

## Police Department Liquor License Disapproval Recommendation

### Application Information

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Dollar General #25371</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Business Location</b>	<b>2650 W. Glendale Avenue</b>		
<b>Applicant Names</b>	<b>Chad Hawkins</b>	<b>Series Type</b>	<b>10</b>

The Police Department recommends disapproval of this liquor license application for the following reasons:

Dollar General #25371 controlling person Mr. Chad Hawkins, in accordance with Arizona Revised Statute 4-203.A is not capable, qualified and reliable to own and operate a Series 10 liquor license. This decision was made due to multiple concerns discovered during the investigation. These include, errors found on the State Questionnaire and City Questionnaire, code violations through the Neighborhood Services Department due to blight issues, inconsistencies between the interview with the applicant, Mr. Hawkins, and the store manager, Ms. DeJesus, calls for service at the location, and the saturation of liquor licenses in the area.

#### State Questionnaire

#### THE APPLICATION WAS FALSIFIED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

**A.R.S. 4-210.A.3** states *"The licensee or controlling person knowingly files with the department an application or other document that contains material information that is false or misleading..."*

On the State Questionnaire, Chad Hawkins is listed on the liquor application as the agent for Dollar General #25371. Initially, before the interview was conducted during the preliminary investigation, Officer Chester observed obvious errors on the State Questionnaire. The State Questionnaire consists of questions regarding the applicant's biographical information. Most of this was left blank, and only limited information was provided.

Furthermore, on question #12, Mr. Hawkins answered "YES" as the controlling person who would be physically present and managing the day-to-day operation of the licensed premises. However, during Officer Chester's interview with Mr. Hawkins on March 29, 2024, he stated that while he lives locally, he is the District Manager and responsible for many other Dollar General locations in the area. He said he is required to check on the store every 45 days but he usually stops in approximately once every two weeks to meet with the store manager, Claire DeJesus. Mr. Hawkins stated Ms. DeJesus is involved in the day-to-day operation of the establishment including hiring and firing of employees as well as other managerial responsibilities. It should be noted, Claire DeJesus was not listed as a manager for the liquor license, despite the confirmation from Mr. Hawkins that she was in fact the manager at the store. Furthermore, as Officer Chester continued to interview him regarding questions related to the State Questionnaire, Mr. Hawkins said he would be honest, and indicated he did not fill out the State Questionnaire. He stated his company filled it out and told him to apply for the liquor license.

#### City Questionnaire

In addition to the errors on the State Questionnaire, there were also errors on the City Questionnaire:

Question #8 on the City Questionnaire states "Please list all persons having any ownership interest in the business, or in the profits of the business. This includes persons with less than a 10% interest." This should never be left blank, but on Mr. Hawkins City Questionnaire, he listed "N/A" in the response section.

**Police Department Liquor License Disapproval Recommendation****Application Information**

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Dollar General #25371</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Business Location</b>	<b>2650 W. Glendale Avenue</b>		
<b>Applicant Names</b>	<b>Chad Hawkins</b>	<b>Series Type</b>	<b>10</b>

Question #9 on the City Questionnaire states "How much was paid for the business? Please include all start-up costs, including the cost of the liquor license". This question also should not be blank, as everyone has to pay something, even if it's just fees. Mr. Hawkins also wrote "N/A" as a response.

The lack of knowledge Mr. Hawkins has regarding this application for a liquor license poses concern for his ability to successfully manage a liquor license at this establishment.

**Code Enforcement Violations Observed**

On April 4, 2024, Officer Chester drove to the Dollar General store, located at 2650 W. Glendale Avenue, to meet with Claire DeJesus, the store manager. It should be noted, when Officer Chester arrived at the location, there were debris and trash scattered throughout the property and the parking lot. Upon inquiring with Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) it was determined Dollar General has caused blight conditions at this location in the City of Phoenix, due to failure to control trash and graffiti. They were given a citation by NSD (case PEF2022-42287) in March 2021 (citation # 2194919). Due to additional blight concerns observed by Officer Chester, NSD was advised and a new case was initiated. (PEF 2024-13981). These blight conditions encourage unhoused people to camp next to and at their locations. This is evidenced by the calls for service from March 3, 2023 to March 3, 2024. In this timeframe 80 calls for service were placed for individuals trespassing on the property.

