

May 19, 2025

Commissioner Vincent Morales, Jr.
Precinct 1
Fort Bend County
22333 Grand Corner Drive
Katy, Texas 77494

Dear Commissioner Morales:

We have been informed that a banquet hall will be opening at 2015 Harlem Rd. Bldg. 6, Richmond, TX 77406, which is in proximity to Bowie Middle School. We understand the facility will not operate as a restaurant or bar open to the public, and its operating hours will not coincide with the school hours. However, due to its location within 300 feet of the school, the business was denied an alcohol license under current distance regulations.

The applicant has since requested a variance from the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court so that the application for a license may be considered by Commissioners Court on May 27, 2025.

Fort Bend Independent School District (FBISD) does not advocate for the sale of alcohol and has concerns that some business sell alcohol to persons under the legal age of 21. However, these concerns must be balanced with FBISD's commitment to establish collaborative communities with businesses, churches, and non-profit organizations to support our schools. While I have concerns about the availability of alcohol within 300 feet of Bowie Middle School students, I am persuaded to rely upon the representations that this banquet hall will not operate as a restaurant or bar open to the public, and its operating hours will not coincide with school hours. Therefore, this letter serves to document that FBISD does not oppose the issuance of a variance so that this license may be issued to the applicant.

If I can assist with additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 281-634-1007.

Sincerely,



Dr. Marc Smith
Superintendent of Schools