



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce,
Community,
and Economic Development

Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
Main: 907.269.0350

MEMORANDUM

TO: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

DATE: November 13, 2025

FROM: Kyle Helie, Licensing Examiner II

RE: 975 Moosequito's Bar
Beverage Dispensary License
3rd and 4th waiver

Applicable statute: **AS 04.11.330(a)(3). Denial of license or permit renewal.**

An application requesting renewal of a license or endorsement shall be denied if the applicant has not operated the licensed premises for at least 240 hours during each of the two preceding calendar years, unless the board determines that the licensed premises are under construction or cannot be operated through no fault of the applicant;

Applicable regulation: **3 AAC 305.120 Waiver of annual operating requirement and minimum operating requirements.**

(a) Except as provided in this section, the board will deny an application for renewal of a license or a license with one or more endorsements if the licensed premises were not operated for the time required under AS 04.11.330(a)(3) or (d).

(b) A licensee may submit a waiver application to the board to request a waiver of the operating requirement in AS 04.11.330 (a)(3) or (d). Under AS 04.11.330(a)(3), the board will determine whether, through no fault of the licensee or because the premises are under construction, the licensed premises could not be operated for the required time during the preceding calendar year.

(c) A waiver application for a calendar year must be made in writing to the board and must be accompanied by the non-refundable application fee of (1) an amount equal to one-half the applicable biennial license fee if a waiver application was not made for the previous year; or (2) double the amount of the fee paid for the previous waiver application.

(d) A waiver application must include a statement from the licensee explaining why the licensed premises was not in compliance with AS 04.11.330(a)(3) or (d). The licensee must provide a copy of the waiver application to any local governing body with jurisdiction over the license and licensed premises.

(e) The board may deny a third or subsequent, consecutive application for waiver (1) unless the licensee clearly shows that the licensed premises were not operated, because the premises were condemned or substantially destroyed by any cause; or (2) the licensee holds a common carrier dispensary license and is a boat weighing over 1,000 tons;

(f) Absent circumstances to the contrary, the board will deny a third or subsequent, consecutive application for waiver in the event of condemnation or destruction of the premises if the premises identified on an applicant's license are not leased or owned by the licensee. Additionally, a third or subsequent consecutive application for waiver that does not identify a licensed premises location will be denied.

(g) The board may impose conditions along with the approval of a waiver application.

(h) If a waiver application is denied, an application for license renewal for the succeeding license period will be denied by the board under AS 04.11.330(a)(3).

(i) In addition to the application fee under (c) of this section, the applicant shall pay \$1,000 for an application that is received too late for board consideration at its last meeting of the calendar year for which the waiver is requested.

(j) In the event of the death of a licensee, destruction of the premises, or comparable circumstances showing extraordinary hardship, the board may waive the fees required under (c) and (i) of this section.

Background: These are the third and fourth waivers requested for this license. Licensee states that the Swan Lake Fire of 2019 and the Pandemic lead to an inability to operate the license. They have agreed to terms on a transfer of ownership of this license.

Attachment: Memo, 4th Waiver Application for 2025, 3rd Waiver Application for 2024, 2nd Waiver Application for 2023 (approved administratively) 1st Waiver Application for 2022 (approved administratively), 2021 waiver (Covid waiver approved upon application), and 2025-2026 renewal application.



Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application

Why is this form needed? A licensee must request that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board waive the operating requirements of AS 04.11.330(a)(3) or (d). If a recreational site license, a theater license, a common carrier dispensary license, or a sporting activity or event license did not operate at least once during a calendar year, or if a license of any other type did not operate for at least 240 hours in a calendar year, this application (and corresponding fees upon request) must be submitted for the calendar year, per 3 AAC 305.120. *A waiver application does not apply to Manufacturer Direct Shipment license*.

This application must be accompanied by a non-refundable waiver application fee of:

- for a 1st request, an amount equal to ½ the applicable biennial license fee; or
- for a 2nd or subsequent request, double the amount of the fee paid for the previous waiver application.

The ABC Board will review your statement to determine whether, through no fault of the licensee or because the premises are under construction, the licensed premises could not be operated for the required time during a calendar year. The ABC Board may impose conditions along with the approval of an application for waiver of operation. If an application for waiver of operation is denied, an application for the license renewal for the succeeding license period will be denied by the Board.

In addition to the waiver application fee, the applicant must pay a late fee of \$1,000 for an application that is received too late for Board consideration at its last meeting of the year for which the waiver is requested. Please check AMCO's website for meeting agenda and waiver deadlines.

Please note that a licensee must submit a separate completed copy of this form and pay a separate corresponding fee for each license and for each calendar year during which a license was not operated in compliance with AS 04.11.330. Listing more than the one license will not be accepted.

Section 1 – Establishment Information

Enter information for the license that has not been operated for the time required under AS 04.11.330.

