DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA + + + + +ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD + + + + + MEETING ----= IN THE MATTER OF: : Proposed Rulemaking - : Public North Shaw Moratorium : Hearing Zone • -----= Wednesday February 29, 2024 The Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board met via WebEx videoconference, Chairperson Donovan W. Anderson presiding. **PRESENT:** DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson SILAS GRANT, JR., Member JAMES SHORT, JR., Member ALSO PRESENT: JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff KERRY VERDI, WNA Counsel CHRIS MOORE, MPD ASHLEIGH FIELDS, ANC 1B FRANK CHAUVIN, Public Commenter PAUL ONEILL, Public Commenter ELIZABETH K. BAKER, Public Commenter JUSTIN CAMPBELL, Public Commenter THOMAS M. ABEBE, Public Commenter MARK BESCHER, Public Commenter ABEBE BEKELE, Public Commenter WILLIAM LEWIS, Public Commenter RANDY ROSENFELD, Public Commenter SUDHA GOLLAPUDI, Public Commenter

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1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	10:02 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning.
4	As Chairperson of the Alcoholic Beverage and
5	Cannabis Board for the District of Columbia and
6	in accordance with D.C. Code Section 2571(x)(c)
7	of the Open Meetings Act, OMA, I am welcoming you
8	to the regular scheduled meeting of the Alcoholic
9	Beverage and Cannabis Board.
10	This meeting is being conducted
11	pursuant to guidance made available by the
12	District of Columbia's Office of Open Government
13	regarding electronic meetings held by public
14	bodies. Electronic meetings by the ABC Board are
15	authorized pursuant to Section 2577(a) of the
16	D.C. Code.
17	Pursuant to the OMA requirements,
18	notice of today's meeting was provided 48 hours
19	in advance of the meeting on ABCA's website and
20	on the District's central meeting calendar. The
21	notice included the time, date, agenda, and a
22	call in or log in information for public
23	participation.
24	This electronic meeting has been
25	hosted by a WebEx account provided by the
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1 District of Columbia Government, Please address 2 any questions or complaints to the OOG at 3 opengovoffice@dc.gov. 4 My name is Donovan Anderson. I'm 5 Chairperson of the Board. I would like to introduce the other members of the ABC Board who 6 7 are also participating electronically. 8 Please respond when I announce your Mr. James Short? 9 name. 10 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short, 11 present. 12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Silas 13 Grant? 14 MEMBER GRANT: Mr. Silas Grant, 15 present. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 16 The Board has three members in attendance for the conduct of 17 18 business today and that constitutes a quorum. 19 Before we get underway with today's 20 hearing calendar, I need to make a few 21 instructions very clear so that the conduct of 2.2 this hearing is understood by everyone. 23 There is actually just one hearing today. Once the case is called, there are 24 25 several folks who will participate as this is a

1 public hearing.

2 So, once the case is called, I will, or I'll have our IT specialist, I'll identify the 3 names and I'll have our IT specialist elevate the 4 5 rights of that person to speak. So, therefore you will not be -- your 6 7 rights will not be elevated unless you are called 8 to speak. And, I will also ask the IT specialist 9 to mute -- to disable your camera and microphone 10 once you have spoken. 11 Should you have any questions or 12 require technical assistance during the hearing, 13 please submit them using the question and answer 14 feature. 15 All right. So, the case that we have 16 today, we have a public hearing, public rulemaking regarding the North Shaw Moratorium 17 18 That is the case that we have this Zone. 19 morning. 20 All right. We're here today to 21 conduct a second public hearing on the proposal 2.2 to establish a moratorium on the neighborhood 23 generally described as North Shaw, located roughly in the 9th and U Street corridors. 24 25 The Board held an initial hearing on

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September 14, 2023, to take comment on a written request from the Westminster Neighborhood Association, WNA, to create and establish a new moratorium for the 9th and U Street, Northwest neighborhood, specifically the 1900 block of 9th Street, Northwest.

