

**LICENSES AND CONSUMER SERVICES  
LICENSE INSPECTOR'S REPORT**

**License Numbers:** L190-50220

**Police File Numbers:** 13665

**Date of Application:** April 7, 2015

**Inspector:** Nicole Anderson

**Applicant/Legal Entity:** Chowgirls, Inc.

**DBA/Trade Name:** Chowgirls Killer Catering

**Complete Address:** 711 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Minneapolis, MN 55413

**Licenses Requested:** On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales, Class B

**Current Licenses:** On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales, Class D, Liquor Catering, and Food Catering at another address.

**Responsible person within 75 miles of Minneapolis City Hall:** Heidi Andermack

**Public Hearing Requirement:** Required

**License Conditions:** None at this time

**Neighborhood/Ward:** Logan Park / 1

**Zoning:** I1/IL – This is a permitted use in the Light Industrial District/Industrial Living Overlay District.

**7 acre requirement:** Met

**Off-Street Parking:** The Office of the Zoning Administrator has determined that thirty one spaces are required to be provided on site. There is currently a shared parking agreement at 806 14<sup>th</sup> Ave NE but by the approval of this license application a parking lot will be completed on site to meet the parking requirement.

**Churches or schools within 300 feet of the proposed premises:** No

**Seating:** Inside: minimum 25 Seats, depending on clientele  
Outside: N/A

**Fire Occupancy:** Inside: 442 Maximum Capacity Outside: N/A

**Food Service Requirement:** The applicant meets the minimum food service requirement.

**Hours of operation proposed:** 8:00am – 12:00am, by appointment based on clientele

**Metropolitan Council Service Availability Charges:** Zero SAC units are owed for this project.

### **HISTORY OF LOCATION**

This location has held a Rental Hall business license since 2014.

### **APPLICANT**

The applicant is Chowgirls, Inc., a Minnesota corporation formed on October 22, 2004 under Chapter 302A (Charter Number 1083682-2), having the required restriction on the transfer of shares and has the following shareholders:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>DOB</u></b>	<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Shares</u></b>
Amy Brown	12-5-69	Chief Executive Officer	43%
Heidi Andermack	5-11-69	Chief Financial Officer	43%
Chowgirls, Inc.			14%

The shareholders have extensive experience in the food service industry. The applicants meet all minimum requirements including criminal background check.

### **MANAGER**

The manager of Chowgirls will be Heidi Andermack. Mrs. Andermack has worked with Chowgirls since 2004 and has extensive knowledge of the food and beverage industry.

### **POLICE REVIEW**

Police Licensing and this Inspector have reviewed the expenses and source of funds reported in this application. The applicant has provided documentation showing adequate legal and traceable funding for this venture and has passed the criminal background check. The Second Precinct of the Minneapolis Police Department has discussed security issues with the applicant.

### **PREMISES**

The lease shows exclusive use of premises as required. The licensed premises occupy approximately 6,800 net square feet of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Solar Arts Building – which includes space for table and chair seating, a stage, a small game room with ping pong and foosball, and a lounge area. The rest of the facility consists of storage area, kitchen, work areas, and restrooms. The space is compact and contiguous. The stage area will be used for wedding hosts seating and cake displays as well as where the live entertainment will be located. Portable bars will be made available upon request. There is a small bar area with nine seats set up in the lounge area; the lounge area may be used to set up for buffet service. This space is to be used primarily for rental events and will generally not be open to the general public. There may be some special events, such as an art show or exhibit, which may be open to the public. There is no outdoor area.

### **BUSINESS PLAN/OPERATIONS**

Chowgirls has operated at 1222 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Northeast since 2011 with an On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales, Class D license, a Food Catering License, and a Liquor Catering License with no issues. Chowgirls will utilize this establishment as a venue to host events such as social events (weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs), corporate events, fundraisers, art exhibits and tradeshow. This venue will generally not be open to the public, nor be open for business on a daily basis.

Chowgirls will provide annual alcohol serving training for all employees. All managers, bartenders, servers and anyone else who is in a position to sell alcohol must attend DRAM training. Their policy is to card everyone who appears to be under 70 years of age.

A Chowgirls site manager along with event staff will be trained to monitor events to make sure they are running smoothly. The Solar Arts building has a professional security system that monitors all doors, windows and after hour internal movements. Due to the number of windows, personnel will have clear views to the outside environment ensuring they can closely monitor actions on the sidewalk at the street level where patrons may enter and exit.

The site manager will keep a close eye on all outside activity especially in the minutes following closing. Late night guests will be vocally encouraged to walk to their cars or bicycles in a quiet and respectful manner and an employee will be stationed outside, if necessary, to make sure their neighbors will not be disrupted. The night site manager and security officer will be trained to calmly address situations such as loud and disruptive behavior after 9:00 p.m. and they will promote a strong and positive working relationship with the regular police officers of the neighborhood.

If a patron appears to be overly intoxicated, or if a person comes into the rental hall intoxicated, the bartender will be instructed not to serve him/her alcohol and ask the patron if he/she would like the site manager to call a taxi to take them home. When a cab arrives the site manager/officer will escort the person to the taxi; they will not send a person out into the neighborhood intoxicated to roam the streets.

If a patron gets loud and disruptive or starts to bother other patrons or staff, the site manager will call 911. When police arrive, the site manager will request to do a "personal trespass of the person" and request the patron be taken away from the business. The site manager will keep records of these incidents and they will be available to the MPD or Business Licensing to review at any time.

Chowgirls' goal is to create a safe, relaxing environment in the venue. Staff are trained to be courteous and non-confrontational, but observant and forceful. They believe that proactive actions are necessary to prevent unwanted actions.

Chowgirls has taken measures to reduce and eliminate noise pollution as a result of their business; they have taken extra measures to sound proof the room, and the windows on the west side of the building will be blocked off so the music will not disturb neighbors.

There will be no outside speakers and no windows open on the inside.

If surrounding neighbors have any complaints whether it is noise, parking, litter, or any other issue, they should call Chowgirls Executive Director Ted Carling at 612.741.7170.

Entertainment at Chowgirls will include, but is not limited to speaking presentations, disc jockey (at weddings and corporate events), up to five piece band with amplified music. All which is allowed under a Class B license. Scheduling of entertainment within the venue

will be dependent on scheduled client events. Entertainment will be no earlier than 8:00am and not later than 11:00pm.

Hours of operation will vary depending on the clientele and or the event but will be between 8:00am to 12:00 midnight, when events are scheduled.

Food Service will consist of a large variety of items dependent upon the menu clients choose. Food will be served at all events. The kitchen area will have a refrigerator, work tables, and table convection oven on-site. Some items will be prepared at their current location at 1222 2<sup>nd</sup> St NE and brought over using NSF portable gear.

There will be no sports sponsorships, charitable gambling, or mechanical amusement devices.

### **PUBLIC HEARING SUMMARY**

A public hearing is required for these license applications. 147 notices were mailed to residents and property owners within 600 feet of the premises and emailed to the Logan Park Neighborhood Association, the Northeast Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce on April 24, 2015. The public hearing will be held on May 5, 2015 at the Community Development & Regulatory Services Committee meeting.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Licenses and Consumer Services Division recommends approving this application for an On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales, Class B license.

### **LICENSE CONDITIONS**

None at this time.

