

Health spa license is denied

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character, reputation, moral integrity and operation of Tokyo health spa... is adverse to the public health, safety morals and general welfare of Farmington Hills," Dwyer said in his statement.

Evidence alleging falsified photographs and signatures from Shinn was inconclusive, according to testimony given from several law enforcement officials. It was not determined whether she falsified either, and Shinn's attorney Milton Spokojoy denied both allegations.

Shinn has lived in the United States since 1968 and has operated her business for four years in Farmington Hills, according to Spokojoy.

She was previously charged with soliciting-related charges at a Waterford Township spa; the charges were dismissed. She filed an assumed name to do business at that spa, 411 Elizabeth Lake Road, in 1978, the same year the charges were filed. Information about that spa was not placed on her application, according to testimony.

Shinn testified that she did not understand the question on the application, so did not answer it.

She also operates a spa at 23100 Telegraph in Southfield, and previously worked at a spa at 1180 Ann Arbor in Plymouth, according to police testimony and information on the original application.

Shinn awaits trial in the 47th District Court in Farmington on alleged misdemeanor zoning violations in relation to the Tokyo spa, according to testimony. Hills zoning officials discovered evidence of someone living in the business last June, one zoning official testified.

The Tokyo Oriental Health Spa was shut down by the city for four days last March on the day the massage ordinance took effect. It was reopened after meetings between City Attorney Paul Bilbeau and spa attorneys and has operated without a business license since that time.

THE TOKYO Oriental Health Spa was one of five Oriental health spas raided by the city in October 1985 following a six-week investigation of residents' complaints that sex-related offense were occurring at the storefront spas.

Three of the 17 Asian-born employees arrested during the raids were from the Tokyo spa. All arrested have either pleaded no contest to lesser charges or been convicted of soliciting-related charges, according to Dwyer.

Each of the five Oriental health spas operating in Farmington Hills last year was closed following either the October raids or subsequent court proceedings.

Police also ticketed seven men for loitering in a place of illegal occupation during the raids.

Although Shinn was not at her business when the arrests were made, she was the owner and manager of the spa, and Assistant City At-



Milton Spokojoy, attorney for Un Cho Shinn, takes his turn at the microphone.

orney Derk Beckerleg said as the owner, she was responsible.

"This woman... in fact, probably knew what was going on there," he said. "Testimony has demonstrated that the spa license was... falsified deliberately. I recommend the license be denied."

"We proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the Tokyo health spa was used as a house of prostitution," Dwyer added.

Spokojoy defended his client and her background. "Ms. Shinn has never been convicted of any crime," he said. "She has an unblemished record. There is no legal reason she should not be given a license."



Farmington Hills resident Sharon Chilton, leader of the Citizens for a Decent Community, addresses the city council.

"The innuendoes here are astounding. I think your staff is hell-bent on closing this business down. This is not a federal case, but perhaps it will be," Spokojoy added.

He could not be reached to comment on Shinn's future actions or possible litigation against the city.

Spokojoy said the Farmington Hills ordinance was based on a similar ordinance adopted by the city of Royal Oak, and that part of the ordinance has been found unconstitutional. Mayor Joe Alkateeb told Spokojoy, "We're not here to rule on the constitutionality of the ordinance."

Under the Hills ordinance, non-empt businesses providing body massages must comply with business license and operating permit provisions and operating and inspection fees.

The ordinance also addresses the layout of the business where massages will be provided, the need for the business to meet certain health-related provisions and the type of apparel massage therapists must wear.

Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor that upon conviction carries a penalty of up to a \$500 fine and 90 days in jail.

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