7 At the conclusion of the September 8 hearing, the Board published proposed rules to create a moratorium zone for North Shaw. 9 The 10 proposed rulemaking created a new moratorium zone 11 for three years that extended approximately 600 feet in all directions from 1909 9th Street, 12 13 Northwest, which is the location of Noah, I'm 14 sorry, the Soundbar, only for retailers, Class CT 15 License, Cyber Number 122864.

16 Specifically, the proposed rules were 17 written to prohibit the following, one, new 18 retailer's Class CN and DN nightclub license. 19 Two, new retailer's Class CX and DX multipurpose 20 licenses.

Three, new entertainment endorsements for any on-premises licensed restaurant or tavern to offer entertainment, a cover charge, or facilities for dancing.

Four, existing entertainment

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1 endorsements for any on-premises licensed 2 restaurant or tavern to add entertainment, a cover charge, or facilities for dancing. 3 Five, a licensed nightclub 4 5 multipurpose facility or restaurant or tavern with an entertainment endorsement from 6 7 transferring from a location outside of the 8 moratorium area to a location inside of the moratorium area. 9 And, six, a license holder located 10 11 within the moratorium area filing a change of 12 license class application for a Class CN, DX, CX 13 multipurpose facility or DX multipurpose facility retailer's license. 14 Because the Board's rules broadened 15 16 the original moratorium proposal submitted by the WNA, the Board determined that a second hearing 17 18 was warranted. 19 I begin this -- I begin this hearing 20 by calling on those witnesses who notified the 21 Agency in advance regarding their desire to 2.2 address the Board. Each witness will be granted 23 no more than five minutes to speak. And, you will set the five-minute timer will be up, you'll 24 25 see that on the screen.

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1	If time permits, I will also entertain
2	comments from other interested parties who wish
3	to be heard. You also have five minutes to
4	to, you'll also have five minutes.
5	I have a witness list containing the
6	names of the individuals who desire to speak both
7	in favor of and in opposition to the proposed
8	moratorium. I will, however, start with MPD
9	Captain Chris Moore of the Third District,
10	followed by Kerry Verdi, Counsel for the
11	Petitioners.
12	Then, I'll have Frank Chauvin, Paul
13	O'Neill, and Elizabeth Baker. Those are the
14	individuals that I will all on first. And then,
15	I will go through the list to call the other
16	names.
17	If you are if your name, if you did
18	not provide the Board with your information to
19	state that you needed to testify, please identify
20	yourself through the chat. And, at the end of
21	the list, I will work with IT to elevate your
22	rights to give you five minutes to testify.
23	The Board will also note for the
24	record that we have received more than 100, more
25	than 100 emails from area residents regarding the

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1 proposed moratorium. That correspondence will be 2 placed in the Board's official records. And so, I will now call the first 3 witness to testify, and that is MPD Captain Chris 4 Moore of the Third District. And, Mr. Orellana, 5 good morning, can you please elevate Captain 6 7 Moore to testify, please? MR. ORELLANA: Good morning. 8 Sure 9 thing. Captain Chris Moore, your access has been elevated. That is all, Chair. 10 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. All 12 right. Good, hold on there, Captain Moore. I 13 think your -- I haven't -- I cannot hear you. 14 MR. MOORE: Okay. Can you hear me now? 15 16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. Ι 17 can hear you. So, good morning. Can you please 18 spell and state your name for the record? 19 MR. MOORE: Sure. Good morning. It's 20 Captain Chris Moore, C-H-R-I-S M-O-O-R-E. 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, sir. Good morning, sir. You have five minutes to 2.2 23 Let me turn the timer on. speak. 24 Okay, sir. Go ahead. 25 MR. MOORE: Okay. Let me rush through

