

# Merchant Fights Closure

## Operator claims unfair treatment

BY JAYMEE R. CUTI  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Robert Larry, president of the Portland NAACP and operator of the King Boulevard Liquor Store is crying foul after his retail sales agreement was terminated.

Larry has long claimed that the Oregon Liquor Control Commission has not acted fairly in various disputes with his businesses, beginning in 1997.

On Thursday, the OLCC unanimously voted to cancel Larry's liquor sales contract after he lost an appeal with an administrative judge. He was accused of failing to make daily cash deposits from April 28 to June 2; not submitting timely sales reports; and keeping his store closed since June 9 — all violations of a retail sales agreement. The state agency is also seeking to recover around \$43,000 in liquor receipts.

Larry reportedly held off on making the deposit and filing reports on time until he could resolve a computer glitch between his system and the OLCC program. He said he kept the records and funds in a trust account.

Larry refused to allow OLCC and other law enforcement officers admittance to the store Friday to retrieve the state-owned liquor inventory from the outlet. The OLCC said they would return with a court order.

But Monday, Larry invited agents to pick up the liquor while blasting officials for making an unannounced visit to his home. He said he was planning a lawsuit.

Six months after he purchased the business in 1997, Larry faced an administrative hearing for shortages, with a ruling in his favor. He says the shortage was caused by inadequately trained employees' failure to change sticker prices of alcohol.

According to Larry, several African-American liquor store operators have been unfairly targeted by the OLCC.

"I was targeted because I'm a very outspoken black man," Larry said.

He also speculated that his involvement in opposing renewal of a liquor license for the Ainsworth Safeway store spurred enforcement against him.

Although Larry lost in the administrative process, he can still appeal the verdict with the Oregon Court of Appeals.

*"I was targeted because I'm a very outspoken black man."*

— Robert Larry, Portland NAACP President



PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER  
A community leader says his rights were violated in the license termination of his King Boulevard Liquor Store.

## Rules Ease for Flu Shots

Local residents age 50 and older, out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of people in designated high-priority groups can be vaccinated against influenza, public health officials in Oregon and Washington announced Monday.

The easing of flu shot rules is in line with new recommendations from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Parents of children 6-23 months and children with a chronic illness are especially encouraged to seek vaccination for their youngsters.

For more information, check with your health care provider or call the flu hotline at 800-978-3040 statewide or 503-872-6900 in the Portland area, or 800-SAFENET.

## LEGAL NOTICES



Need to publish a court document or notice? Need an affidavit of publication quickly and efficiently? Please fax or e-mail your notice for a free price quote!

Fax: 503-288-0015

e-mail:

classifieds@portlandobserver.com

The Portland Observer

### To Place Your Classified Advertisement

Contact: Kathy Linder

Phone: 503-288-0033

Fax: 503-288-0015

e-mail: classifieds@portlandobserver.com

## Ask Deanna!



Real People, Real Advice

An advice column known for its fearless approach to reality based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I'm taking a chance in asking this question because I'm not sure if

you're a sports fan. I'm a white guy and I'm not racist. In regards to the media coverage with the NBA fight, do you think the league was too hard on Ron Artest? I feel if a white guy had been hit with the cup, the media coverage and the punishment wouldn't be the same. --Victor James; Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Victor:

Sports fan or not, with the penalty Ron Artest received, he should've bit the guy, broke his fingers, a leg and a few toes. The NBA, the media and everyone else need to quit tripping. Another athlete, black or white, in that same predicament would've reacted the same way maybe worse. True his past reputation didn't help matters but he did what he had to do. In looking at the tape, the suspension and the pen-

alty, I wish Ron Artest had hit the man harder.

Dear Deanna!

It's Christmas again and I have to deal with gift arguments with my girlfriend. We've been together for over three years and she's started talking about engagement rings again. I love her but have no plans to marry her or propose and she knows it. I wish she would get off my back and just let the relationship flow. Her desire for an engagement ring causes us to fuss, fight and argue until she gets tired. I'm tired of it now! --Michael S.; New York City

Dear Michael:

You're doing the why buy the cow and get the milk for free story that gets old after a while. Your differ-

ences on this issue are driving you apart, causing stress and misery. Make it simple, if you love her, commit. If not and she lets you stay, give her some cheese to go with her wine and you sit down somewhere and shut up. After three years, the routine shouldn't be a surprise. You know what she wants and you either give it to her or risk losing her.

Dear Deanna!

People need to wake up during the holidays and stop falling victim to the slave of over spending. This is a sin and it needs to stop. It's a shame how people don't pay their bills, lose their homes and get into financial trouble during holidays. If they we're smart, they would wait until after the holidays, get better bargains and save money. --Tiffany; Jackson, Miss.

Dear Tiffany:

I see your point on the spending. However, if people were really smart, they would realize Jesus is the reason for the season. Yes, that's a cliché but one that would save money, save souls and lead to salvation. The birth of Christ is the most popular birthday ever that gets slighted because of the media, greedy capitalists and toy makers that only want to make money. Society should be thankful the Savior is merciful and doesn't ask "What have you done for me lately" on His birthday.

Ask Deanna is written by Deanna M. Write Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna@yahoo.com or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA 90211. Website: www.askdeanna.com



# Happy Holidays

## Celebrate the Season with Safeway

**Christmas Hours:**

Christmas Eve:  
Closing Early at 6pm

Some stores are open  
Christmas Day - see your  
local store for details.

Open Regular Hours  
on 12/26/04

Visit Safeway's Web site at [www.safeway.com](http://www.safeway.com)

Available at Safeway:

**WESTERN UNION | MONEY TRANSFER**

PRICES EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 2004						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			22	23	24	25

Prices Effective Wednesday, 1st December 22:00 Sat. 12:00 Dec 23, 2004

Items & prices in this ad are available at your local Safeway stores. No sales to dealers, restaurants or institutions. Sales in retail quantities only. Quantities of some items may be limited and subject to availability. Not responsible for typographical or pictorial errors. We reserve the right to correct all printed errors. On Buy One, Get One Free ("BOGO") offers, customer must purchase the first item to receive the second item free. BOGO offers are not 1/2 price sales. If only a single item purchased, the regular price applies. Manufacturers' coupons may be used on purchased items only — not on free items. ©2004 Safeway Stores, Inc.



**Rancher's Reserve Angus Beef Ribeye Roast**  
Bone-in.

**3.98** lb  
Safeway Club Price



**5-lb. Box Clementines Tangerines**

Perfect gift ideas!  
SAVE up to \$5.00 ea.

**3.99** ea  
Safeway Club Price



**Safeway Frozen Vegetables**

32-oz. Selected varieties.  
Card Price: \$1.50 ea.  
SAVE up to \$2.38 on 2

**2 for \$3**  
Safeway Club Price



**Nabisco Snack Crackers**

7 to 10-oz. Selected varieties.  
SAVE up to \$2.99 on 2

**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**  
OF EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE  
Safeway Club Price

Now the savings are in the Card!

ALL LIMITS ARE PER HOUSEHOLD PER DAY!