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MEDIA ADVISORY

Club Escape Revocation, Alarm Companies & Changeable Message Signs Headline Tomorrow's Common Council Agenda

The **Common Council** will take a final vote on a recommendation to revoke the license of troubled north side nightspot Club Escape when it holds its first full meeting of 2008 tomorrow at City Hall.

The meeting will be held tomorrow, (Tuesday, January 15, 2008) at 9 a.m. in the third floor Common Council chamber at City Hall, 200 E. Wells St. Media coverage is invited.

Aldermen will decide whether to approve the December 20, 2007 recommendation of the Licenses Committee to revoke the liquor license of Club Escape, 6263 N. Teutonia Ave. The committee voted 4-0 to recommend revocation after a lengthy hearing in December that spanned parts of two days because of scheduling conflicts. There were two shootings at the club in 2007, including one in December in which a man was killed.

Also on the agenda: licenses for three private alarm companies that were called before the Public Safety Committee after some customers complained they were operating without fully complying with city licensing requirements. The Public Safety Committee demanded that Firstline Security, Pinnacle Security, LLC, and HSM Electronic Protection Services initiate corrective action plans after claims the companies misrepresented services offered, including telling customers police officers would respond to alarms when, in fact, Milwaukee police will only respond after an alarm is verified by a private first responder. The corrective action plans submitted by the companies include offering customers free service and compensation, new service plans that specify what services customers will receive for their payments, and promises to pay outstanding fines for summoning police to unverified or false alarms.

Lastly, the Council will take up a substitute ordinance adding requirements for the use of automated changeable message signs, which have appeared near a few busy city intersections and along some stretches of freeways in the city.