

MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

OFFICE OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS, Tel: 305.673.7575

PRESS RELEASE

Tonya Daniels, E-mail: tonyadaniels@miamibeachfl.gov

Melissa Berthier, E-mail: melissaberthier@miamibeachfl.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 9, 2018

Miami Beach Revokes Business License for Mokai Lounge

Investigation Reveals Animal Cruelty and Public Health Hazard

Miami Beach, FL: Last night, the city was made aware of an incident involving possible animal cruelty and a hazard to public safety. Upon further investigation, City Manager Jimmy L. Morales issued an Order Revoking the Business Tax Receipt and Certificate of Use of Mokai Lounge, LLC located at 235 23 Street, Miami Beach, FL 33139.

“I was disgusted and offended that any legitimate businessperson would think this was an appropriate action to take,” said Morales. “This activity was not permitted, and as soon as we became aware, I immediately instructed staff to act swiftly in remedying this situation.”

Based on the evidence collected, the City Manager has determined that this activity is an actual threat to the public health, welfare and safety pursuant to Section 10-9 of the City Code and constitutes Cruelty to Animals, as articulated in Section 10-19(1) of the City Code. In addition Mokai Lounge has engaged in activity that is outside the limitations of their business tax receipt and violates Section 102-367 of the City Code.

Due to the acts by Mokai Lounge and their violations of the City Code, the City Manager Morales ordered the immediate revocation of their business license effective immediately.

“Animal cruelty is an abhorrent and vile act,” said Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber. “I fully support the immediate actions taken by the City Manager and his staff to ensure that this is remedied quickly.”

Note:

Link to the Orders issued to Mokai Lounge, LLC: <http://www.miamibeachfl.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Mokai-Lounge.pdf>

###

To request this material in alternate format, sign language interpreter (five-day notice required), information on access for persons with disabilities, and/or any accommodation to review any document or participate in any city-sponsored proceedings, call 305.604.2489 and select 1 for English or 2 for Spanish, then option 6; TTY users may call via 711 (Florida Relay Service).