

**MEMORANDUM**

**Memo # 14-009-01**

**TO: Chief Kevin Treadway**

**FROM: Sgt. Matt Wright**

**DATE: January 21, 2014**

**REF Series 6 Liquor License Person and Location Transfer for “Monsoon Asian Bistro and Sushi”**

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On January 21, 2014, I initiated an investigation into an application for a series 06 (bar) liquor license person to person and location transfer. The liquor license application has been filed by Randy Nations, the listed agent on behalf of, Ki Won Choi and Kenneth Choi owners of Monsoon Asian Bistro and Sushi. Randy is the listed agent for administrative purposes only and has no responsibility for the day to day operations of the business. Monsoon Asian Bistro and Sushi is located at 6 East Aspen, Suite 100 in downtown Flagstaff. The restaurant location is currently operating as it has for some time under a series 12 restaurant license. The series 12 license will become inactive upon approval of the series 6 license. The license number being applied for is 06030040 a full bar license.

I conducted a query through local systems and public access on Randy Nations, Ki Won Choi and Kenneth Choi. No derogatory records were located for Randy Nations or Kenneth Choi. Won Choi was found to have no recent criminal arrests or convictions. Won self-reported six (6) liquor violations at Collins Irish Pub between 2004 and 2009. Won is a listed Controlling Person on the license for Collins. No liquor violations have been recorded by the Department of Liquor License and Control since 2009 at Collins. Won does not have any outstanding fines with the department of liquor. No liquor violations could be located at Monsoon's since Won and Kenneth became owners over a year ago. No other liquor law violations were located on Kenneth Choi as this is his first liquor license application.

In speaking with Randy Nations I confirmed Won and Kenneth Choi had purchased the series 6 license from the State Attorney General's Office. The Attorney General's Office seized the license from the previous owners of the Excalibur Club North, located at 110 S San Francisco in Flagstaff. I spoke with Won Choi who stated he will be managing Monsoon's and confirmed he and his brother have completed the mandatory liquor law training courses. I asked Won for his business plans for the series 6 liquor license. Won explained he purchased the license for investment purposes. Won said he had no plans to change his business practices and will continue to operate as a restaurant until 10:00 p.m., and open the doors for 21 and over patrons after 10:00 p.m. Won said he currently obtains 60% of his gross revenue from food sales and 40% from the sale of liquor. Won continued to explain that he bought the series 6 in hopes nobody else would. Won is hoping to keep another full bar from opening downtown as the bar and restaurant competition downtown is already very high.

I confirmed the bar is outside of 300 feet from any school or church. As a result of the investigation, I can find no reason to oppose the series 6 application for person and location transfer. Recommendation to council would be for approval.