1 this real quick. I'm the Captain for the Third 2 District, Sector Two, which encompasses this 3 area. 4 And, I just wanted to express our opinion from a public safety standpoint regarding 5 liquor licenses in the U Street area to include 6 7 9th Street. 8 There -- this is in BSA 305, which is 9 probably one of the most densest PSAs in the entire District, with the amount of people living 10 11 there, to include all of the people who are 12 coming, especially on the weekends, to the bars 13 and nightclubs and restaurants. 14 And, so, there are lots of victims, 15 you know, extra victims, of course, that come in here, victims of robberies and thefts from autos 16 and different assaults. And, you mix that with 17 18 alcohol, there are lots of the potential for 19 these crimes to happen. 20 So, there are, I think, approximately 21 about 20 liquor licenses just on 9th Street 2.2 alone, you know, the 1900 block of 9th. That's, 23 you know, just one block in that street there. 24 Which is packed with bars and nightclubs, and you 25 know, bar/restaurants.

1	And, we're not really for any new
2	liquor licenses coming into the area. You know,
3	if it's a restaurant with a bar, after a certain
4	time people stop eating food and they just start
5	drinking.
6	And, you know, whether there's dancing
7	or not, you know, when people start to get
8	inebriated, you know, that's when problems
9	happen. Just like everywhere across the country,
10	not just on U Street or 9th Street, or in D.C.
11	But, you know, we all know that, you
12	know, can cause a problem, especially when so
13	many bars, you know, are concentrated in one
14	area. And, summer's not even here yet. When
15	summer comes, it's basically like Mardi Gras.
16	And, you know, just go over our
17	limited resources really quick. Our staffing in
18	PSA 305 on midnight, and I'm going to talk more
19	about the midnight shift, because that's when
20	lots of this occurs.
21	Seven officers, two are detailed out.
22	So, we're working with five officers. And, those
23	officers have days off, right?
24	So, you know, if we had two or three
25	officers working on a certain day, you know, in
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1 that area, you know, that's good. You know, but, 2 our resources are constrained already. Our nightlife unit, which works 3 overnight, especially on the weekends, there's 18 4 5 officers, two of those are detailed out, so we're working with 16 officers that are working from 6 7 9th Street to 14th Street on U. And then, of course, the 1900 block of 9th Street. 8 9 So, we're very constrained there. The reimbursable detail overtime, the RDO's are not 10 11 always full, because there's so much overtime already offered in D.C., you know, because of the 12 13 crime, that officers sign up for other overtime 14 as opposed to the reimbursable detail overtime. 15 So, those aren't getting filled. 16 Our stats last year, seven homicides, they were all, you know, within a block and a 17 18 half of U Street. Two were in the 900 block of U 19 Street. One where the victim was, there was a 20 skirmish, and the victim was pushed out into the 21 street, and she was run over and killed. 2.2 Thirty-seven of assault of dangerous 23 weapons, 22 with guns, 21 of those on midnights, 25 of those on weekends. One hundred-fifty-one 24 25 robberies, 93 of those on midnights, 96 on

weekends.

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Seven Hundred and twenty thefts from
autos. And, while we get a lot of those thefts
from autos, people come in from Maryland and
Virginia and other areas, they bring their
handguns, you know, into the city and they leave
them in their cars. And then, their cars get
broken into and the thieves then acquire these
guns.
We've probably recovered 104 guns last
year, 54 gun related arrests. And, they're also
a strain on our nightlife task force, which
includes, you know, D.C. Fire, FEMS, you know,
DDOT, DPW, D.C. for Hire, and Metro Transit.
So, it's a very big strain already on
our resources. So, I just wanted to, you know,
stress that.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is that it,
sir?
MR. MOORE: Yes.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. I
thought you were going to go on some more. I had
given you an additional minute to speak. But, I
guess you don't.
So, if you're done, thank you very