Licensee:	Moosequito Ventures, LLC	License Number:	975		
License Type:	Beverage Dispensary				
DBA:	Moosequito's Bar				
Premises Address:	33560 Sterling Highway				
City:	Sterling	State:	Alaska	ZIP:	99672
Local Governing Body:	Kenai Peninsula Borough				

Section 2 – Request Number and Calendar Year

☐ 1st Request ☐ 2nd Request ☐ 3rd Request ☒ Other 4th Request

Request for Calendar Year 2025

rec #101197844



Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application**Section 3 – Reason for Non-operation**

Provide an explanation as to why the licensed premises were not operated:

See attached Reasons For Non-Operation Of License No. 975.

Section 4 – Certifications

The following must be completed for establishments located within the boundaries of a local governing body:

Read the line below, and then sign your initials in the box to the right of the statement:

Initials

I certify that I will provide a copy of this application to the local governing body listed on Page 1 of this form prior to ABC Board consideration of this application.

PWK

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

PWK

PAUL W. KOVAL, FOR
Moosequito Ventures, LLC

Printed name of licensee

Signature of licensee

Office Use Only

Waiver Application Fee:		Late Fee:		Transaction #:	
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REASONS FOR NON-OPERATION OF LICENSE NO. 975

Licensee: Moosequito Ventures, LLC

For Calendar Years 2023-2025

Moosequito Ventures, LLC ("Moosequitos"), is an Alaska limited liability company which was formed in March of 2002 for the purpose of purchasing and operating Alaska Liquor License No. 975 - a beverage dispensary license – and Alaska Liquor License No. 976 – a package license – in Sterling, Alaska. Both of these licenses were subsequently owned and operated by Moosequitos from the same location along the Sterling Highway in Sterling, Alaska for approximately 18 years, until January of 2020. Due to the circumstances beyond our control – the outbreak and subsequent national disaster designation (the "Swan Lake Fire"), immediately followed by the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequences thereof, Moosequitos was unable to operate Liquor License No. 975 for the statutory minimum number of days from 2020 to the present. During that time, Moosequitos lost possession of its leased, licensed premises and, as a result of the two designated disasters and the advanced age of its sole member, has been unable to reactivate either of its liquor licenses. Accordingly, we began marketing both of our liquor licenses for sale during 2020.

The Swan Lake Fire began on June 5, 2019 on the Kenai River Moose Range at a specific location approximately 5 miles from Moosequitos' licensed premises. Ultimately, that fire destroyed over 160,000 acres of wilderness land on the Kenai Peninsula - most of which was within the Kenai National Moose Range. The fire closed the Isaak Walton Campground in Sterling (which was located directly across the Sterling Highway from Moosequitos) along with just about every other public campground on the Kenai Peninsula during the summer of 2019, thereby eliminating much of the summer recreational traffic to and from the Kenai Peninsula for 2019. The fire also periodically closed the Sterling Highway between Cooper Landing and Sterling without warning, thereby intermittently cutting off all automobile traffic between Anchorage and Sterling and all points south along the Sterling Highway. Even when the Sterling Highway was open for traffic during the summer of 2019, the smoke from the Swan Lake Fire spread throughout southcentral Alaska and served as a constant reminder in Anchorage that the Kenai Peninsula was experiencing a massive fire and should be avoided if possible. Smoke from the Swan Lake Fire also effectively prevented Moosequitos' local customers from using its popular outdoor deck, which overlooked the picturesque Moose River, during the 2019 summer season. One prominent Anchorage band even refused to take our stage that summer when they arrived in Sterling for a scheduled gig because they believed that our ambient (inside) air quality would be too smokey for their expensive electrical equipment to function. (So much for our previously-advertised "smoke free" bar environment that we were known for!) In total, the Swan Lake Fire resulted in a reduction of 40-50% in our historical 2019 summer revenues in the bar and our adjoining package store for the 3-4 months that the fire raged locally. Thereafter, the effects of the fire continued at the same level for the remainder of 2019, first because of the loss of our local summer tourist season and, later, by the indirect damage dealt to Sterling's local economy and our local customers. Ultimately, our local year-round customers disappeared for the remainder of 2019 - first because of the loss of our summer tourist season, followed later by the damage dealt to

our local economy. By late 2019, we realized that our local regulars had also missed out on their 2019 seasonal work just as we had and, therefore, they had no longer had money to spend for entertainment at Moosequitos. The Federal government quickly designated the Swan Lake Fire as a "National Disaster Area" and offered disaster loans to adversely impacted residents and businesses, but this offer was illusory in light of subsequent developments. While we immediately applied for such disaster relief from the SBA in October of 2019 while we continued to operate our license - at 40-50% below our historic revenue, things did not improve. Finally, in December of 2019, we reluctantly decided to temporarily suspend our operations "for a few months" until the local economy improved and until the 2020 tourism season returned as it always had. Our initial estimate was that the local economy would recover from the Swan Lake Fire by the second quarter of 2020, so we announced a temporary closure from mid-January through about March of 2020 in hopes of reopening in April or May in time for the 2020 summer season. Unfortunately, we were unaware of another national disaster which was lurking around the bend.

