

December 31, 2025

Paul Cobet, President
Downtown Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 9416
Savannah, GA 31412

Dear Paul Cobet:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of a proposed establishment in your neighborhood. The business has applied for an Alcohol Beverage License for The JW Marriott – Hotel, Pavilion 1, Pavilion 2, and Pavilion 3 located at 300-500 W River St. The City of Savannah values the importance of fostering positive relationships between businesses and the communities they serve. As such, we encourage new business owners to meet with neighborhood leaders and residents to discuss expectations and the business's plans. As Downtown Neighborhood Association President, you are free to contact the business owner Mark Lehman at (912) 373-9100 to facilitate that discussion.

If your neighborhood association does not wish to meet with the applicant, please respond to this email indicating no meeting is required.

Proposed Alcohol Beverage License			
Name of Applicant	Business Name/Address	Alcohol License Request	Scheduled Council Date
Mark Lehman	JW Marriott-Hotel, PV 1, PV 2 and PV 3 300-500 W River St	Class C Restaurant/ Bar/ Lounge <i>On-premises consumption</i>	January 22, 2026

If the neighborhood association has any concerns, you may contact our office at (912) 651-3662.

Kind Regards,
Katrina Myers, MPA
Neighborhood Services Liaison

AGENDA ITEM TITLE: NEW APPLICATION ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE

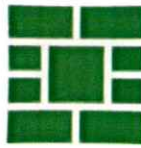
Agenda Date:	12/17/2025
Notification Date from Revenue:	11/6/2025
Business Name:	JW Marriott
Business Address:	300-500 W. River St.
Compliant:	YES ___X___ NO ___
Code Violations:	None
Code Case #	25-008854
Re-Inspection Date:	

Comments: No violations



Officer's Name:
Senior Code Compliance Specialist Lorie Odom_____

Date: 11/7/2025



MEMO

To: Judee Jones, Revenue Director
From: Aislee Jackson, Zoning Use Coordinator
Date: December 10, 2025
Re: Zoning Review of Alcoholic Beverage License Request 25-006206-ABL

In reference to the application of **Mark Lehman, J.W. Marriott**, requesting an alcoholic beverage license at **300 /400 / 500 West River St** (PIN 20003 02004 / 20003 02003 / 20003 01003), I have determined that the **Proposed Use, Restaurant with Retail consumption dealer (on-premises consumption of alcohol)** and **Ancillary retail dealer (off-premises consumption of alcohol)**, within the current D-W (Downtown Waterfront) zoning district:

- ☒ **Permitted by Right:** *Restaurant* is permitted by right. *Ancillary retail dealer (off-premises consumption of alcohol)*, is permitted by right in said zoning district.
- ☐ Is Not Permitted
- ☐ Requires a Special Use Permit from The Mayor and Aldermen:
- ☒ **Permitted as a Limited Use with Standards:** *Retail consumption dealer (on-premises consumption of alcohol)* is permitted as a Limited Use with Standards. Use is limited to on-premises consumption only. However, the property is located in the Open Container Zone and not within the Alcohol Overlay District.
- ☐ Is Permitted as a Non-conforming Use

Further, I have determined that **Parking** at the property:

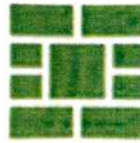
- ☒ **The parking is met/exempt (Pre-existing use).**
- ☐ The proposed use(s) are deficient in the parking standards.

Additionally, I have determined that the **Proposed Use**:

- ☒ **Is an Existing use/occupancy, but new ownership, management or request.**
- ☐ Is a New use/occupancy

Additionally, I have determined that the **Location** has:

- ☐ Zoning Ordinance violations that need to be corrected prior to the issuance of the Alcoholic Beverage License
- ☒ **Business Location Approval:** Business Location Approval for *Restaurant* principal use classification was recently obtained on December 10, 2025 under file No. 25-005197-BA.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Lenny Gunther, Chief of Police

THRU: DeVonn Adams, Assistant Chief of Police
Michelle Halford, Major of Field Operations *WH*
William Barnett, Administrative Sergeant

FROM: Kristofer Singleton, Revenue Investigator

DATE: December 23, 2026

SUBJECT: J.W. Marriott - Hotel / 300-500 West River Street

The purpose of this memorandum is to submit a recommendation for an Alcoholic Beverage License effective **1/22/2026**. The following information concerns the Alcoholic Beverage License application for **Mark Lehman**. Pertinent records of the Georgia Crime Information Unit and local agencies have been searched as of this date with the following results:

Savannah Police Department Disposition

No disqualifying information.