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1	much. Thank you very much, sir for your
2	testimony today.
3	And, the Board will take your comments
4	and perspective when we vote on what the
5	moratorium would look like.
б	All right.
7	MR. MOORE: Thank you.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.
9	Have a great day. All right. We now will call
10	on counsel for the Petitioners, Ms. Kerry Verdi.
11	Okay, Mr. Orellana, can you please
12	elevate her rights?
13	MR. ORELLANA: Yes. Kerry Verdi, your
14	access has been elevated. That is all, Chair.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.
16	Good morning, Ms. Verdi. Good to see you again.
17	Can you please spell and state your name for the
18	record and your association?
19	MS. VERDI: Yes. Thank you. It's
20	nice to be here again. My name is Kerry Brainard
21	Verdi, it's K-E-R-R-Y, last name is Verdi,
22	V-E-R-D-I with the law firm of Verdi & Ogletree.
23	And, I represent the Petitioners, the
24	Westminster Neighborhood Association.
25	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
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ma'am. You have five minutes to speak. Go ahead, please.

Thank you so much. 3 MS. VERDI: And, on behalf of the WNA, I do want to start by 4 saying thank you to the Board for listening to 5 the concerns of the citizens and recognizing that 6 7 the creation of a new moratorium zone is a necessary first step towards restoring the peace, 8 9 order, and quiet to this neighborhood and to protect the safety of the drivers and the 10 11 pedestrians and to prevent over-concentration.

12 It's clear that the Board listened to 13 the concerns raised and agreed that this is just 14 a first step, as there's much work that needs to 15 be done to restore the balance between a licensed 16 establishments and the restaurants, shops, and 17 homes in the neighborhood.

While we obviously support this rulemaking, there are three areas that we want to address today that we think could make the moratorium an even stronger first step.

And, those three points, which I, along with others from the community will address, are one, the inclusion of taverns in the moratorium zone, without which the moratorium

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1 zone does not have the full strength to 2 accomplish the stated goals that it could have. 3 Two, that an emergency rulemaking be adopted today by the Board to put the moratorium 4 5 in place immediately. And, to have a more defined outer limit of the moratorium zone. 6 7 Now, with respect to taverns and 8 over-concentration, in the Board's decision, it 9 was noted that the moratorium zone was created, 10 among other reasons, to prevent 11 over-concentration. 12 On behalf of the WNA, we respectfully 13 submit that not including tavern licenses as part of the moratorium, does not combat that issue as 14 15 strongly as it could. 16 Allowing a new tavern -- allowing new 17 tavern licenses will draw even more people into a 18 neighborhood that is already over-concentrated 19 with license and overcrowded by patrons, which is 20 exactly what Captain Moore just testified about. 21 It is bringing more people in to drink 2.2 in this area that is causing the problems that 23 necessitated the created the moratorium zone. Allowing more establishments will 2.4 25 increase the number of patrons, undercutting some

of the very patent effects that this moratorium could have.

Further, the Board's decision on page seven stated that taverns generally close earlier than nightclubs. And, we respectfully submit that that's not accurate.

We have looked at all of the times that the taverns in the moratorium zone close, they currently do not close any earlier than nightclubs. They are open until 2:00 a.m. during the week and 3:00 a.m. on the weekends.

12 So, including taverns is a necessity 13 to actually meet the goals of this moratorium. 14 And, again, this is for a three-year period, to 15 allow the citizens and the stakeholders to 16 address the current dynamic of this neighborhood.

And, to consider other changes in behavior and policing in the area as recommended by the Board in their decisions. So, including taverns in that three-year period will further that goal.

And then, I turn to the emergency rulemaking. At the February 7 performance oversight hearing held by the D.C. Council Business and Economic Development Committee,

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ABCA's Director testified that following today's hearing, the Board has the authority to issue emergency rules to allow the moratorium to go into effect immediately, while the City Council considers the proposed moratorium.

Since there's a minimum of 90 days before the full moratorium could be adopted by the City Council, we urge the Board to adopt those emergency rules today.

10 This was requested by Council Member 11 Nadeau and by various members of the WNA in our 12 prior written submissions as well as in-person 13 testimony in connection with the moratorium 14 hearing that we already held, or that was already 15 held.

And, we believe that adopting those emergency rules and putting this in place today would stop the possibility of increased over-concentration in an area that's already been identified as an appropriate moratorium zone.