In early February of 2020, while we were temporarily closed due to the aftermath of the Swan Lake Fire, the COVID-19 pandemic attacked the world, thereby delaying and disrupting our immediate plans to reopen Moosequitos. By late February of 2020, it became obvious that we could no longer reasonably expect our local economy to rebound from the Swan Lake Fire as quickly as we had initially projected in light of the pandemic. Following our shut down in January of 2020, we continued to pursue our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application with the SBA but administrative delays caused by overwhelming pandemic demands resulted in unending delays as the SBA seemingly prioritized the national pandemic recovery over the local Swan Lake Fire damages that were incurred. At one point we were told that the SBA email box that we were told to use for our disaster loan application was not being actively monitored and a backlog of over 20,000 unread and unprocessed emails (including our application) were awaiting initial review. Ultimately our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application became stale, was denied and then, because of our "premature" fire shut down, we were deemed ineligible for later pandemic relief having ceased our operations before the pandemic. Also, during the extended aftermath of the Swan Lake Fire, our lease was summarily terminated by the landlord. At that point we began exploring both the possible relocation of our licensed premises or the sale of our beverage dispensary license. While we have since worked through several possible opportunities in this regard, we were unable to close a viable deal to continue Moosequitos' operations or sell its last remaining liquor license. (Another Moosequitos liquor license – Package Store License No. 976 - was successfully sold and transferred to a new owner during 2022.) Throughout 2023 through 2025, we actively pursued our goal of selling Moosequito's remaining beverage dispensary license (License No. 975), but circumstances did not result in a sale due to the economic aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. That is, until recently.

Last month we signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the sale and transfer of License No. 975. That proposed transfer is now being advertised in the Peninsula Clarion pursuant to applicable regulations. We are indeed now hopeful that the proposed transfer will be consummated as we have agreed and, if that deal falls through, it now appears that there

may be a growing market for License No. 975. In summary we urge the Board to approve our pending Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Applications so that we may go forward and complete the proposed sale and transfer of License No. 975. To the extent that the Board has the requisite authority and deems it appropriate, we further request an abatement of some portion or all of the substantial filing fees and charges that we have been required to prepay in furtherance of this waiver application.

Respectfully submitted:

Paul W. Koval
Managing and Sole Member of Moosequito Ventures, LLC

Waiver of Operation

Selected License Information

License Number

975

Trade Name

Moosequito's Bar

Location Address

33590 Sterling Hwy,
Sterling, AK, 99672

Request Count

3

Operating Year

2024

Provide an explanation as to why the licensed premise was not operated.

Moosequito Ventures, LLC, is an Alaska limited liability company which holds Alaska Liquor License No. 975 – a beverage dispensary license. This license was owned and operated by Moosequitos from the same location along the Sterling Highway in Sterling, Alaska for about twenty years, until January of 2020. Due to a declared national disaster (the “Swan Lake Fire”), followed by a nationwide pandemic and their consequences, Moosequitos was unable to operate Liquor License No. 975 for the statutory minimum number of days from 2020 through 2022. During that time, Moosequito’s lost possession of its licensed premises which has made a possible reopening most challenging. The Swan Lake Fire began on June 5, 2019 on the Kenai River Moose Range at a specific location about 5 miles from our original licensed premises. Ultimately, that fire destroyed over 160,000 acres of wilderness land on the Kenai Peninsula – most of which was within the Kenai National Moose Range. The fire closed the Isaak Walton Campground in Sterling (which was located directly across the Sterling Highway from Moosequitos) along with just about every other public campground on the Kenai Peninsula during the summer of 2019, thereby eliminating much of the summer recreational traffic to and from the Kenai Peninsula for 2019. The fire also randomly closed the Sterling Highway between Cooper Landing and Sterling to vehicular traffic, thereby periodically cutting off all automobile traffic between Anchorage and Sterling and all points south along the Sterling Highway, all without warning. When the Sterling Highway was open for traffic, the smoke from the Swan Lake Fire spread throughout southcentral Alaska and served as a constant reminder in Anchorage that the Kenai Peninsula was experiencing a massive fire and should be avoided. Smoke from the Swan Lake Fire also effectively prevented our local customers from using our popular outdoor deck, which overlooked the picturesque Moose River, during the 2019 summer season. One prominent Anchorage band even refused to take our stage when they arrived in Sterling for a schedule gig because they believed that our ambient – inside – air quality would be too dangerous to their expensive electrical equipment. So much for the previously-advertised “smoke free” bar environment that we always touted! In total, the Swan Lake Fire resulted in a reduction of more than 40% in our expected 2019 summer revenues in the bar and our adjoining package store for the 3-4 months that the fire raged locally. Thereafter, the effects of the fire continued for the remainder of 2019 – first because of the loss of our local summer tourist season and, later, by the damage dealt to Sterling’s local economy. Ultimately, our local year-round customers disappeared for the remainder of 2019 – first because of

