

On Friday, November 25, a customer walked into the Peppermill's Fireside Lounge in Las Vegas wearing a Muslim hijab head covering.

The Peppermill's Fireside Lounge has a long-standing policy that prohibits hats and headwear of all kinds because of past gang activity in the area. The policy was put in place only for the Peppermill's Fireside Lounge location, and is not a corporate policy. It was meant to ensure the safety of all Fireside Lounge customers. The policy had a clear, long-standing religious exemption, but because of a recent miscommunication, this exemption was not followed correctly.

Because of this misunderstanding of the exemptions under the policy, Fireside Lounge employees requested that the customer remove her hijab.

The Peppermill deeply regrets this request and apologizes for asking a customer to remove a head covering that was clearly exempted from the policy.

Because of this unfortunate incident, the Peppermill team has had an opportunity to review the Fireside Lounge's headwear policy and has decided it is no longer necessary. All corporate Peppermill policies and individual policies of other Peppermill properties have never prohibited headwear or head coverings. The Peppermill has taken swift action to remove this Fireside Lounge policy to ensure that no future miscommunications occur and that it complies with Peppermill corporate policy.

The Peppermill deeply regrets and apologizes for the incident at the Fireside Lounge, and has taken steps to ensure no incidents of this kind occur in the future.

*Peppermill Corporate Management Team*