And finally, I'll quickly address the boundary, which is included in paragraph 312.2 of the proposed rulemaking.

And, our concern is that the boundary is somewhat ambiguous, which is problematic,

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because it can leave some important blocks off. And, several of the squares are bisected by the 600-foot radius.

And, it can be confusing as to what is inside and what is outside the moratorium. Where the Adams Morgan moratorium zone, very fully lists the blocks and the streets and the size.

8 And so, to alleviate any confusion, 9 the WNA yesterday submitted written comments, 10 including a map that has our requested language 11 and the specific streets.

12 And, the way that we would request the 13 moratorium zone be fully described so that there 14 is no confusion when new licenses are brought 15 before ABCA. That we can determine whether or 16 not they are actually inside or outside the 17 moratorium zone.

18 Thank you so much again for listening 19 to the concerns of the WNA both at the moratorium 20 hearing and those that we brought to you today. 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. I 22 have a couple of questions that I want to ask 23 you, Ms. Verdi, because since you're the counsel

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The moratorium, as proposed, would

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for WNA.

1 allow taverns, but not taverns with entertainment 2 endorsement. You're aware of that? 3 MS. VERDI: I am, yes. 4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now, are you 5 also aware that for whatever reason, and would 6 you allow restaurants to move into there, 7 although there's a moratorium, does WNA support 8 having new restaurants move into this zone, even with the moratorium? 9 MS. VERDI: We do. And, in the 10 11 moratorium petition, as originally file, never 12 sought to include restaurants. But, it did seek 13 to include taverns. 14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now, are you 15 aware that so for whatever reason there are 16 certain restaurants who have applied for a tavern license rather than a CR license? 17 18 MS. VERDI: I'm not sure I understand. 19 There are restaurants that are seeking to convert 20 to taverns? 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No. That there 2.2 are, what we would consider a typical restaurant, but they do not have a restaurant license. 23 They 24 have a tavern license. 25 And, I'll give you a perfect example,

1 because I wasn't even aware of this. 2 MS. VERDI: Okay. 3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: During COVID, I was not aware that the Occ -- I believe, if I'm 4 5 wrong, I would like someone to correct me. But, I believe that I think it was the Occidental 6 7 Grill, I think, I believe that's the restaurant 8 that was a traditional restaurant, that it has a tavern license. 9 And so, when we had to make -- when we 10 11 were making an exception for the operation of 12 restaurants during COVID, we had to make an 13 exception for that particular entity, because 14 they had a tavern license and not a restaurant 15 license. 16 Because for whatever reason, because I'm not sure if you realize that restaurants have 17 18 to -- they have to every quarter, they have to 19 file a quarterly statement. 20 And, there's percentages of food and 21 alcohol. But, a tavern does not have to do that. 2.2 So, an entity can determine that they are going 23 to operate as a restaurant but not -- but, they 2.4 want a tavern license. 25 And so, I -- so, I'm trying to clarify

