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Case dismissed against popular music club

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State regulators said they will dismiss a case against one of San Francisco's most popular all ages music club after a judge ruled in favor of the Great American Music Hall this week.

The Great American Music Hall, a 38 year old venue in the city's Tenderloin neighborhood, has been fighting the state Alcoholic Beverage Control for more than a year.

The ABC claimed that the club had changed its operation to something different than what it represented in its license application. The basic issue is that the clubs are able to operate as all ages venue because they sell food, but the ABC accused the business of operating as a night club. Similar cases are also pending against Slim's and Bottom of the Hill.

A hearing judge decided last month that while the rules are confusing, the club didn't violate ABC rules.

An ABC spokesman said in a statement that while the agency disagrees with the ruling it has decided to dismiss the case and will work to clarify the rules.

Attorney John Hinman, one of the lawyers representing the club, said the ruling is encouraging but that all the other cases should also be dismissed.

"There's no reason to move them forward," he said.

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