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BY: Amy/Michael

Please quote: Enquiry 1360-1546754
Contact officer: Paul Ryan
Contact telephone: (07) 3224 7030

Mr Michael Thorn
Chief Executive
Foundation for Alcohol Research & Education
PO Box 19
DEAKIN WEST ACT 2600

Dear Mr Thorn

I refer to your correspondence dated 4 September 2015 in which you raise concerns about an event known as the G&T Cloud Experience held during the Brisbane Festival from 4 September 2015 to 27 September 2015. I apologise for the delay in responding.

I can advise a permit was issued under the *Liquor Act 1992* to the operator authorising the sale and supply of liquor via bar facilities during the course of the Brisbane Festival. Details of the G&T Cloud Experience only came to the attention of the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation (OLGR) through industry and media enquiries.

In response, the OLGR undertook an immediate investigation to determine whether the event was being conducted in compliance with the Liquor Act and more generally in a responsible manner. Senior management of the OLGR met with representatives of the operator as well as conducting a site inspection and reviewing the event's operating procedures.

It is noted the operator had a number of strategies and controls in place to ensure the event was conducted responsibly, including:

- *Fear & Delight* was an 18+ event;
- only event ticket holders were permitted to enter the G&T Cloud Experience;
- each patron was only allowed in the vapour room for up to 10 minutes;
- maximum number of patrons in the vapour room did not exceed eight;
- the amount of alcohol able to be ingested was kept at very low levels;
- a staff member was stationed outside at the entrance to the vapour room to monitor patrons' entry and that staff member was not exposed to the liquefied gas alcohol as plastic butcher flaps covered the entrance of the room;
- all staff involved held valid Responsible Service of Alcohol certification and monitored patrons' liquor consumption throughout the entire event;
- the staff member who prepared the alcohol mix per the documented recipe as well as an approved manager both held Responsible Management of Licensed Venues certificates; and
- workplace health and safety assessments were been completed in relation to the *Fear & Delight* event.

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The above controls were in addition to the specific conditions imposed on the liquor permit.

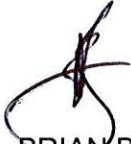
The OLGR advised the operator that allowing the operation of the event to proceed in this instance was not considered to be a precedent for the supply of alcohol by licensees in a vaporised form in the future.

The event was monitored during the course of the festival to ensure the operator complied with the conditions imposed on the permit and more broadly conducted the event in a responsible manner. It is noted no issues or concerns were identified.

While there is currently no indication any other liquor licence or permit holder in Queensland intends to offer liquor to their patrons in a vaporised form, the OLGR will monitor for this. The OLGR will also undertake further research to enable the Attorney-General to give consideration to whether liquor provided in a vaporised form should be declared an undesirable liquor product in Queensland, thereby prohibiting its sale.

If you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Mr Paul Ryan, General Manager Compliance, OLGR, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, on telephone number (07) 3224 7030.

Yours sincerely



BRIAN BAUER
A/Executive Director

t / 10 / 2015