



MAYOR GINA-LOUISE SCIARRA

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Statement from Mayor Sciarra About Bombyx Closure

Today, Northampton Fire Chief Jon Davine issued a cease and desist order, effective immediately, for all music events at Bombyx at 130 Pine Street in Florence based on his responsibility to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, specifically M.G.L. Chapter 148 Section 26G ½.

First and foremost, the safety of everyone attending events in Northampton is of utmost importance. I fully support our fire and building inspectors in their efforts to ensure the well-being and protection of our community. Our city's professionals are well-versed in Massachusetts safety codes, which serve as the operating rules. We must prioritize human life above all else, and I have confidence in our regulators to uphold this principle.

While I acknowledge and admire the valuable programming presented by Bombyx, their operations must take place in a safe and compliant location. The responsibility to adhere to all safety codes lies with Bombyx, and it appears that city regulators and Bombyx's own consultants informed them about the necessity of fire safety equipment to function as a music venue.

I will ensure that Bombyx obtains clear instructions regarding feasible activities at 130 Pine Street. In addition, I will actively assist in helping seek funding for the fire safety upgrades needed for this important historic structure. I have already offered to allow them to repurpose funds I awarded Bombyx from the ARPA Community Recovery Grants for a commercial kitchen project toward compliant fire control systems.

The safety of our community remains paramount. Therefore, I am dedicated to working with Bombyx and our city's professionals to find a solution that restores code-compliant programming for this location as quickly as possible.

Thank you,

Mayor Gina-Louise Sciarra