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August 20, 2005

TO: Teresa L. Kaiser, Director  
Oregon Liquor Control Commission  
9079 S. E. McLoughlin Blvd  
Milwaukie, OR 97222

<>

FROM: Portland City Commissioner Sam Adams

RE: Request for Inquiry into Comments Allegedly Made by Oregon Liquor Control  
Commission (OLCC) Investigator

In the Wednesday, 8/17/2005 issue, the Willamette Week newspaper reported:

*"As the frenzy continues over the recent string of downtown shootings, Portland's top hip-hop club, the Vue, is upsetting African-Americans with its plan to remake itself into a newer, whiter venue.*

*"Club manager Rami Makboul outlined the thinking in an email he wrote last week on behalf of his brother Ramez, who owns the club, and sent to Mayor Tom Potter and Police Chief Derrick Foxworth.*

*"One time an OLCC inspector told me in private that blacks belonged to Northeast Portland, not downtown. I was furious with his statement and I thought he was racist. After seeing the violence of last Sunday night I owe an apology to that inspector," says the Aug. 10 email, obtained by WW through a public-records request. "They do belong to Northeast Portland and they need not to be encouraged in any way to come to Downtown..."*

I request that your agency investigate whether or not the comments reported to have been made to Rami Makboul by an OLCC investigator did indeed occur. If your inquiry finds that an OLCC Investigator did make these reprehensible comments during his/her work hours, I ask that you fire the investigator.

Please report back to me in detail the results of your inquiry. Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.