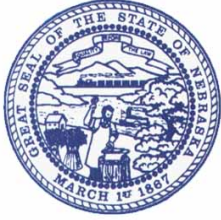


STATE OF NEBRASKA



Dave Heineman
Governor



STATE FIRE MARSHAL
John Falgione
Fire Marshal

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: John Falgione 402-471-2027 or
Deb Collins, Nebraska State Patrol 402-479-4985
January 29, 2009**

McCook Bar Closed in Joint Investigation

(Lincoln, NE)- On the evening of January 28, 2009 the Nebraska Sports Bar & Grill in McCook was closed by the Nebraska State Fire Marshal's Office.

Acting on McCook area complaints related to fire and life safety, Nebraska State Fire Marshal Investigators and staff from the District C Office were joined by the Nebraska State Patrol in a code compliance inspection at the Sports Bar & Grill, 1604 West J Street, McCook, Red Willow County, Nebraska.

The closure of The Sports Bar & Grill came at the direction of the State Fire Marshal's Office who issued a citation for having padlocked emergency exit doors, revoked the occupancy permit, and issued orders for numerous fire code violations. The closed establishment must go through another inspection process with the State Fire Marshal's Office before being allowed to reopen.

During the inspection in McCook the Nebraska State Patrol seized five gambling devices. The Patrol also conducted a second premise inspection at Macke's Sports Bar & Grill in Cambridge, Furnas County, Nebraska resulting in the seizure of two video gambling devices.

State Fire Marshal John Falgione advised, "Joint efforts between the State Fire Marshal's Office and the State Patrol mean greater safety for Nebraska citizens."

Compliance checks are conducted to help communities determine the extent of the problem of alcohol sales as a source of youth access to alcohol. Local law enforcement conducts compliance checks to ensure that businesses are in compliance with the state's youth alcohol laws.

Life Safety Code compliance inspections by the Nebraska State Fire Marshal's Office help to insure public safety for our citizens and attempt to reduce unnecessary loss of life and property due to preventable fires.

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