the loss of our summer tourist season, followed later by the damage dealt to our local economy. By late 2019 we realized that our local regulars had missed out on the 2019 tourist season just as we had and, therefore, they had no money to spend on entertainment. The Federal government quickly designated the Swan Lake Fire as a “National Disaster Area” and offered loans to adversely impacted residents and businesses, but this offer was illusory in light of subsequent developments. While we immediately applied for such disaster relief from the SBA in October of 2019 while we continued to operate our license – at 4–0-50% below our expected revenue, things did not improve. Finally, in December of 2019, we reluctantly decided to temporarily suspend our operations “for a few months” until the local economy improved and until the 2020 tourism season returned as expected. Our initial estimate was that the local economy would recover from the Swan Lake Fire by the second quarter of 2020, so we announced a temporary closure from mid-January through about March of 2020 in hopes of reopening in April or May in time for the 2020 summer season. Unfortunately, the national COVID-19 pandemic began in early February of 2020, thereby delaying and disrupting our immediate plans to reopen. By late February of 2020, it became obvious that we could no longer reasonably expect our local economy to rebound as quickly as we had initially projected. Following our shut down in January of 2020, we continued to pursue our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application with the SBA but administrative delays caused by overwhelming pandemic demands resulted in unending delays as the SBA seemingly prioritized the national pandemic recovery over the local Swan Lake Fire damages that were incurred. At one point we were told that the SBA email box that we were told to use for our disaster loan application was not being actively monitored and a backlog of over 20,000 unread and unprocessed emails (including our application) were awaiting initial review. Ultimately our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application became stale, was denied and then, because of our “premature” fire shut down, we were deemed ineligible for later pandemic relief. During the extended aftermath of the Swan Lake Fire, our landlord lost ownership of our licensed premises and our lease was summarily terminated. At that point we began exploring both the possible relocation of our licensed premises or the sale of our beverage dispensary license. While we have worked through several possible opportunities in this regard, we have been unable to close a viable deal whereby Moosequitos could either relocate or sell its last remaining liquor license. (Another Moosequitos liquor license – Package Store License No. 976 - was successfully sold and transferred to a new owner during 2022.) We still hope to successfully relocate, reactivate and/or sell Moosequitos remaining beverage dispensary license during 2025, but circumstances have not yet permitted us to put such a deal together in the aftermath of the two national disasters we have encountered. Finally, it should be noted that we had two areas of uncertainty when preparing our Form AB-29 application. First, we are uncertain what number of waiver requests we have “officially” submitted. While we have not operated for several years, one staff member of AMCA opined that we had previously been granted automatic waivers due to the pandemic and, therefore, they did not count against our waiver count. Second, we did not understand how to calculate the “non-refundable waiver application fee” that we owed at this time. Our recollection is that several of our previous fees were globally waived by the Board. We are prepared to pay whatever is the appropriate fee for this request and hope that the enclosed \$2,000 payment will cover any application fee that is now owed. Respectfully submitted, Paul W. Koval, Managing Member and Sole Member for Moosequito Ventures, LLC

Attestations

I certify that I have provided adequate notice to the local governing body on file prior to ABC Board consideration of this application.

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

Signature

This application was digitally signed by : Paul W Koval on 12/29/2024 09:14 AM AKST

rec #101197844



Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application

Why is this form needed? A licensee must request that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board waive the operating requirements of AS 04.11.330(a)(3) or (d). If a recreational site license, a theater license, a common carrier dispensary license, or a sporting activity or event license did not operate at least once during a calendar year, or if a license of any other type did not operate for at least 240 hours in a calendar year, this application (and corresponding fees upon request) must be submitted for the calendar year, per 3 AAC 305.120. *A waiver application does not apply to Manufacturer Direct Shipment license*.

This application must be accompanied by a non-refundable waiver application fee of:

- for a 1st request, an amount equal to ½ the applicable biennial license fee; or
- for a 2nd or subsequent request, double the amount of the fee paid for the previous waiver application.

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In addition to the waiver application fee, the applicant must pay a late fee of \$1,000 for an application that is received too late for Board consideration at its last meeting of the year for which the waiver is requested. Please check AMCO's website for meeting agenda and waiver deadlines.

Please note that a licensee must submit a separate completed copy of this form and pay a separate corresponding fee for each license and for each calendar year during which a license was not operated in compliance with AS 04.11.330. Listing more than the one license will not be accepted.

Section 1 – Establishment Information

Enter information for the license that has not been operated for the time required under AS 04.11.330.

Licensee:	Moosequito Ventures, LLC	License Number:	975		
License Type:	Beverage Dispensary				
DBA:	Moosequito's Bar				
Premises Address:	33560 Sterling Highway				
City:	Sterling	State:	Alaska	ZIP:	99672
Local Governing Body:	Kenai Peninsula Borough				

Section 2 – Request Number and Calendar Year

☐ 1st Request ☒ 2nd Request ☐ 3rd Request ☐ Other _____

Request for Calendar Year 2023

rec #101197844



Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application**Section 3 – Reason for Non-operation**

Provide an explanation as to why the licensed premises were not operated:

See attached Reasons For Non-Operation Of License No. 975.

