES LLC	16 AVE B	1215 ft
BRIX NYC LLC	170 AVENUE B	1240 ft
EAST HOUSTON STREET WINE & LIQUOR INC	250 E HOUSTON ST	1330 ft

## Churches within 500 Feet

Name	Approx. Distance
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## Schools within 500 Feet

Name	Address	Approx. Distance
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## On-Premise Licenses within 750 Feet

Name	Address	Approx. Distance
CHICANO GOTHAM LLC	503 E 6TH ST	25 ft
ELLSFRED INC	520 E 6TH ST	40 ft
CASUAL HOSPITALITY LLC	509 E 6TH ST	50 ft
BA VICTORY CORP	513 E 6TH ST	55 ft
CORSICA ENTERTAINMENT INC	505 E 6TH STREET	100 ft
EAE CORP	94 96 AVENUE A	130 ft
CIEN FUEGOS LLC	95 AVENUE A	150 ft
THREE BEANS INC	93 AVENUE A	175 ft
MOONWALKERS RESTAURANT CORP	101 AVENUE A	180 ft
CAFETASIA INC	85 AVENUE A	180 ft
A H 103 CORP	103 AVENUE A	195 ft
BOGGY DEPOT INC	85 AVENUE A	200 ft
AVE A KARAOKE CORP	81 AVENUE A	215 ft
LE MIU CORP	107 AVE A	235 ft
SEVEN A CAFE INC	130 E 7TH STREET	250 ft
YUCA BAR & RESTAURANT INC	111 AVENUE A	270 ft
CORMAR INCORPORATED	507 E 5TH ST	280 ft
THUNDERBOLT CORP	531 E 5TH STREET	285 ft

Name	Address	Approx. Distance
511 E 5TH STREET LLC	511 E 5TH ST	295 ft
DESMO 916 CORP	545 E 5TH ST AKA 76 AVE B	330 ft
TOZZER LTD	112 AVENUE A	350 ft
119 AVENUE A RESTAURANT CORP	119 AVENUE A	360 ft
LITTLE HANDS PLAYCAFE INC	433 E 6TH ST	405 ft
205 EAST 4TH STREET LLC	205 E 4TH ST	545 ft
TDDG INC	126 ST MARKS PL	550 ft
CHERRY TAVERN INC	441 E 6TH STREET	560 ft
BUA NEW YORK LLC	122 SAINT MARKS PLACE	575 ft
NEW STATFORD RESTAURANT INC	121 ST MARKS PLACE	580 ft
ALOUETTE CORPORATION	131 AVENUE A	595 ft
AUGUST VAZAC RESTAURANT INC	108 AVENUE B	605 ft
BAC 115 CORP	115 ST MARKS PL	610 ft
GENCO IMPORTING INC	99 AVENUE B	610 ft
FRENCH AVENUE B INC	103 105 AVENUE B	610 ft
LUDWIKA MICKEVICIUS	135 AVE A	625 ft
CRIF DOGS ENTERPRISES INC	113 ST MARKS PLACE	640 ft
WISHBONE PRODUCTIONS INC	141 AVENUE A	700 ft
SADA THREE LLC	132 ST MARKS PL	705 ft
HOUSE OF HEALTH HEALING AND HAPPINESS INC, THE	405 E 6TH ST	730 ft
235 EAST 4TH INC	235 - 237 E 4TH ST	735 ft

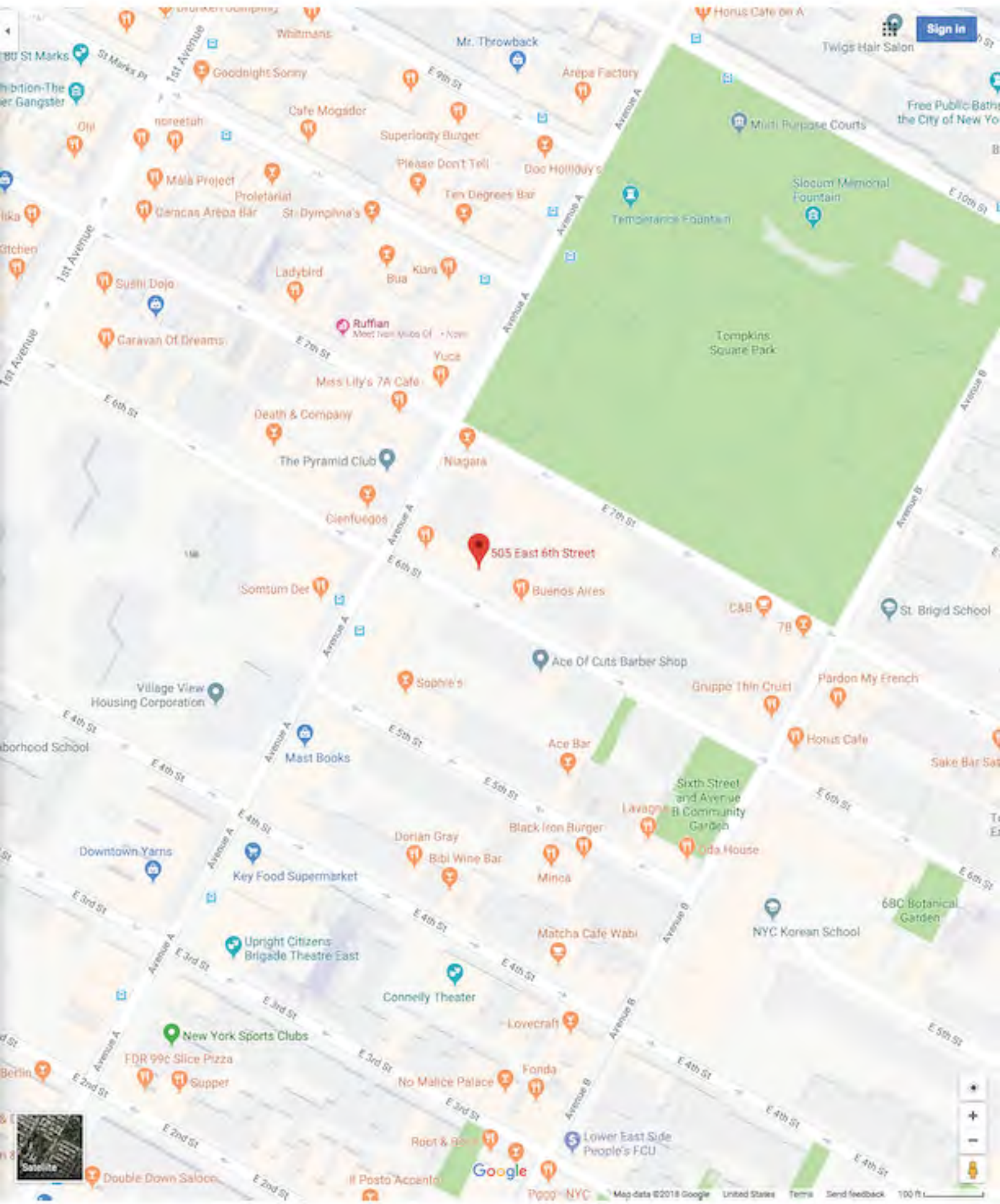
### Pending Licenses within 750 Feet

Name	Address	Approx. Distance
GOSIA LLC	511 E 5TH ST	260 ft
THREE SEAT ESPRESSO & BARBER LLC	137 AVENUE A	645 ft
RIVKA INC	101 ST MARKS PLACE	745 ft

### Unmapped licenses within zipcode of report location

Name	Address
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Sign In

505 East 6th Street

Tompkins Square Park

Google