DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
+ + + + +
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD
+ + + + +
MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:	
Sunflower Inc., t/a Flavors of India/ Marshall's Bar 2524 L Street NW Retailer CT - ANC 2A License No. 091022 Case #26-PRO-00049	Protest Hearing (Status)
(Application to Renew the License)	

Wednesday
September 16, 2026

The Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board met via WebEx videoconference, Chairperson Donovan W. Anderson presiding.

PRESENT:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
SILAS GRANT, JR., Member
RYAN JONES, Member
DAVID MEADOWS, Member
TERI JANINE QUINN, Member
JAMES TURNER, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff
FARUK MOHAMMAD, Applicant
MARK CRICK, Protestant
JACOB KASS, Protestant

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

10:51 a.m.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The next case in our calendar is Case No. 26-PRO-00049. It's Flavors of India/Marshall's Bar, License No. 091022. Mr. Orellana, can you please elevate the parties in this case?

MR. ORELLANA: Sure thing. Mark, Crick, access elevated. Faruk Mohammad, access elevated.

MR. CRICK: Yes, I'm here. Mark Crick.

MR. ORELLANA: And I believe that's all. I'm going to check in the chat.

MR. CRICK: We may have one more that is on the call.

MR. ORELLANA: Do you know the name?

MR. CRICK: Jacob Kass. I think he's calling in.

MR. ORELLANA: Oh, call-in user, press star six.

MR. KASS: Can you hear me?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Hold on. Okay. That's fine.

MR. KASS: Can you hear me?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, I can hear the caller.

MR. KASS: Hello. Sorry about that. This is Jacob Kass, J-A-C-O-B, K-A-S-S. I work with Mr. Crick.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Who's the owner of this establishment? Who is representing --

MR. CRICK: You mean who is applying for the liquor license or the protestor?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Who’s applying for the liquor license? Who’s applying to renew the license? Who’s the owner of this establishment?

MR. KASS: Faruk is.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Mohammad, you need to unmute yoursel, sir. And if you’re driving, then you need to pull over.
Sir, I’ll wait until you pull over, sir, if you’re driving. I cannot hear you, sir. You have not unmuted yourself.

MR. MOHAMMAD: Okay. I'm sorry. Do you hear me now?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. Good morning, sir. And are you driving? Are you

in a moving vehicle, sir?

MR. MOHAMMAD: No, no, I'm parked now.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Sir, can you spell and state your name for the record?

MR. MOHAMMAD: Faruk, F-A-R-U-K, M-O-H-A-M-M-A-D, Faruk Mohammad.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is your relationship to this establishment, sir?

MR. MOHAMMAD: I own the restaurant.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, sir.

MR. MOHAMMAD: Good morning. How are you?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm doing well; thanks. All right. So who represents -- who's here from the ANC?

MR. CRICK: Nobody is here from the ANC, to my knowledge. The protester is the adjacent property.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Who are you, sir?

MR. KASS: Mr. Mark Crick is the owner of the adjacent property, along with the business partner under an LLC. We're the next

door neighbor, and that is why we are the protesters.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Sir -- okay. I don't know who the parties are, so you're saying this matter has been protested by --

MR. KASS: The adjacent property owner.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: By the abutting properties? So how many abutting property owners? Just yourself, or how many --

MR. KASS: Correct. Just us, yes.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Okay. So I'm sorry again, sir. Let's go back and state your name for the record.

MR. KASS: My name is Jacob Kass, J-A-C-O-B, last name K-A-S-S. I'm the manager of the business that is run out of the property next door, which is owned by Mr. Mark Crick, who is also on this call. I don't know -- M-A-R-K, C-R-I-C-K.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. So this matter is being protested by another business?

MR. KASS: We are the abutting property owner.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But you are

abutting your business; is that correct?

MR. CRICK: Yes. We're a B&B. We have four apartments that we run, and we're a B&B, as per the city code.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. I'm sorry. What type of business are you, sir?

MR. CRICK: We're a boarding B&B, a B&B, bread and breakfast.

MR. KASS: A short-term rental with a license from D.C.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. So you're -- all right. This is a business protesting the renewal of the license for Flavors; is that correct?

MR. KASS: Yes, under the grounds that we're the abutting property directly next to them. They're 2524 L Street Northwest, we are 2526 L Street Northwest. We have a shared wall. They're converted town homes, so we have one wall that is even shared.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Okay. All right. Let me see. So, Mr. Mohammad, how many protesters were there in this case? Did the ANC also protest the renewal of your liquor license, or was it just the abutting property

owner?