Section 4 – Certifications

The following must be completed for establishments located within the boundaries of a local governing body:

Read the line below, and then sign your initials in the box to the right of the statement:

Initials

I certify that I will provide a copy of this application to the local governing body listed on Page 1 of this form prior to ABC Board consideration of this application.

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I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

PWK

PAUL W. KOVAL, FOR
MoosequitoVentures, LLC

Printed name of licensee

Signature of licensee

Office Use Only

Waiver Application Fee:		Late Fee:		Transaction #:	
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REASONS FOR NON-OPERATION OF LICENSE NO. 975

Licensee: Moosequito Ventures, LLC

For Calendar Years 2023-2025

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In early February of 2020, while we were temporarily closed due to the aftermath of the Swan Lake Fire, the COVID-19 pandemic attacked the world, thereby delaying and disrupting our immediate plans to reopen Moosequitos. By late February of 2020, it became obvious that we could no longer reasonably expect our local economy to rebound from the Swan Lake Fire as quickly as we had initially projected in light of the pandemic. Following our shut down in January of 2020, we continued to pursue our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application with the SBA but administrative delays caused by overwhelming pandemic demands resulted in unending delays as the SBA seemingly prioritized the national pandemic recovery over the local Swan Lake Fire damages that were incurred. At one point we were told that the SBA email box that we were told to use for our disaster loan application was not being actively monitored and a backlog of over 20,000 unread and unprocessed emails (including our application) were awaiting initial review. Ultimately our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application became stale, was denied and then, because of our "premature" fire shut down, we were deemed ineligible for later pandemic relief having ceased our operations before the pandemic. Also, during the extended aftermath of the Swan Lake Fire, our lease was summarily terminated by the landlord. At that point we began exploring both the possible relocation of our licensed premises or the sale of our beverage dispensary license. While we have since worked through several possible opportunities in this regard, we were unable to close a viable deal to continue Moosequitos' operations or sell its last remaining liquor license. (Another Moosequitos liquor license – Package Store License No. 976 - was successfully sold and transferred to a new owner during 2022.) Throughout 2023 through 2025, we actively pursued our goal of selling Moosequito's remaining beverage dispensary license (License No. 975), but circumstances did not result in a sale due to the economic aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. That is, until recently.

Last month we signed a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the sale and transfer of License No. 975. That proposed transfer is now being advertised in the Peninsula Clarion pursuant to applicable regulations. We are indeed now hopeful that the proposed transfer will be consummated as we have agreed and, if that deal falls through, it now appears that there

may be a growing market for License No. 975. In summary we urge the Board to approve our pending Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Applications so that we may go forward and complete the proposed sale and transfer of License No. 975. To the extent that the Board has the requisite authority and deems it appropriate, we further request an abatement of some portion or all of the substantial filing fees and charges that we have been required to prepay in furtherance of this waiver application.

Respectfully submitted:

Paul W. Koval
Managing and Sole Member of Moosequito Ventures, LLC



Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application

Why is this form needed?

This form is the means by which a licensee may request that the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board waive the operating requirement of AS 04.11.330(a)(3) or (d). If a recreational site license has not been operated at least once in a calendar year, or if a license of any other type has not been operated for at least 240 hours in each calendar year, then a complete copy of this form and the corresponding fees must be submitted for that calendar year, per 3 AAC 304.170.

This application must be accompanied by a non-refundable waiver application fee of:

- for a 1st request, an amount equal to ½ the applicable biennial license fee; or
- for a 2nd or subsequent request, double the amount of the fee paid for the previous waiver application.

The ABC Board will determine whether, through no fault of the licensee or because the premises are under construction, the licensed premises count not be operated for the required time during the calendar year. The ABC Board may impose conditions along with the approval of an application for waiver, and it may deny a third or subsequent application for waiver. If an application for waiver is denied, an application for license renewal for the succeeding license period will be denied by the Board. In addition to the waiver application fee, the applicant must pay a late fee of \$1,000 for an application that is received too late for Board consideration at its meeting before November 30 of the year for which the waiver is requested. Please check AMCO's website for meeting agenda deadlines.

Please note that a licensee must submit a separate completed copy of this form and pay a separate corresponding fee for each license and for each calendar year during which a license was not operated in compliance with AS 04.11.330.

Section 1 – Establishment Information

Enter information for the license that has not been operated for the time required under AS 04.11.330.

