

# PUBLIC EVENT/SPECIAL ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION

City of Somerville, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Application #: PEL26-000050

File #: 26-012634

**Event Name:** Haitian Flag Raising

**Business Name:** SOIA - Office of Immigrant Affairs

**Application Type:** Public Event License

**Location:** 42 CROSS ST

---

## APPLICANT

**Company Name:** SOIA - Office of Immigrant Affairs

**Contact Name:** Karim L. Razzaz

**Business Address:**

**Home Address:**

42 Cross St  
Somerville, MA 02145

**Work Phone:**

**Home Phone:**

**Email:** krassaz@somervillema.gov

**# of days:** 1

**Does this event occupy a public space or significantly affect nearby residents?:** Yes

**Are you the party applying for the Public Event License?:** Yes

**Describe the location in detail:** City Hall Concourse

**In the last 5 years, have you been found guilty, liable, or responsible, in any judicial or administrative proceeding, for any violation of the City Wage Theft Ordinance or any State or Federal laws or regulations regulating the payment of wages?** [City Wage Theft Ordinance](#): No

**Date:** 05/18/2026

**Event Setup Begins:** 02:30 PM

**Start Time:** 03:00 PM

**End Time:** 05:00 PM

**Event Cleanup Ends:** 05:30 PM

**Do You Have a Proposed Rain Date for Your Public Event?:** No

**Organization name; if none, your name:** Haitian Service providers Coalition (HSPC) & Somerville office of Immigrant

**Describe any social or cultural benefits of this event for Somerville residents :** • Builds a sense of belonging and pride for the community being honored. • Helps residents learn about and appreciate different cultures. • Strengthens connections among neighbors through shared celebration. • Shows Somerville's commitment to inclusivity and respect for all backgrounds.

**Describe any financial benefits of this event for Somerville businesses or organizations:** N/A

**What is the budget for this event?:** N/A

**Complete Mailing Address :** 93 Highland Ave Somerville MA 02143

**Contact name for follow-up questions (Will be available to the public):** Karim L. Razzaz

**Email:** krassaz@somervillema.gov

**Phone (Will be available to the public):** 857-270-4740

**Event Name :** Haitian Flag Raising

**Describe the Event:** The flagraising ceremony honors the vibrant Haitian community of Somerville and celebrates the rich history, resilience, and cultural pride represented by the Haitian flag. The event features brief remarks from community leaders and local officials, followed by the raising of the Haitian flag at City Hall. Residents are invited to gather in solidarity,

learn about Haiti's heritage, and recognize the contributions Haitian families make to the social and cultural life of our city. This celebration creates a welcoming space for connection, cultural expression, and community pride for Haitians and all Somerville residents.

**Describe any Entertainment at the Event (if none, type None):** N/A

**Describe any tents, inflatables, or other temporary structures to be used (if none, type None):** N/A

**Describe any accessibility features available to attendees/participants:** N/A

**Estimated maximum attendance at one time :** 20-30

**Estimated total number of people attending:** 50

**Estimated total number of Somerville residents attending :** 50

**Maximum number of attendees you will accommodate:** 50

**Attendee fees or suggested donations :** N/A

**Will this event be open to the public?:** Yes

**Describe your outreach/publicity:** The event was promoted through City of Somerville communication channels, social media, and city calendars, as well as through Haitian community organizations, local partners, and neighborhood networks to ensure broad and direct outreach to Haitian residents.

**Will food be served?:** No

**Will a grill/open-flame device be used? :** No

**Will any streets be blocked? :** No

**Will any sidewalks be blocked? :** Yes

**If yes, describe::** City Hall Concourse Sidewalk

**Will any public parks be used? :** No

**Has this event occurred in the last two years? :** Yes

**If yes, prior dates :** May 2025 / May 2024

**Police Detail :** No

**Parking for Attendees :** No

**Restrooms :** No

**Liability Insurance :** No

#### **Approval Conditions:**

**Reviewer:** CS Mayor, Mayor's Office, Approved

**Reviewer:** Kevin Roche, Engineering, Approved

**Reviewer:** Eric Weisman, Public Works, Approved

**Reviewer:** Charles Breen, Fire Prevention, Approved

**Reviewer:** Suzanne Rinfret, Traffic and Parking, Approved

**Reviewer:** Mackenzie Richardson, Police, Approved

**Reviewer:** Kimberly M. Wells, City Clerk, Approved

**Reviewer:** Jesse Moos, Engineering, Complete