1	that to you, that if a tavern, if an
2	establishment has a tavern license, and it
3	doesn't have the entertainment endorsement, it
4	doesn't have the cover charge, it has to operate
5	and close at say midnight.
6	Because as you know, if you're
7	operating, you have to serve food two hours
8	before you close. So, they have to serve food.
9	So, does that make a difference?
10	MS. VERDI: Let me see if I
11	understand. It certainly does sound like the
12	Occidental is an exception.
13	And, I am aware of the difference, the
14	requirements that restaurants have in terms of
15	food service.
16	And, we appreciate certainly that the
17	moratorium is not allowing new endorsements for
18	entertainment. And, the vast majority of the
19	taverns in this area do have endorsement reca
20	do have endorsements, but not all of them.
21	And, our concern is certainly with a
22	typical restaurant, you have to have the food
23	component in that requirement.
24	And, as you heard Captain Moore
25	testify, the issue here is the number of people
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1 coming in that are drinking and then, you know, 2 leaving at these late hours. And, it's the alcohol, he said it's the mix of the number of 3 people with alcohol that increases the crime. 4 5 Taverns don't have the same, if I'm 6 correct, don't have the same food requirement as 7 a restaurant. And so, certainly the taverns that are there now, even those without the 8 9 endorsements, are open at the late hours and are serving alcohol. 10 11 And, that's what we are, we're trying 12 to limit the, you know, the establishments that 13 are not serving, as we think of as a traditional 14 restaurant where people are going to come and eat 15 a full meal, yes, maybe have a drink or two with 16 the meal and leave. 17 As opposed to stay and drink for many 18 hours and then congregate in the neighborhood at 19 the late hours. Which is really what the 20 moratorium is seeking to stop. 21 Because that's where we're having the 2.2 problems with the peace, order, and quiet and the 23 litter, and the pedestrian safety, and the drag 24 racing, and all of the issues that Captain Moore 25 just testified about.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So, you're 2 saying that you also believe that the current, of 3 the current tayerns within the zone that does not 4 have the cover charge or the entertainment 5 endorsement, you're also stating that you believe that these establishments add to what's going on 6 7 in the neighborhood. 8 Although they do not have the cover 9 charge, or they do not have the enter --10 endorsement. They are just strictly taverns 11 without the endorsements. MS. VERDI: It's hard for me to 12 13 pinpoint exactly which establishments. And, I 14 believe there's only two or three taverns to be, 15 to be honest, that don't have -- that don't have 16 the endorsements. Almost every tavern, the vast majority 17 18 of the taverns in the moratorium zone have 19 endorsements. 20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right. 21 MS. VERDI: I think there are only two 2.2 or three that do not. And, so --23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And, -- and what the Board -- at least what's on the table 24 25 currently is that if there are new taverns they

would not be provided the endorsements for the three years.

MS. VERDI: I would definitely
appreciate that. We think that that is a very
good step.

6 But, we think it can be even stronger 7 to not have any more taverns, because certainly 8 taverns are going to still attract more people to 9 come to drink, too, you know, and they're open 10 later.

And, it's going to increase the number of people coming into that area right now for the same reason that could contribute to what exactly it is that we're trying to limit for this three-year period.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes.

MS. VERDI: And, you know, we'll see what happens at the end of that three-year period. But, we're really trying to get a full stab, you know, first step here so that we can evaluate what needs to be done to kind of rebalance this really vibrant community.

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And, does the
24 WNA also want to limit all license classes with
25 the exception of restaurants?

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1	MS. VERDI: No. I have to go back and
2	cite to the initial moratorium. But, we did not
3	ask, I believe, we did not include hotels. We
4	did not include restaurants.
5	And, I do not believe, although Frank
6	Chauvin, who is going to testify after me, will
7	correct me if I'm wrong, I do not believe we
8	included retail liquor sales.
9	Our focus was on nightclubs and
10	taverns.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
12	Thank you. All right. Ms. Verdi is actually the
13	only witness that the Board is going to ask
14	questions of, because since she represents the
15	class, the Movant.
16	And so, I just want everyone to know
17	that the Board Mr. Short, I'm getting to you,
18	sir. You don't need to raise your hand. Okay,
19	sir?
20	I'm telling the public what this
21	I'm going to do. So, I do not want the other
22	people who testify to believe that the Board is
23	going to ask questions of them.
24	They're all going to testify, but the
25	Board will not ask questions of any other

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1 witnesses with the exception of the Petitioner, 2 I'm sorry, Ms. Verdi. Go ahead, Mr. Short. You can ask 3 4 questions, sir. 5 MEMBER SHORT: Good morning, Attorney Verdi. 6 7 MS. VERDI: Good morning, Mr. Short. 8 MEMBER SHORT: I would like to thank 9 you, and I would like to thank the Westminster Neighborhood Administration for working closely 10 11 with this Board and trying to bring some resolve to the issues in the 1900 block of 9th Street. 12 13 I would certainly say this, when I 14 heard the request for the moratorium, I would say 15 the majority of the Board Members at that time 16 agreed totally that we should have a moratorium. 17 And, we support it 100 percent. 18 And, my vote and what I brought to the Board at that time, was that we should give the 19 20 community exactly what they're asking for, within 21 limits, especially the fact that taverns seem to 2.2 be the biggest problem and nuisance in the 23 moratorium. 2.4 And, that there should not be anymore. 25 At least in my opinion as a Board Members that no