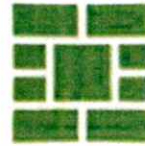
Georgia Crime Information Center Disposition

No disqualifying information.

The petitioner is requesting a **Class C distilled spirit, malt beverage, and wine by the drink license with Sunday Sales**, a **Class A distilled spirit, malt beverage, and wine by the drink license with Sunday Sales**, and a **Class E malt beverage and wine by the package license with Sunday Sales** located at **300-500 West River Street, Highgate Hotels, L.P. (DBA J.W. Marriott - Hotel)**.

The fingerprints for the ABL Applicant and ABL Responsible Applicant, **Mark Lehman**, are on file with the Alcohol Beverage Compliance Unit. No disqualifying criminal records are outlined in the City of Savannah Code of Ordinances.

The Savannah Police Department's recommendation for **approval** for the ABL Applicant and ABL Responsible Applicant.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Judee Jones, Revenue Director

THRU: Michelle Halford, Major of Field Operations *MLH*
William Barnett, Administrative Sergeant

FROM: Kristofer Singleton, Revenue Investigator

DATE: December 30, 2025

SUBJECT: J.W. Marriott - Hotel / 300-500 West River Street

The purpose of this memorandum is to submit recommendations effective **1/22/2026**. The following information is being supplied on an official basis concerning a new Alcoholic Beverage License for **Mark Lehman**. A safety plan has been submitted by the applicant and reviewed by the Savannah Police Department.

The safety plan was examined to ensure it properly addressed all mentioned concerns in the City of Savannah's Alcohol Beverage Ordinance, Section 6-1206, Subsection D, Paragraph 4, Items A-I (as applicable).

In reference to the petition for **Mark Lehman** requesting a **Class C distilled spirit, malt beverage, and wine by the drink license with Sunday Sales, a Class A distilled spirit, malt beverage, and wine by the drink license with Sunday Sales, and a Class E malt beverage and wine by the package license with Sunday Sales located at 300-500 West River Street, Highgate Hotels, L.P. (DBA J.W. Marriott - Hotel)**. I submit the following:

Mark Lehman's safety plan has been reviewed. It should be noted, the safety plan addresses all applicable concerns set forth by the governing sections of the City of Savannah's Alcohol Ordinance. The Savannah Police Department has no reason(s) for recommending denial of this safety plan.

*******PUBLIC NOTICE*******

**OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL
ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE HEARING**

Mark Lehman for Highgate Hotel LP t/a **JW Marriott Hotel** is requesting a **Class A (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (Caterer) Class C (Liquor, Beer, Wine) (By the Drink) with Sunday Sales and Class E (Beer and Wine) (By the Package)** Alcohol License at **300-500 West River Street**. The establishment is located between Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard and Barnard Street Ramp in Aldermanic District 2. The applicant plans to continue to operate a hotel. (***New Owner/Existing Business***).

The applicants will be heard at the meeting of the City Council at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 22, 2026, in the:

Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, 2 East Bay Street.

Anyone objecting to the issuance of these licenses may appear at that time and be heard.

City of Savannah

Mark Massey

Clerk of Council

SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS

PUBLIC NOTICE COLUMN

Please insert the above notice in the PUBLIC NOTICE column of the Savannah Morning News: **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026.**

Please let the City's Purchasing Department have two copies of the affidavit of publication.

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL

Legal notice emailed to Purchasing to be forwarded to Savannah Morning News:

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026.