

**Coalition of Musicians and  
Dancers to Eliminate  
Regulations Against Music  
and Dancing**

March 26, 2025

The Honorable Lily M. Fan  
Chair, New York State Liquor Authority  
163 W 125th Street  
New York, NY 10027  
c/o Donald.Roper@sla.ny.gov

Re: Requesting Modification of Method of Operation - Anomalies

Dear Chair Fan

I am writing to you concerning the modification of Methods of Operations relating to dancing and live music after the rezoning allowing such in most zoning districts in the city where restaurants are allowed.

We are a coalition of musicians and social dancers concerned about the fact that most NYC liquor licenses prohibit live music and dancing, and licensees must move to amend their method of operation to take advantage of the zoning change.

This letter concerns the newly amended form to request a change to an establishment's method of operation. [Request To Change Method Of Operation Filing Checklist](#).

We note that the instructions do not refer to the ABC Law amendment last April allowing a license applicant to provide a notice to community boards at the same time a license application is made to the SLA.

Community Notification – Allows applicants to simultaneously apply for a license and notify their municipality, and provides the SLA will not act on the application for 30 days in order to allow time for municipal input in the licensing process.

(<https://sla.ny.gov/news/new-york-state-liquor-authority-announces-expansion-options-businesses-liquor-licenses-enacted>)

Moreover, it appears that the standard SLA notice form makes the same error as well as this page on your website at [Municipal/Community Board 30 Day Advance Notices for On-Premises Applicants](#).

The Honorable Lily M. Fan  
December 7, 2024  
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We also bring to your attention an anomaly that exists where the applicant has signed a stipulation with a community board. Most stipulations appear to contain a provision similar to the following:

10. ☒ I will not apply for an alteration to the method of operation or for any physical alterations of any nature without first coming before CB 3.

(Eldridge Case Stipulation).

I assume that in the past year, community boards have continued to use similar provisions despite the ABC Law change,

These provisions appear improperly to override the the provisions of state law, similar to the apparent intent in such stipulations to tie the regulatory prerogatives of the SLA.

Sincerely,



Alan D. Sugarman, Esq.  
Executive Director  
17 W. 70 St.  
New York, NY 10023  
[sugarman@sugarlaw.com](mailto:sugarman@sugarlaw.com)

cc:

Donald Roper, Secretary to the Authority -- [Donald.Roper@sla.ny.gov](mailto:Donald.Roper@sla.ny.gov)  
Shannon Kearney Sarfoh, General Counsel – [Shannon.KearneySarfoh@sla.ny.gov](mailto:Shannon.KearneySarfoh@sla.ny.gov)  
Maureen Hughes, Deputy Commissioner of Licensing -- [Maureen.Hughes@sla.ny.gov](mailto:Maureen.Hughes@sla.ny.gov)