**Interview With Store Manager**

Once inside the establishment, Officer Chester met with Ms. DeJesus, who indicated she has been a manager there since the inception of the store on 3/3/2024. She outright stated she does not want the store to start selling liquor and indicated it would be a "headache". When Officer Chester asked why, Ms. DeJesus stated she is going to have more problems than she has now with theft and shoplifting. According to the diagram provided in the liquor application, Dollar General indicated they will have alcohol right near the front door, with no point of sale in between the front door and the alcohol. Officer Chester asked if they had security to help mitigate this issue, and Ms. DeJesus replied "no".

With regard to their staff, Ms. DeJesus stated that there are 4 managers and 3 sales associates employed at this location. However, due to budgeting issues, the store only wants one person to be working at the store at a time. Ms. DeJesus said despite what corporate says, for safety reasons, she does not feel comfortable with that so always makes sure there is two people working at a time. She also indicated some of her employees have told her they will quit if they get a liquor license due to the issues a liquor license will bring to the store. Officer Chester asked Ms. DeJesus how often she meets with Mr. Hawkins. Ms. DeJesus said she would see him today because "corporate is out", but before today, she has not seen him for 63 days. She further indicated he does not come in every two weeks or even 45 days for that matter. When Officer Chester asked if Mr. Hawkins had possibly been in the store and met with another manager, she said that she was the only manager he spoke with, so he would not have come in at another time without her knowing about it.

**Calls For Service**

A record check of the calls for service at this location was completed for a one year timespan from the inception of the store on March 3, 2023 to March 3, 2024. Within that time frame there have

## Police Department Liquor License Disapproval Recommendation

### Application Information

<b>Business Name</b>	Dollar General #25371	<b>District</b>	5
<b>Business Location</b>	2650 W. Glendale Avenue		
<b>Applicant Names</b>	Chad Hawkins	<b>Series Type</b>	10

been 217 calls for service, 37 incident reports, and 10 arrests made. Of these calls, four of them are violent in nature indicating an act of violence occurred on the property. Two of these four notable incidents are listed below:

*2024-96247, 1/20/2024, Assault report completed where the store manager, Ms. DeJesus was assaulted. She asked an individual to leave the premises and was then assaulted by him when he hit her on the arm and spit on her.*

*2024-273094, 2/23/2024, Strong Armed Robbery occurred on the premise. An elderly gentleman in a wheelchair was on the premises and was approached by two individuals who prevented him from leaving, robbing him of personal items and then leaving him.*

### Sufficient Other Liquor Licenses to Meet Need and Convenience

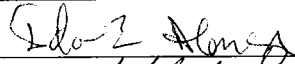
The public convenience and the best interest of the community would not be served by the issuance of this liquor license. The applicant is currently running a Dollar General where a majority of the store is dedicated to low-cost items including non-alcoholic beverages, snacks, household items and other similar types of merchandise. Four businesses near the Dollar General currently hold liquor licenses and sell alcohol/liquor/wine.

7/11 Gas Station, 2651 W Glendale Ave < 200 ft  
 Circle K, 2702 W Glendale Ave < 275 ft  
 La Consentida, 2647 W Glendale Ave < 360 ft  
 Ain't Nicks Tavern, 6840 N 27<sup>th</sup> Ave < 380 feet

Due to the aforementioned factors and the fact that the applicant Mr. Chad Hawkins failed to submit the city questionnaire in time for the Police Department to conduct the requisite complete review, he is not capable, qualified, or reliable to own and operate a liquor license within the City of Phoenix.

**This recommendation for disapproval is submitted by: Officer S. Chester 10641**

### SIGNATURES

<b>Administrative Licensing Investigator</b>	I. Alonge A4289 
<b>Liquor Enforcement Detail Supervisor</b>	Sgt. M. Walter 8360 