

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

-----=
IN THE MATTER OF:
Noah Limited Liability Company, LLC, t/a Boulevard Lounge
6233 Georgia Ave NW Retailer CT - ANC 4B License #115385 Case # 23-CMP-00017
(Operating After Hours, Substantial Change - Increase in Occupancy, allowed a Patron to leave the Establishment with an Alcoholic Beverage in an Open Container, Interfered with an ABRA Investigation, Failed to Conspicuously Post ABC Window Letter)

Wednesday
February 28, 2024

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

PRESENT:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
SILAS GRANT, Member
JAMES SHORT, JR., Member

ALSO PRESENT:

JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff
MATTHEW BROWN, Applicant's Counsel

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

2 (11:04 a.m.)

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. All
4 right. The next case on our calendar is Case No.
5 23-CMP-00017, Boulevard Lounge, License No.
6 115385.

7 Mr. Orellana, can you please elevate
8 the licensee in this case?

9 MR. ORELLANA: Sure. Theodoros Girma,
10 your access has been elevated.

11 That is all, Chairman.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.

13 MR. GIRMA: Yes, I'm here.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you have a
15 camera, sir, you can turn on?

16 MR. GIRMA: Yes, I'm here.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you have a
18 camera you can turn on, Mr. Girma?

19 MR. GIRMA: Yes. I just turned it on,
20 but I don't know if you can see me.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
22 Yes, sir, I can see you. Can you pull the camera
23 down a little bit so I can see your full face,
24 sir? That is fine. Thank you.

25 MR. GIRMA: That's fine?

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That is fine,
2 sir.

3 Mr. Brown, can you please identify
4 yourself for the record?

5 MR. BROWN: Yes. Good morning, again,
6 to the Board. Matthew Brown, M-A-T-T-H-E-W B-R-
7 O-W-N, Assistant Attorney General on behalf of
8 the District.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
10 sir.

11 Mr. Girma, can you please spell and
12 state your name for the record and your
13 relationship to this establishment?

14 MR. GIRMA: Yes. T-H-E-O-D-O-R-O-S G-
15 I-R-M-A, the owner.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
17 Good morning, sir.

18 Mr. Brown, are there any preliminary
19 matters in this case?

20 MR. BROWN: No, Mr. Chairman.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
22 Then, this matter is scheduled for a show cause
23 hearing on March 27th at 10:30 a.m.

24 What this means, Mr. Girma, is that
25 since you're contesting these charges, on March

1 27th at 10:30, seven days prior to the hearing,
2 if you have any documents and witnesses that you
3 will rely upon at the hearing, you are required
4 to exchange those documents and witnesses with
5 the government and also provide a copy of those
6 documents to the Board.

7 Failure by your part or the government
8 to provide documents and witnesses seven days
9 prior to the hearing, the Board is empowered to
10 prevent you from moving forward to rely on those
11 documents.

12 Any questions, sir, before I conclude
13 this case?

14 MR. GIRMA: No. That'll be all.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So you
16 understand the process, sir?

17 MR. GIRMA: Yes, sir.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. All
19 right. So, again, if the parties want to settle
20 this case, you can have further conversations.
21 If not, I will see you on March 27th at 10:30
22 a.m. Thank you very much. Have a great day.

23 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
24 went off the record at 11:06 a.m.)
25

