

DOCKET NO. 458-03-2447

TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE  
COMMISSION

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§

BEFORE THE STATE OFFICE

v.

OF

Safa Aljabouri  
D/B/A Tobacco Plus Food Mart  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

**PROPOSAL FOR DECISION**

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) staff (Petitioner) brought this disciplinary action against Safa Aljabouri d/b/a Tobacco Plus Food Mart (Respondent), alleging that Respondent issued a check or draft for the purchase of beer which was dishonored when presented for payment, in violation of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code. Petitioner requested that Respondent's permit and license be suspended for 4 days, or in lieu of suspension, that Respondent pay a civil penalty of \$600. The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) agrees with this recommendation.

**JURISDICTION, NOTICE, AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE ANN. ch. 5, §§ 11.61(b)(2), 24.06, and 61.71(a)(1). The State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) has jurisdiction over all matters relating to conducting a hearing in this proceeding, including the preparation of a proposal for decision with proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. ch. 2003.

On March 12, 2003, Petitioner issued its notice of hearing, directed to Safa Aljabouri d/b/a Tobacco Plus Food Mart, P.O. Box 1092, Porter, Texas, 77365, via certified mail, return receipt requested to Respondent's last known address and was returned to Petitioner as "unclaimed" on April 1, 2003. On April 11, 2003, a hearing convened before SOAH ALJ Timothy J. Horan at 2020 North Loop West, Suite # 111, Houston, Texas. Petitioner was represented at the hearing by Lindy To, TABC Staff Attorney. Respondent did not appear and was not represented at the hearing. After presentation of evidence regarding notice and jurisdiction, the record closed on April 18, 2003.

**DISCUSSION**

Based on the failure of Respondent to appear at the hearing, Petitioner requested that the default provisions of 1 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 155.55 be invoked. The ALJ finds that Petitioner issued notice in compliance with 1 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 155.27 and 155.55 and TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE



ANN. § 11.63. Pursuant to 1 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 155.55, the allegations presented in the notice of hearing are deemed admitted as true. Accordingly, the ALJ has incorporated these allegations into the Proposed Findings of Fact below.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent, Safa Aljabouri d/b/a Tobacco Plus Food Mart, holds a Beer Retailer's Off-Premises License # BF-504840, issued by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC), for the premises located at 18861 FM 1314, Conroe, Montgomery County, Texas.
2. On March 12, 2003, Petitioner issued its notice of hearing to Respondent, for a hearing that was held on April 11, 2003. The notice of hearing was sent to via certified mail to Respondent's last known address as evidenced by the certified mail returned to Petitioner as "unclaimed".
3. The notice of hearing contained a statement of the time, place, and nature of the hearing; a statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing was to be held; a reference to the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved; and a short, plain statement of the matters asserted.
4. The notice of hearing also contained the following language in 12-point or larger boldface type: If a party fails to appear at the hearing, the factual allegations in the notice of hearing will be deemed admitted as true, and the relief sought in the notice of hearing may be granted by default.
5. A hearing convened before Timothy J. Horan, an Administrative Law Judge with the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), on April 11, 2003. Respondent did not appear and was not represented at the hearing.
6. On or about August 9, 2002, Respondent issued a check or draft for the purchase of beer which was dishonored when presented for payment.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. TABC has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE ANN. ch. 5, §§ 11.61(b)(2), 24.06, and 61.71(a).
2. SOAH has jurisdiction over all matters relating to conducting a hearing in this proceeding, including the preparation of a proposal for decision with proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, pursuant to TEX. GOV'T CODE ANN. ch. 2003.
3. Based upon Findings of Fact Nos. 2-4, Petitioner issued its notice of hearing in compliance with 1 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 155.27 and 155.55 and TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE ANN. § 11.63.

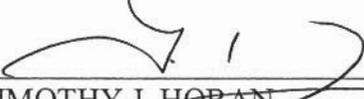
4. Based upon Findings of Fact Nos. 2-5, the hearing proceeded on a default basis as authorized by 1 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 155.55.

5. Based upon Finding of Fact No. 6, Respondent violated TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE ANN. §§ 11.61(b)(2), and 61.73(b).

6. Based upon Conclusion of Law No. 5 and TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE ANN. §§ 11.61(b)(2), 24.06, and 61.71(a), Respondent's permit/license should be suspended for a period of 4 days.

7. Based upon Conclusion of Law No. 6 and TEX. ALCO. BEV. CODE ANN. § 11.64, Respondent should be permitted to pay a civil penalty of \$600 in lieu of suspension of the permit/license.

