

*Michael P. Gardner
Chairman*

CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION

*Chief Gerald R. Reardon
Fire Department
Commission Member*

831 Massachusetts Avenue, First Floor, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139



City of Cambridge

*Commissioner Robert C. Haas
Police Department
Commission Member*

*Elizabeth Y. Lint, Esq.
Executive Director*

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager

From: Elizabeth Y. Lint, Executive Director

RE: City Council Order Regarding Gateway Inn

Date: October 31, 2012

As the result of an incident at the Gateway Inn on July 5, 2012, the License Commission held a disciplinary hearing on September 11, 2012. At that time the matter was continued until October 23 for further testimony. The Commissioners voted to issue a strong letter of reprimand to the Gateway Inn, to have them prepare a security plan, after consultation with the Cambridge Police Department and the Fire Prevention office, as well as complying with all suggestions made by their counsel at the hearing. This includes a new monitoring system, not accepting cash for room bookings, doing hourly checks of all areas, trimming and cutting shrubbery in the parking lot for better visibility, and having additional staff on duty during known busy times such as New Years and the 4th of July. This plan is to be filed with the License Commission.



City of Cambridge Police Department

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Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

November 27, 2012

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Re: Council Order No. 12, dated July 30, 2012

Dear Sir:

As requested I am responding to the above council order regarding the incident on July 5, 2012 at the Cambridge Gateway Inn.

Two officers responded to a call for a loud party at the Gateway Inn on July 5, 2012. As the officers approached the room they detected a smell of alcoholic beverages and burnt marijuana which became overpowering once the door to the room was opened. The officers were confronted with over thirty-five (35) young (18 to 20 years old) men and women in the room. Bottles of alcohol were visible. The officers gave clear instructions to the occupants that they were going to identify and search each of the occupants before they were permitted to leave. As they were doing so some occupants were observed near a window to the rear of the room. One of the officers entered the room, which was still occupied by over twenty-five (25) individuals. Both officers continued their room clearing activities while monitoring the actions and movement of the remaining occupants. After the room was cleared the officers discovered two handguns inside the room and a third immediately outside the room's window.

Given the circumstances presented to the officers their efforts were exemplary as they were able to safely clear a severely over-crowded room while maintaining control of the situation and did so without injury to any of the occupants or themselves.

If further information is required please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert C. Haas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "H".

Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner

RCH/ew



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

George L. Fosque, Emergency Communications and 911 Director (gfosque@cambridge911.org)
Paula M. Snow, Chief of Emergency Operations
Kenneth T. Pitts, Public Safety Computer Systems Manager
Leslie Carroll, Training and Admin Supervisor
Pat Macher, Administrative Assistant

Memorandum

To: City Manager
From: George Fosque
Re: Followup Memo on Gateway Inn Police Radio Issues
Council Order 0-13, July 30, 12
Date: 11/27/12

We have listened to the audio of the various radio transmissions made by units approaching, inside, and around the Gateway Inn at Fresh Pond Parkway and Concord Ave during the problem incident (July 5 from about 1:12 AM). While most transmissions from inside were fully or partially audible, some were more difficult to hear. It likely depended on the distance from an exterior window and position in the building.

Switching to the new Cambridge radio system (gradually coming on-line from early December through the winter) will improve communication from the Gateway Inn on PD1. This is because the new digital "APCO P25" system now has two main locations: one in West Cambridge and one in East Cambridge. Thus radio coverage within the city should improve, especially from the fringe areas, such as the Museum Towers area and Northpoint, and near the Belmont and Watertown boundaries.

Finally, it should be noted that the Cambridge Fire Department has led an effort to get many building owners to install "in-building repeaters" that will not only better handle cell calls from many of their occupants but also better facilitate Cambridge public safety radio communications. This win-win piggy-back approach (a building owner provides decent cell coverage while also providing Cambridge police and fire responders better radio coverage) has been quite successful over the last 10 years