1 more additional of these types of licenses or CT 2 taverns. 3 And, that I do support the WNA. And, I do support the moratorium 100 percent. 4 And, I 5 will gladly vote what's been brought to this Board's attention, that we place it into -- place 6 7 it into interval and give the community exactly what they need in relief as soon as practical. 8 9 Thank you for this brief testimony 10 Thank you, Mr. Chair, for allowing this morning. 11 me to speak. 12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr. 13 Short. Are there any other questions by the 14 other Board Members? 15 (No response.) 16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I also just 17 want to let the public know, this is a public 18 hearing. And, the Board, one of the reasons why 19 we have this public, this second public hearing, 20 is the request to make some changes. 21 And so, we want to listen to both the community. We also, I see that there are a lot 2.2 23 of licensees who are on, listed to testify. And, 2.4 the Board is open to listen to both sides. 25 And, the Board will make a

determination at the end of this hearing, what we 1 2 believe is in the best interest of the community overall and trying to balance the interests of 3 the residents and also try to balance the 4 5 interests of the licensees. And so, that's what we're going to do. 6 7 We are going to try our best to balance -- to 8 come up with a decision that reflects the 9 interests of the community and also reflects the interest of the licensees that it impacts. Okay? 10 11 All right. So, Ms. Verdi, do you want 12 to make a final comment? Or, -- and, if you 13 want, I will allow you to stay online all day. 14 Where I don't necessarily -- I'll ask 15 my, I'll ask the IT not to mute you. To allow 16 you to stay online, if you so desire. 17 Do you have anything you want to say 18 now? 19 MS. VERDI: I'm sorry. I was going to 20 request, Chairman Anderson, if at the end, as I 21 did in the moratorium, the initial moratorium 2.2 hearing, if I could make sort of a closing 23 comment after hearing the comments made today. 24 Just so I could address anything 25 that's raised that's new, I could address it on

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1 behalf of the WNA.
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2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'll give you 3 But, what you need to do, you need to -that. 4 so, I will ask our IT to allow you to stay 5 online. And, I want -- what I want you to do, 6 7 is to raise your hand at the end to remind me, 8 because I might forget. Okay? MS. VERDI: I can do that. 9 10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. 11 Thank you. All right. 12 MS. VERDI: Thank you. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Thank you. All right. Mr. Orellana, can you 14 15 please elevate Mr. Frank Chauvin? 16 MR. ORELLANA: Frank Chauvin, your 17 access has been elevated. That is all, Chairman. 18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr. 19 Chauvin, good morning, sir. Can you spell and 20 state your name for the record? MR. CHAUVIN: Yes. My name is Frank 21 2.2 Chauvin, last name is C-H-A-U-V- as in Victor, 23 I-N as in Nancy. 2.4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. 25 Good morning, sir. You have five minutes to

speak.

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2 MR. CHAUVIN: Let me turn it down. Good morning. On behalf of my neighbors, the 3 moratorium petitioners, I would like to thank the 4 5 ABC Board in its finding for the need to establish the North Shaw Moratorium Zone. 6 7 The Board's over-concentration finding 8 with associated adverse impacts to peace, order, 9 and quiet, are based on my neighbors' residential experience, several who have been forced to leave 10 11 the neighborhood since we last met at the 12 September 2023 moratorium hearing, due to 13 licensee impacts. 14 With 35 taverns now operating within 15 the proposed moratorium zone, North Shaw is 16 overwhelmed by patron activity. We find it 17 challenging to separate and attribute the impacts 18 to one nightclub and zero or one multipurpose 19 facility, depending on where the final lines are 20 drawn, versus the 25 operating taverns. 21 Even one additional tavern can be 2.2 expected to exacerbate the impacts painstakingly 23 communicated during the September hearing and 2.4 expressed by almost three dozen of my neighbors 25 in writing and in person.