Licensee:	Moosequito Ventures, LLC	License Number:	975		
License Type:	Beverage Dispensary				
DBA:	Moosequito's Bar				
Premises Address:	Formerly Mile 82 Sterling Hwy (We lost our lease during pandemic)				
City:	Sterling	State:	Alaska	ZIP:	99672
Local Governing Body:	Kenai Peninsula Borough				

Section 2 – Request Number and Calendar Year

☒ 1st Request ☐ 2nd Request ☐ 3rd Request ☒ Other Uncertain

Request for Calendar Year 2022



Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application**Section 3 – Reason for Non-operation**

Provide an explanation as to why the licensed premises were not operated:

Please see attached Addendum to Form AB-29, dated December 28, 2022. The Addendum also addresses our uncertainty of the official number of this request and our uncertainty regarding the amount of the "non-refundable waiver application fee" owed at this time.

Section 4 – Certifications

The following must be completed for establishments located within the boundaries of a local governing body:

Read the line below, and then sign your initials in the box to the right of the statement:

I certify that I will provide a true copy of this application to the local governing body listed on Page 1 of this form prior to ABC Board consideration of this application.

Initials

PWK

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

PWK

MOOSEQUITO VENTURES, LLC

Moosequito Ventures, LLC

Printed name of licensee

By:

Signature of licensee

PAUL W. KOVAL
MANAGING MEMBER

Office Use Only

Waiver Application Fee:	1,500.00	Late Fee:	1,000.00	Transaction #:	100636113
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ADDENDUM TO FORM AB-29
December 28, 2022

Moosequito Ventures, LLC, is an Alaska limited liability company which holds Alaska Liquor License No. 975 – a beverage dispensary license. This license was owned and operated by Moosequitos from the same location along the Sterling Highway in Sterling, Alaska for about twenty years, until January of 2020. Due to a declared national disaster (the “Swan Lake Fire”), followed by a nationwide pandemic and their consequences, Moosequitos was unable to operate Liquor License No. 975 for the statutory minimum number of days during 2020, 2021 and 2022. In the interim, Moosequito’s also lost possession of its licensed premises which has made a possible reopening most challenging.:

The Swan Lake Fire began on June 5, 2019 on the Kenai River Moose Range at a specific location about 5 miles from our original licensed premises. Ultimately, that fire destroyed over 160,000 acres of wilderness land on the Kenai Peninsula – most of which was within the Kenai National Moose Range. The fire closed the Isaak Walton Campground in Sterling (which was located directly across the Sterling Highway from Moosequitos) along with just about every other public campground on the Kenai Peninsula during the summer of 2019, thereby eliminating much of the summer recreational traffic to and from the Kenai Peninsula for 2019. The fire also randomly closed the Sterling Highway between Cooper Landing and Sterling to vehicular traffic, thereby periodically cutting off all automobile traffic between Anchorage and Sterling and all points south along the Sterling Highway, all without warning. When the Sterling Highway was open for traffic, the smoke from the Swan Lake Fire spread throughout southcentral Alaska and served as a constant reminder in Anchorage that the Kenai Peninsula was experiencing a massive fire and should be avoided. Smoke from the Swan Lake Fire also effectively prevented our local customers from using our popular outdoor deck, which overlooked the picturesque Moose River, during the 2019 summer season. One prominent Anchorage band even refused to take our stage when they arrived in Sterling for a scheduled gig because they believed that our ambient – inside – air quality would be too dangerous to their expensive electrical equipment. So much for the previously-advertised “smoke free” bar environment that we always touted!

In total, the Swan Lake Fire resulted in a reduction of more than 40% in our expected 2019 summer revenues in the bar and our adjoining package store for the 3-4 months that the fire raged locally. Thereafter, the effects of the fire continued for the remainder of 2019 – first because of the loss of our local summer tourist season and, later, by the damage dealt to Sterling’s local economy. Ultimately, our local year-round customers disappeared for the remainder of 2019 – first because of the loss of our summer tourist season, followed later by the damage dealt to our local economy. By late 2019 we realized that our local regulars had missed out on the 2019 tourist season just as we had and, therefore, they had no money to spend on entertainment. The Federal government quickly designated the Swan Lake Fire as a “National Disaster Area” and offered loans to adversely impacted residents and businesses, but this offer was illusory in light of subsequent developments. While we immediately applied for such disaster relief from the SBA in October of 2019 while we continued to operate our license – at 4–0-50% below our expected revenue, things did not improve. Finally, in December of 2019, we reluctantly decided to temporarily suspend our operations “for a few months” until the local economy improved and until the 2020 tourism season returned as expected. Our initial estimate was that the local economy would recover from the Swan Lake Fire by the second quarter of 2020, so we announced a temporary closure from mid-January

AMCO
DEC 30 2022

through about March of 2020 in hopes of reopening in April or May in time for the 2020 summer season. Unfortunately, the national COVID-19 pandemic began in early February of 2020, thereby delaying and disrupting our immediate plans to reopen. By late February of 2020, it became obvious that we could no longer reasonably expect our local economy to rebound as quickly as we had initially projected.

