

CITY OF WISCONSIN DELLS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

January 31, 2015

The City of Wisconsin Dells has been known for generations for its beautiful scenery along the Wisconsin River, and the wonderful safety and hospitality our community offers its guest. It is incredibly tragic that spanning the past year, our city has been the spotlight of some unfortunate deaths of young men along these same landscapes that our city cherishes.

This letter is not to point blame at anyone, or one specific thing. However, I do express my grave concern that excessive alcohol consumption appears to be a contributing factor in some of these deaths. The downtown Wisconsin Dells has become known for its adult-themed nightlife through a mix of live entertainment, music, and the place to celebrate. It's unfortunate when an atmosphere meant to provide enjoyment is tarnished when some people celebrate to excess and engage in dangerous or violent behavior. It is intolerable when any incident leads to a loss of life.

Therefore I am asking Police Chief Jody Ward to coordinate a mandatory meeting and training session with all Class B License owners this Spring. The meeting and training will focus on the concerns stated, as well as methods to identify and resolve troublesome incidents, binge drinking, and intoxication before they escalate out of control. I have also asked Chief Ward to explore training to all licensed servers on said issues, which can be accomplished online for the employee's convenience. The license owners and managers of Wisconsin Dells have an outstanding relationship with our City, and its Police Department. I expect they will provide full cooperation to this training to demonstrate a collective concern to these recent issues and to enhance the foundation of the safe and responsible enjoyment of our city for all.

Respectfully,



Mayor Brian Landers
City of Wisconsin Dells