STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

NOTICE AND PARTICULARS

By Email: info@pattyspantryct.com; fteodosio@tsattorneys.com

In the matter of:

Gani S Metaj, Permittee Patty's Pantry 1224 Strongtown Road Southbury, CT 06488 Permit No. LGB.0012152 Case No. 2024-117 Backer: Patty's Pantry, Inc.

PURSUANT TO CONN. GEN. STAT. § 30-43 AS AMENDED:

Pursuant to Chapter 545 generally and specifically Section 30-55 of the Connecticut General Statutes as amended, you and a member of the backer limited liability company are hereby summoned to appear before the Department of Consumer Protection of the State of Connecticut, on the 20th day of March 2025 at 1:00 p.m., remotely through Microsoft Teams, then and there to answer to the complaint and charges of said Division, the particulars of which are as follows:

Incident 1. March 28, 2024.

Charge 1. Definition of a Grocery Store; Prices. On or about March 14, 2024, you violated Sec. 30-20(a) the Connecticut General Statues which provides that a grocery store, to qualify for a grocery store beer permit, is primarily engaged in the retail sale of various canned goods and dry goods such as coffee, flour, spices, sugar and tea, whether packaged or in bulk, regardless of whether such store sells fresh fruits and vegetables or fresh, prepared or smoked fish, meat and poultry, and does not include any store that is primarily engaged in the retail sale of bakery products, candy, nuts and confectioneries, dairy products, eggs and poultry, fruits and vegetables or seafood.

AS MORE PARTICULARLY SET FORTH:

On or about March 28, 2024, you submitted 12 tier sales breakdown forms for the months of September 2023 through February of 2024 as requested by the liquor control agent. According to the sales figures completed for the four months of 2023 and two months of 2024 the total sales of groceries were 25.28%, and in no single month did the sale of groceries exceed 32%. The business is not primarily engaged in the sale of groceries.

Incident 2. August 7, 2024.

Charge 2. Definition of a Grocery Store; Prices. On or about August 7, 2024, you violated Sec. 30-20(a) the Connecticut General Statues which provides that a grocery store, to qualify for a grocery store beer permit, is primarily engaged in the retail sale of various canned goods and dry goods such as coffee, flour, spices, sugar and tea, whether packaged or in bulk, regardless of whether such store sells fresh fruits and vegetables or fresh, prepared or smoked fish, meat and poultry, and does not include any store that is primarily engaged in the retail sale of bakery products, candy, nuts and confectioneries, dairy products, eggs and poultry, fruits and vegetables or seafood.

AS MORE PARTICULARLY SET FORTH:

On or about August 7, 2024, you submitted 12 tier sales breakdown forms for the months of April 2024 through July 2024, as you agreed to on or about July 9, 2024. According to the sales figures completed for those three months, the total sales of groceries were 31.46%, and in no single month did the sale of groceries exceed 32%. The business is not primarily engaged in the sale of groceries.

Incident 3. November 5, 2024

Charge 3. Refusal of Cooperation. On or about November 5, 2024, you violated Sec. 30-6-A10 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies which provides that no permittee or backer or his agent shall refuse to cooperate with or give information to the department, the police authorities or any other enforcement agency upon any matter arising out of the conduct of the permit premises.

AS MORE PARTICULARLY SET FORTH:

On or about July 9, 2024, you agreed to submit the sales figures for the months of August through October 2024. Records were to be provided by tenth day of the following month. You failed to comply with the agreement as no sales breakdown forms were received.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO APPEAR WHEN YOUR HEARING IS CALLED BY THE COMMISSION. FAILURE TO APPEAR AT THE DESIGNATED TIME MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SHOW CAUSE, IF THERE BE ANY, WHY YOUR LIQUOR PERMIT SHOULD NOT BE REVOKED OR SUSPENDED OR ANY OTHER AUTHORIZED PENALTY IMPOSED ON YOU.

This matter is being set down for a formal hearing following a compliance meeting held on March 18, 2025, by decision by the full Commission.

If you have any questions, please contact Anna C. Martinez of the Department of Consumer Protection's Legal Division by email <u>Anna.Martinez@ct.gov</u>

Dated this 13th day of January 2025.

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Scott P. Madeo Staff Attorney Legal Division