

An image of the S Express store on Ursulines Avenue (dated March 2014 by Google Maps).

After being ordered in November to cease selling hard liquor immediately, the S Express Food Store on Ursulines Avenue is again facing scrutiny from the alcohol board in New Orleans.

The corner store at 2703 Ursulines was originally permitted only to serve beer, but its permit was mistakenly upgraded to sales of all alcohol in 2013, the city Alcohol Beverage Control board ruled in a November 2014 hearing. The owner had asked for a 30 days to sell off her remaining inventory, but board members said she never should have had the right to sell it in the first place, and ordered her not to sell it.

On Tuesday, the S Express appeared on the alcohol board's docket again, this time on charges of permitting illegal conduct and creating a public nuisance. In a brief hearing attended by S Express attorney Ed Washington, however, city attorney Dan MacNamara asked that the case be postponed until April.

The issue includes some "outstanding litigation," but the city also needs more time to prepare its case, MacNamara said. Washington did not object, and the board voted to postpone the issue without discussing the substance of the charges.