Salt Lake cinema Brewvies fined, threatened by state for showing 'Deadpool'

kutv.com/news/local/salt-lakes-cinema-brewvies-fined-threatened-by-state-for-showing-deadpool

Salt Lake City — (KUTV) A local cinema that serves alcohol is being fined and threatened by state authorities for showing the film, "Deadpool."

According to paperwork filed by the Office of the Utah Attorney General, Brewvies Cinema Pub in Salt Lake City, violated the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, by showing the film. They are now subject to a fine and possible suspension of their liquor license.

According to Utah Code, an establishment that serves alcohol is forbidden to show a film that depicts a simulated sexual act, or shows a person being touched on their privates, or displaying genitals.

From the UT Alcohol Beverage Control Act - banning the following at a biz that serves alcohol <u>@KUTV2News pic.twitter.com/MIavVDRSkk</u>

— Chris Miller (@ChrisMillerOnTV) April 18, 2016

The movie "Deadpool," does contain several simulated sex acts, as detailed in the crime report written by a state investigator, who watched the film at Brewvies on February 26, with a Bud Light.

Former Salt Lake City Mayor, Rocky Anderson is the attorney representing Brewvies. He says this is not the first time they have been threatened by state officials. Anderson said they previously paid a fine after being cited for showing the movie, "The Hangover Part II."

"If you can't ban the movie in these other theaters, you can't ban it at Brewvies, just because you serve alcohol," said Anderson, who calls the law unconstitutional. "If they put the statue of David up on their screen or had it out in their lobby, they could be cited."

Anderson says the state is overstepping its bounds and similar laws have been repealed in California and Idaho. "They struck out all of that offending language and basically just put in what the federal obscenity standard would be."

In a letter to the Utah Attorney General and the Utah Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Anderson called on the state to leave Brewvies alone or face a lawsuit.

"This isn't only about Brewvies first amendment rights, this is about the first amendment rights of Brewvies customers, who obviously want to see these movies," he says. "Whether alcohol is involved or not, the first amendment applies. Period."

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