Following our shut down in January of 2020, we continued to pursue our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application with the SBA but administrative delays caused by overwhelming pandemic demands resulted in unending delays as the SBA seemingly prioritized the national pandemic recovery over the local Swan Lake Fire damages that were incurred. At one point we were told that the SBA email box that we were told to use for our disaster loan application was not being actively monitored and a backlog of over 20,000 unread and unprocessed emails (including our application) were awaiting initial review. Ultimately our Swan Lake Fire disaster loan application became stale, was denied and then, because of our "premature" fire shut down, we were deemed ineligible for later pandemic relief.

During the extended aftermath of the Swan Lake Fire, our landlord lost ownership of our licensed premises and our lease was summarily terminated. At that point we began exploring both the possible relocation of our licensed premises or the sale of our beverage dispensary license. While we have worked through several possible opportunities in this regard, we have been unable to close a viable deal whereby Moosequitos could either relocate or sell its last remaining liquor license. (Another Moosequitos liquor license – Package Store License No. 976 - was successfully sold and transferred to a new owner during 2022. We still hope to successfully relocate, reactivate and/or sell Moosequitos remaining beverage dispensary license during 2022, but circumstances have not permitted us to put such a deal together in the aftermath of the two national disasters we have encountered.

Finally, it should be noted that we had two areas of uncertainty when preparing our Form AB-29 application. First, we are uncertain what number of waiver requests we have "officially" submitted. While we have not operated during 2020, 2021 and 2022, one staff member of AMOCA opined that this was our first "official" request due to the previous automatic waivers that were recognized due to the pandemic. Second, we did not understand how to calculate the "non-refundable waiver application fee" that we owed at this time. Our recollection is that our previous fees were globally waived by the Board for 2020 and 2021. The same staff member opined earlier this fall that our fee would be \$1,500 for our first official request but, of course, it appears that this application is now delinquent since the Form AB-29's are now due in November rather than by December 31 as in previous years. In short, we are prepared to pay whatever is the appropriate fee for this request and hope that the enclosed \$2,500 payment will cover any application fee that is now owed.

Thank you for your help regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted, Moosequito Ventures, LLC

By: Paul W. Koval, Managing Member and Sole Member

AMCO

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Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov
<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco>
Phone: 907.269.0350

Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application

Why is this form needed?

This form is the means by which a licensee may request that the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board waive the operating requirement of AS 04.11.330(a)(3) or (d). If a recreational site license has not been operated at least once in a calendar year, or if a license of any other type has not been operated for at least 240 hours in each calendar year, then a complete copy of this form and the corresponding fees must be submitted for that calendar year, per 3 AAC 304.170.

This application must be accompanied by a non-refundable waiver application fee of:

- for a 1st request, an amount equal to ½ the applicable biennial license fee; or
- for a 2nd or subsequent request, double the amount of the fee paid for the previous waiver application.

The ABC Board will determine whether, through no fault of the licensee or because the premises are under construction, the licensed premises count not be operated for the required time during the calendar year. The ABC Board may impose conditions along with the approval of an application for waiver, and it may deny a third or subsequent application for waiver. If an application for waiver is denied, an application for license renewal for the succeeding license period will be denied by the Board. In addition to the waiver application fee, the applicant must pay a late fee of \$1,000 for an application that is received too late for Board consideration at its meeting before November 30 of the year for which the waiver is requested. Please check AMCO's website for meeting agenda deadlines.

Please note that a licensee must submit a separate completed copy of this form and pay a separate corresponding fee for each license and for each calendar year during which a license was not operated in compliance with AS 04.11.330.

Section 1 – Establishment Information

Enter information for the license that has not been operated for the time required under AS 04.11.330.

Licensee:	Moosequito Ventures, LLC	License Number:	975		
License Type:	Beverage Dispensary				
DBA:	Moosequito's Bar				
Premises Address:	33560 Sterling Highway				
City:	Sterling	State:	Alaska	ZIP:	99672
Local Governing Body:	Kenai Peninsula Borough				

Section 2 – Request Number and Calendar Year

☐ 1st Request ☐ 2nd Request ☐ 3rd Request ☒ Other COVID

Request for Calendar Year 2021 ✓

approved jrs/amco



Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office
550 W 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov
<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco>
Phone: 907.269.0350

Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Form AB-29: Waiver of Operation Application

Section 3 – Reason for Non-operation

Provide an explanation as to why the licensed premises were not operated:

COVID

Section 4 – Certifications

The following must be completed for establishments located within the boundaries of a local governing body:

Read the line below, and then sign your initials in the box to the right of the statement:

Initials

I certify that I will provide a true copy of this application to the local governing body listed on Page 1 of this form prior to ABC Board consideration of this application.

