



**JAMES N. WITKOWIAK**  
ALDERMAN, 12TH DISTRICT

## **WISN-TV report on Horny Goat noise problems: truth being drowned out?**

**Statement of Alderman James N. Witkowiak  
March 2, 2012**

Last night WISN-TV aired a report about noise problems at the Horny Goat tavern, 2011 S. 1st St. – located in the 12<sup>th</sup> Aldermanic District.

Viewers heard from neighbors and Horny Goat representatives, and the report even included one neighbor's recordings of loud music and noise. However, I think viewers may have come away with the overall impression that the problems aren't that serious, or that they don't occur very often.

The noise problems at the Horny Goat are long-standing and serious. The establishment has been operating almost as a year round indoor/outdoor festival grounds, with music and patron noise permeating the surrounding neighborhood at all hours. Despite plenty of talk with 12<sup>th</sup> District neighbors about plans to alleviate the noise pollution, the problems persist and in the end, it's plain that Horny Goat has not worked with the neighborhood in any meaningful way.

Despite Horny Goat representatives saying that the tavern has never been cited by Milwaukee police, Horny Goat has been the subject of a PA-33 police report. Further, Horny Goat agreed two weeks ago to cease and desist from illegally blasting loud music after being advised by the police and the City Attorney's Office that its music license was in real jeopardy. Then, after learning that a band would not perform under reduced noise circumstances, Horny Goat asked for a noise variance.

I will not honor that variance request – or any others like it – until Horny Goat makes real changes that give neighbors a break from the constant blaring of loud music and noise.

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