MR. MOHAMMAD: No, no, only them.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, okay.

MR. MOHAMMAD: Nobody else.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, fine. It says ANC 2A, so I just want to make sure, and since no one from ANC 2A was here, whether or not I need to dismiss them. Okay. So the renewal of your license has only been protested by the abutting property owner, which is a business, and I was told that that is legally correct. All right.

So, Mr. Mohammad, are there any preliminary matters you need to bring to the attention of the Board?

MR. MOHAMMAD: Not really.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Fine. And, Mr. Kass, are there any preliminary matters you need to bring to the attention of the Board?

MR. KASS: I can provide the update for our side. We have met with Mr. Mohammad at the properties. We have discussed the matters. On September 3rd, I sent him a draft agreement

for the settlement agreement. He sent back one request about operating hours. On September 8th, I sent him an updated version that had the edits he requested, and he had not returned it signed or provided any further comments or questions.

I've been texting him, including over the last couple of days, asking for feedback or if we can proceed to getting it signed. So that is our current status.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Fine. This matter is scheduled for protest hearing on October -- are you there, Mr. Mohammad?

MR. MOHAMMAD: Yes, I'm here.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. You're off camera. That's why I just want to make sure you're still here.

MR. MOHAMMAD: I don't know. Everybody is off camera. I don't see nobody. I don't know.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, I can see Mr. Kass and Mr. Crick. They are not on camera, but the Board is on camera. And so they're the only two that I have not seen. But as I said before, I prefer people to be on

camera. But because you are off camera, I was not sure if you were still connected. So that's why --

MR. MOHAMMAD: You see me now?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. I can see you.

MR. MOHAMMAD: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: This matter is scheduled for a protest hearing on October 21st at 1:30. Mr. Mohammad, based on a representation made by Mr. Kass, do you believe that this case would be settled?

MR. MOHAMMAD: It's just yes or no. If you don't --

MR. MOHAMMAD: Yes, this case be settled, but my first question was --

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm asking a different question, sir. So I don't want you to discuss something --

MR. MOHAMMAD: Yes, we can be settled. We can be settled, yes.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So the reason why I asked the question, so the Board does not have to assign an investigator to do a case report. That's the only reason why I asked. So

if you believe that this case will truly be settled and even if the parties need more time, we will work with the parties to ensure that a settlement, if the parties truly believe that this matter is settled. So that's the only reason why I asked the question.

Anyway, I said before this matter is scheduled for a protest hearing on October 21st at 1:30. But if the parties truly believe that this matter will be settled and they need some more time to discuss, you can let us know and we'll extend the timeline because, again, this is a renewal and so the business will continue to operate until we've had this hearing.

So if the parties truly believe this matter will be settled, just alert our agency so we do not have to assign an investigative this case, okay?

MR. KASS: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Go ahead, Mr. Kass. You were speaking, sir. What were you saying?

MR. KASS: That sounds good. We're hopeful we can get it settled. You know, if there are any other comments or questions from,

you know, Mr. Mohammad's side, we're eager to hear it. We just haven't really heard back. I've been following up every couple days via text.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. That's fine. All right. So, Mr. Mohammad, as he states, please do the communication on your part, sir, so we'll know one way or the other whether or not this matter is going to be settled or we have to schedule a hearing. But that's something that the parties can discuss, but let us know if there's any assistance the agency can provide, okay?

MR. MOHAMMAD: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Thank you. You have a great day.

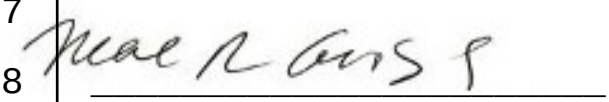
MR. KASS: Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Bye.

(Whereupon, the above-referred to matter was concluded at 10:44 a.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings; and that I am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the parties to this action in which this matter was taken; and further that I am not a relative nor an employee of any of the parties nor counsel employed by the parties, and I am not financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of the action.



