

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** January 8, 2025

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Through:** Jackie Bryant, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of a Nevada State Liquor Wholesaler’s License Application for Shelbi Herring and Kirk Peterson, Copa Fina NV LLC, located at 1170 Financial Boulevard Unit 650, Reno, Nevada and if approved, authorize the Director of Business Licensing to sign the Nevada State Liquor License Application.

**From:** Lance Ferrato, Director of Business Licensing

**Department:** Business Licensing

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**Summary:**

This is an application (R163030Q-APP-2024) by Copa Fina NV LLC, located at 1170 Financial Boulevard Unit 650, for a Nevada State Liquor Wholesaler’s License. Nevada Revised Statutes (“NRS”) require Council to review applications submitted for state licenses that will operate within the City and find satisfactory evidence that the applicant is of good moral character in order to approve. Based upon a background investigation conducted by the Reno Police Department (“RPD”), staff recommends that Council approve the applicants, Shelbi Herring and Kirk Peterson, approve the state license application for Copa Fina NV LLC, and authorize the Director of Business Licensing to sign the application.

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Economic and Community Development

**Previous Council Action:**

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

**Background:**

Pursuant to NRS Chapter 369 entitled “Intoxicating Liquor: Licenses and Taxes,” certain persons and businesses engaged in the importation of liquor, wholesale dealers of beer, wine and liquors, winemakers, instructional wine-making facilities, breweries, brew pubs, and craft distilleries are required to obtain a state license to engage in the activities listed involving intoxicating liquor. Prior to the revisions in SB 22 (2015 legislative session), state law required applications for state

licenses to be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners in the county in which the applicant maintained their principal place of business.

SB 22 revised the provisions of NRS 369.190, governing the review and approval of the state license. The revisions in the bill now require an applicant whose principal place of business is located within an incorporated city to submit the state license application to the governing body of the city instead of the Board of County Commissioners. The governing body shall approve or disapprove the application based on evidence that the applicants are of good moral character. The state license requirement is in addition to any licensing requirements in the municipal code of the local jurisdiction(s) in which the business is physically located.

**Discussion:**

On September 18, 2024, staff received a state license application from Copa Fina NV LLC (Exhibit A). NRS 369.190(3) and RMC sec. 5.07.055(c) specify that Council shall determine if there is “satisfactory evidence that the applicant is a person of good moral character” when reviewing and approving a state license application.

RPD completed the applicant’s background investigation on November 27, 2024, and recommended approval of the application. Based on completion of the background investigation, staff has determined that the applicant is “of good moral character” and suitable to hold the state license under the provisions of NRS and RMC.

**Financial Implications:**

No financial implications at this time.

**Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends that Council approve the Nevada State Liquor Wholesaler’s License for Copa Fina NV LLC and authorize the Director of Business Licensing to sign the application.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve the Nevada State Liquor Wholesaler’s License for Copa Fina NV LLC and authorize the Director of Business Licensing to sign the application.

**Attachments:**

- Exhibit A – Copa Fina NV LLC State Application
- Notice of Waiver – Shelbi Herring
- Notice of Waiver – Kirk Peterson