A	documents 4:2,4,6,8,11 Donovan 1:18,20	Limited 1:5 little 2:23 LLC 1:5 Lounge 1:6 2:5	4:18,19
a.m 2:2 3:23 4:22,24 ABC 1:13 ABCA 1:23 above-entitled 4:23 ABRA 1:12 access 2:10 Alcoholic 1:2,11,17 allowed 1:10 ANC 1:7 Anderson 1:18,20 2:3 2:12,14,17,21 3:1,9 3:16,21 4:15,18 Applicant's 1:23 Assistant 3:7 Attorney 3:7 Ave 1:6	E	M	S
B	elevate 2:7 elevated 2:10 empowered 4:9 establishment 1:11 3:13 exchange 4:4	M-A-T-T-H-E-W 3:6 March 3:23,25 4:21 matter 1:4 3:22 4:23 matters 3:19 Matthew 1:23 3:6 means 3:24 MEETING 1:3 Member 1:20,21 met 1:17 morning 3:5,9,17 moving 4:10	scheduled 3:22 see 2:20,22,23 4:21 settle 4:19 seven 4:1,8 SHORT 1:21 show 1:6 3:22 SILAS 1:20 sir 2:15,22,24 3:2,10,17 4:12,16,17 spell 3:11 Staff 1:23 state 3:12 Status 1:6 Substantial 1:9 Sure 2:9
B-R- 3:6 behalf 3:7 Beverage 1:2,11,17 bit 2:23 Board 1:2,17 3:6 4:6,9 Boulevard 1:6 2:5 Brown 1:23 3:3,5,6,18 3:20	F	N	T
C	face 2:23 Failed 1:13 Failure 4:7 February 1:16 fine 2:24,25 3:1 forward 4:10 full 2:23 further 4:20	name 3:12 Noah 1:5 NW 1:6	T-H-E-O-D-O-R-O-S 3:14 t/a 1:6 Thank 2:3,12,24 4:22 Theodoros 2:9 turn 2:15,18 turned 2:19
calendar 2:4 camera 2:15,18,22 Cannabis 1:2,17 case 1:8 2:4,4,8 3:19 4:13,20 cause 1:6 3:22 Chairman 2:11 3:20 Chairperson 1:17,20 2:3,12,14,17,21 3:1,9 3:16,21 4:15,18 Change 1:9 charges 3:25 COLUMBIA 1:1 Company 1:5 conclude 4:12 Conspicuously 1:13 Container 1:12 contesting 3:25 conversations 4:20 copy 4:5 Counsel 1:23 CT 1:7	G	O	U
D	G- 3:14 General 3:7 Georgia 1:6 Girma 2:9,13,16,18,19 2:25 3:11,14,24 4:14 4:17 Good 3:5,9,17 government 4:5,7 GRANT 1:20 great 4:22	O-W-N 3:7 Occupancy 1:10 Open 1:12 Operating 1:9 Orellana 1:23 2:7,9 owner 3:15	understand 4:16
day 4:22 days 4:1,8 DC 1:23 District 1:1 3:8	H	P	V
	hearing 1:7 3:23 4:1,3,9 Hours 1:9	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2:1 part 4:7 parties 4:19 Patron 1:10 please 2:7 3:3,11 Post 1:13 preliminary 3:18 PRESENT 1:19,22 presiding 1:18 prevent 4:10 prior 4:1,9 process 4:16 provide 4:5,8 pull 2:22	videoconference 1:17
	I	Q	W
	I-R-M-A 3:15 identify 3:3 Increase 1:10 Interfered 1:12 Investigation 1:13	questions 4:12	W 1:18,20 want 4:19 WebEx 1:17 Wednesday 1:15 went 4:24 Window 1:14 witnesses 4:2,4,8
	J	R	X
	JAMES 1:21 JOSE 1:23 JR 1:21	record 3:4,12 4:24 relationship 3:13 rely 4:3,10 required 4:3 Retailer 1:7 right 2:4,21 3:16,21	Y
	K		Z
	know 2:20		0
	L		1
	leave 1:10 Letter 1:14 Liability 1:5 License 1:7 2:5 licensee 2:8		10:30 3:23 4:1,21 11:04 2:2 11:06 4:24 115385 1:7 2:6
			2

2024 1:16
23-CMP-00017 1:8 2:5
27th 3:23 4:1,21
28 1:16

3

4

4B 1:7

5

6

6233 1:6

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Boulevard Lounge

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 02-28-24

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate complete record of the proceedings.



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

COURT REPORTERS AND TRANSCRIBERS

1716 14TH ST., N.W., STE. 200

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009-7831