SIGNED this 13th day of June, 2003.

  
TIMOTHY J. HORAN  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

DOCKET NO. 602375

IN RE SAFA ALJABOURI	§	BEFORE THE
D/B/A TOBACCO PLUS FOOD MART	§	
LICENSE NO. BF504840	§	
	§	TEXAS ALCOHOLIC
	§	
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS	§	
(SOAH DOCKET NO. 458-03-2447)	§	BEVERAGE COMMISSION

**O R D E R**

**CAME ON FOR CONSIDERATION** this 11th day of July 2003, the above-styled and numbered cause.

After proper notice was given, this case was heard by Administrative Law Judge The Honorable Tim Horan. The hearing convened on April 11, 2003, and adjourned on April 11, 2003. The Administrative Law Judge made and filed a Proposal For Decision containing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on June 13, 2003. This Proposal For Decision (**attached hereto as Exhibit "A"**), was properly served on all parties who were given an opportunity to file Exceptions and Replies as part of the record herein. As of this date no exceptions have been filed.

The Assistant Administrator of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, after review and due consideration of the Proposal for Decision, Transcripts, and Exhibits, adopts the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law of the Administrative Law Judge, which are contained in the Proposal For Decision and incorporates those Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law into this Order, as if such were fully set out and separately stated herein. All Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, submitted by any party, which are not specifically adopted herein are denied.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED**, by the Assistant Administrator of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, pursuant to Subchapter B of Chapter 5 of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code and 16 TAC §31.1, of the Commission Rules, that License No.BF504840 is hereby **SUSPENDED**.

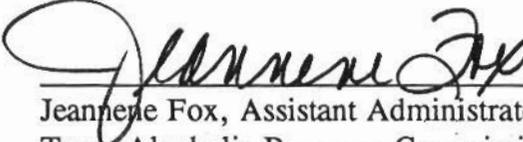
**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that unless the Respondent pays a civil penalty in the amount of **\$600.00** on or before the **3<sup>rd</sup>** day of **September, 2003**, all rights and privileges under the above described license will be **SUSPENDED for a period of four (4) days, beginning at 12:01 A.M. on the 10th day of September, 2003.**

**This Order will become final and enforceable on August 1, 2003**, unless a Motion for Rehearing is filed before that date.

By copy of this Order, service shall be made upon all parties by facsimile or through the U.S. Mail, as indicated below.

**SIGNED** this 11th day of July, 2003.

On Behalf of the Administrator,



Jeannette Fox, Assistant Administrator  
Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission

/bc

The Honorable Tim Horan  
Administrative Law Judge  
State Office of Administrative Hearings  
**VIA FAX (713) 812-1001**

SAFA ALJABOURI  
D/B/A TOBACCO PLUS FOOD MART  
**RESPONDENT**  
PO Box 1092  
Porter, TX 77365  
**CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7001 2510 0003 8686 9776**

Lindy To  
**ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER**  
TABC Legal Section

Regulatory Division

Beaumont District Office

TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION

CIVIL PENALTY REMITTANCE

DOCKET NUMBER: 602375

REGISTER NUMBER:

NAME: SAFA ALJABOURI

TRADENAME: TOBACCO PLUS FOOD MART

ADDRESS: 18861 FM 1314, Conroe, Montgomery County, Texas 77302

DATE DUE: September 3, 2003

PERMITS OR LICENSES: BF504840

AMOUNT OF PENALTY: \$600.00

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Amount remitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date remitted \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to pay a civil penalty rather than have your permits and licenses suspended, you may pay the amount assessed in the attached Order to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in Austin, Texas. **IF YOU DO NOT PAY THE CIVIL PENALTY ON OR BEFORE THE 3RD, DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2003, YOU WILL LOSE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PAY IT, AND THE SUSPENSION SHALL BE IMPOSED ON THE DATE AND TIME STATED IN THE ORDER.**

When paying a civil penalty, please remit the total amount stated and sign your name below. **MAIL THIS FORM ALONG WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:**

TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION

P.O. Box 13127

Austin, Texas 78711

**WE WILL ACCEPT ONLY U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS, CERTIFIED CHECKS, OR CASHIER'S CHECKS. NO PERSONAL CHECKS. NO PARTIAL PAYMENTS.**

Your payment will not be accepted unless it is in proper form. Please make certain that the amount paid is the amount of the penalty assessed, that the U.S. Postal Money Order, Certified Check, or Cashier's Check is properly written, and that this form is attached to your payment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Responsible Party

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
P.O. Box No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code/Telephone No.