Lauryn Barnes

0

091022
2:6

1

10:51
2:2

2

2524
6:17

2526
6:18

26-PRO-00049
2:4

2A
7:7,8

3

3rd
7:25

8

8th
8:2

A

a.m.
2:2

abutting
5:9,23 6:1,16,25 7:11

access
2:9

adjacent
4:20,24 5:6

agreement
7:25 8:1

ANC
4:17,19 6:24 7:7,8

ANDERSON
2:3,23 3:1,6,11,16,24 4:4,8,11,15,21 5:3,8,12, 21,25 6:5,11,21 7:3,6, 18 8:10,15,21

apartments
6:3

applying
3:9,11,12

attention
7:16,20

B

B&b
6:2,4,7,8

back
5:13 8:1

Bar
2:5

Board
7:16,21 8:23

boarding
6:7

bread
6:8

breakfast
6:8

bring
7:15,20

business
4:25 5:17,22 6:1,6,12 7:12

C

C-R-I-C-K
5:20

calendar
2:4

call
2:16 5:19

call-in
2:20

caller
3:2

calling
2:19

camera
8:16,19,23

case
2:3,4,7 6:23

CHAIRPERSON
2:3,23 3:1,6,11,16,24 4:4,8,11,15,21 5:3,8,12, 21,25 6:5,11,21 7:3,6, 18 8:10,15,21

chat
2:14

check
2:14

city
6:4

code
6:4

comments
8:5

converted
6:19

correct
5:11 6:1,14 7:13

couple
8:7

Crick
2:9,11,12,15,18 3:5,9 4:18,23 5:18 6:2,7 8:22

current
8:9

D

D.C.
6:10

days
8:7

directly
6:16

discussed
7:24

dismiss
7:9

door
5:1,18

draft
7:25

driving
3:18,20,25

E

edits
8:3

elevate
2:6

elevated
2:9,10

establishment
3:7,14 4:9

F

F-A-R-U-K
4:6

Faruk
2:9 3:15 4:6,7

feedback
8:7

fine
2:24 7:7,19 8:11

Flavors
2:5 6:14

G

Good
3:25 4:11,13

grounds
6:15

H

hear
2:22,25 3:2,20,23

hearing
8:12

Hold
2:24

homes
6:19

hours
8:2

I

including
8:6

India/marshall's
2:5

It's
2:4

I'll
3:19

I'm
2:14

J

J-A-C-O-B
3:4 5:16

Jacob
2:18 3:4 5:15

K

K-A-S-S
3:4 5:16

Kass
2:18,22,25 3:3,4,15 4:23 5:6,11,15,23 6:9, 15 7:19,22 8:22

knowledge
4:19

L

legally
7:13

license
2:5 3:10,12,13 6:10,13, 25 7:10

liquor
3:10,12 6:24

LLC
4:25

M

M-A-R-K
5:19

M-O-H-A-M-M-A-D
4:7

make
7:7 8:17

manager
5:16

Mark
2:8,11 4:23 5:18

matter
5:5,22 8:11

matters
7:15,20,24

met
7:23

Mohammad
2:9 3:16,22 4:2,6,7,10, 13 6:22 7:2,5,14,17,23 8:13,14,18

morning
3:25 4:11,13

moving
4:1

N

neighbor
5:1

Northwest
6:17,18

O

October
8:12

operating
8:2

Orellana
2:6,8,13,17,20

owned
5:18

owner
3:7,13 4:24 5:7,24 7:1, 11

owners
5:10

P

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2:1

parked
4:2

parties
2:7 5:4

partner
4:25

people
8:25

prefer
8:25

preliminary
7:15,19

press
2:21

proceed
8:8

properties
5:9 7:24

property
4:20,24 5:6,10,17,24 6:16,25 7:11

protest
6:24 8:11

protested
5:5,22 7:11

protester
4:19

protesters
5:2 6:23

protesting
6:13

protestor
3:10

provide
7:22

provided
8:5

pull
3:18,19

Q

questions
8:5

R

record
4:5 5:14

relationship
4:9

renew
3:12

renewal
6:13,24 7:10

rental
6:9

representing
3:8

represents
4:16

request
8:2

requested
8:4

restaurant
4:10

returned
8:4

run
5:17 6:3

S

scheduled
8:11

September
7:25 8:2

settlement
8:1

shared
6:18,20

short-term

6:9

side
7:23

signed
8:4,8

sir
3:17,19,20,24,25 4:1,4, 9,12,22 5:3,13 6:6

spell
4:5

star
2:21

state
4:5 5:14

status
8:9

Street
6:17,18

T

texting
8:6

thing
2:8

told
7:12

town
6:19

type
6:6

U

unmute
3:17

unmuted
3:21

update
7:22

updated
8:3

user
2:20

V

vehicle
4:1

version
8:3

W

wait
3:19

wall
6:18,19

Who's
3:11,12,13

work
3:4

Y

yoursel
3:17

you're
3:17,20