

Delaware General Health District

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NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE BOARD OF HEALTH REVOKES TAVERN'S FOOD LICENSE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DELAWARE, Oh., Dec. 8, 2011 – The Delaware Board of Health revoked The Lost Shepherd's food service license Tuesday night because of numerous critical and repeated food safety violations.

The Lost Shepherd is located at 345 W. Olentangy St., Powell. The revocation prohibits The Lost Shepherd from doing further business selling food.

The Board of Health action came after The Lost Shepherd failed to improve food handling. The most recent Delaware General Health District inspection of the restaurant, conducted the night of Nov. 8 in response to a complaint, revealed critical food safety violations involving improper food cooling procedures, cold foods not kept cold enough, and an employee failing to wash hands as required.

Since The Lost Shepherd was originally licensed in June 2008, the DGHD has inspected the tavern 23 times and documented 51 critical food safety violations. The tavern repeatedly failed to have foods at safe temperatures, and employees repeatedly failed to meet handwashing requirements. One inspection found food thawing in the kitchen sink designated for employee handwashing. On another inspection, the tavern had no food thermometers on the premises.

“These types of violations are the ones most often responsible for the transmission of foodborne illness,” stated a summary of The Lost Shepherd's food safety code violations prepared for the Board of Health by the Delaware General Health District's Food Protection and Public Safety unit. The Board of Health voted to revoke the establishment's food license at the close of a hearing Tuesday night.

Poor inspection results led the DGHD Food Unit to summon The Lost Shepherd's owner to administrative hearings in October of 2010 and August of 2011. The business agreed to several steps for improved food safety at both of those hearings, including additional training provided to the tavern's employees by the Health District. The Health District also provided an interpreter to convey food safety concerns to Spanish-speaking employees of the tavern during that period. However, additional inspections after both hearings documented more critical food safety violations as well as failures to follow agreed-upon cleaning schedules.

The Lost Shepherd's representatives have a right to appeal the Board of Health's decision.