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

Paul W Koval

Printed name of licensee

Signature of licensee

Office Use Only					
Waiver Application Fee:		Late Fee:		Transaction #:	

AMCO
JUL 27 2023



Document reference ID : 4906

Licensing Application Summary

Application ID: 4906

Applicant Name: Moosequito Ventures Llc

License Type applied for: Beverage Dispensary License(BDL) (AS 04.09.200)

Application Status: In Review

Application Submitted On: 12/29/2024 09:18 AM AKST

Entity Information

Business Structure: Limited liability company

Alaska Entity Number (CBPL): 76007D

Entity Contact Information

Name	Phone	Email	Relation
Paul Koval	907-830-0368	paulwkoval@gmail.com	Executive Management

Entity Address: PO Box 91910, Anchorage, AK, 99509, USA

Ownership / Principal Party Details

Principal Parent Entity	Principal Party	Role	%Ownership
Moosequito Ventures Llc	Paul Koval	Manager and/or Officer	100

Premises Address

Address: 33590 Sterling Hwy, Sterling, AK, 99672, USA

Does the proposed site include a valid street address? Yes

Basic Business information

Business/Trade Name: Moosequito's Bar

Local Government and Community Council Details

City/Municipality No Local Government

Borough Kenai Peninsula Borough

Attestations

I certify that all proposed licensees (as defined in AS 04.11.260) and affiliates have been listed on this application.

I certify that I understand that providing a false statement on this form or any other form provided by AMCO is grounds for rejection or denial of this application or revocation of any license issued.

I certify that all licensees, agents, and employees who sell or serve alcoholic beverages or check the identification of a patron will complete an approved alcohol server education course, if required by AS 04.21.025, and, while selling or serving alcoholic beverages, will carry or have available to show a current course card or a photocopy of the card certifying completion of approved alcohol server education course, if required by 3 AAC 305.700.

I agree to provide all information required by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board in support of this application.

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

I certify that all proposed licensees have been listed with Division of Corporation, Business, and Professional Licensing.

I certify that I and any individual identified in the business entity ownership section of this application, has or will read AS 04 and its implementing regulations.

Signature

This application was digitally signed by : Paul W Koval on 12/29/2024 09:19 AM AKST

Payment Info

Payment Type : Check

Check Number: 1005

Payment Date: 12/29/2024 09:23 AM AKST



Document reference ID : 4906

Renewal Application Summary

Application ID:	4906
License No:	975
License Type applied for Renewal:	Beverage Dispensary License(BDL)
Licensee Name:	Moosequito Ventures Llc
Application Status:	In Review
Application Submitted On:	12/29/2024 09:18 AM AKST

Entity Information

Business Structure:	Limited liability company
FEIN/SSN Number:	
Alaska Entity number (CBPL):	76007D
Alaska Entity Formed Date:	
Home State:	

Entity Contact Information

Entity Address:	PO Box 91910, Anchorage, AK, 99509
------------------------	------------------------------------

Renewal Information

Are there any changes to your ownership structure that have not been reported to AMCO prior to this application?:

No

As set forth in AS 04.11.330, how many hours did you operate during the first calendar year for this renewal period?:

The license was not operated at all or was operated for less than the minimum of 240 hours in the first calendar year of the renewal period.

I have completed a Waiver of Operations self-service transaction.

As set forth in AS 04.11.330, how many hours did you operate during the second calendar year for this renewal period?:

The license was not operated at all or was operated for less than the minimum of 240 hours in the second calendar year of the renewal period.

I have completed a Waiver of Operations self-service transaction.

Please select the seasonality:

Year-round

Has any person or entity in this application been convicted or disciplined for a violation of Title 04, 3 AAC 304 or 305, or a local ordinance adopted under AS 04.21.010 in the preceding two calendar years?:

No

Have any notices of violation or citations been issued for this license during the preceding two years?:

No

Attestations

As an applicant for a liquor license renewal, I declare under penalty of perjury that I have read and am familiar with AS 04 and 3 AAC 305, and that this application, including all accompanying schedules and statements, are true, correct, and complete.

I agree to provide all information required by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board or requested by AMCO staff in support of this application and understand that failure to do so by any deadline given to me by AMCO staff will result in this application being returned and the license being potentially expired if I do not comply with statutory or regulatory requirements.

I certify that in accordance with AS 04.11.450, no one other than the licensee(s), as defined in AS 04.11.260, has a direct or indirect financial interest in the licensed business.

I certify that this entity is in good standing with Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing (CBPL) and that all entity officials and stakeholders are current and I have provided AMCO with all required changes of the ownership structure of the business license and have provided all required documents for any new or changes of officers.

I certify that all licensees, agents, and employees who sell or serve alcoholic beverages or check identification of patrons have completed an alcohol server education course approved by the ABC Board and keep current, valid copies of their course completion cards on the licensed premises during all working hours, if applicable for this license type as set forth in AS 04.21.025 and 3 AAC 305.700.

I hereby certify that I am the person herein named and subscribing to this application and that I have read the complete application, and I know the full content thereof. I declare that all of the information contained herein, and evidence or other documents submitted are true and correct. I understand that any falsification or misrepresentation of any item or response in this application, or any attachment, or documents to support this application, is sufficient grounds for denying or revoking a license/permit. I further understand that it is a Class A misdemeanor under Alaska Statute 11.56.210 to falsify an application and commit the crime of unsworn falsification.

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