1	Specifically, more taverns and
2	associated expanded patron over-concentration
3	will exacerbate these existing impacts, including
4	neighborhood car parties, with car music
5	disturbances, public drinking, and loitering.
6	Just this week, I was disrupted from
7	the use of my living room after a car party in
8	front of my home with four patrons, were blaring
9	the music from their car, screaming outside the
10	car, and smoking cannabis.
11	After 15 minutes, from a distance, I
12	followed them to would you have as you might
13	know, a longstanding 9th Street tavern.
14	Including increased property as well
15	as violent crime levels as both national and
16	international studies show a strong correlation
17	that decreasing the number of alcohol
18	establishments leads to decreases in crime
19	levels.
20	Including parking violations,
21	lawlessness, and streets overcrowded by idling
22	cars and noise, since there are no public
23	garages, no public parking garages in the
24	vicinity, and few to any private lots.
25	Including expanded neighborhood noise

1 and disruptions due to tavern operations in 2 Victorian warehouse buildings that have not been adequately improved with available sound 3 mitigation building techniques for mitigating 4 5 sound from windows and walls. Including increased residential harms 6 7 due to inadequate licensing review, policies, and 8 processes, by the Department of Buildings and 9 ABCA, to limit license over-concentration and resident impacts. 10 11 Referenced specifics include here zoning and planning offices, legal frameworks 12 13 which require mitigation of residential impacts 14 per the comprehensive plan, the uptown arts 15 overlay, as well as the DUKE Plan. 16 Including more public disturbances and 17 lawlessness with overcrowding patrons as the 18 Third District MPD Captain Riley Hong testified 19 in September and summarized as stating that no 20 additional alcohol license should be added, 21 including taverns. 2.2 I have personally investigated our 23 lack of RDO positions being filled in the 1900 24 block of 9th Street, we are -- by contract, there 25 are supposed to be two to six officers each

1 night. 2 However, due to MPD's short staffing, we only receive between zero and one officer. 3 This problematic fact has been substantiated by 4 5 Shaw Main Streets. Though the Board's moratorium decision 6 7 holds that some adverse impacts are not expected 8 to be increased by taverns, as they generally close earlier than nightclubs, this has not been 9 our conclusion. Our review of each of the 10 11 licenses for the 1900 block of 9th Street found that all taverns close at the exact time 12 13 nightclubs do. 14 Lastly, iterating Kerry Verdi's comments made before me, under the Board's 15 16 authority to adopt an emergency rule and 17 moratorium, please do so to help protect my 18 family and neighbors from these aforementioned adverse impacts from more licenses and 19 20 endorsements. 21 Thank you for today's opportunity to 2.2 present comments for your consideration when 23 drafting the moratorium rule before you. 24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr. 25 Chauvin. All right. I now wish -- we will have

1 Mr. Paul ONeill. 2 Paul ONeill, your MR. ORELLANA: 3 access has now been elevated. That is all, Chairman. 4 5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr. ONeill -- Mr. ONeill, can you please spell and 6 7 state your name for the record? 8 MR. ONEILL: Yes. Good morning. My name is Paul ONeill, spelled P-A-U-L, last name 9 ONeill, O-N-E-I-L-L. 10 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, sir. You have five minutes. 12 13 MR. ONEILL: Thank you. As I said, my name is Paul ONeill, and I'm a 38-year resident 14 15 of Washington, D.C. Thank you for the 16 opportunity to speak this morning. I am here to testify that the draft 17 18 moratorium proposal does not address the fact that an over-concentration of tavern licenses is 19 20 the root cause of the current violence and 21 lawlessness in the proposed moratorium zone. It was a tavern on 9th Street, after 2.2 23 all, five weeks ago, that three people were 24 violently stabbed. 25 In the proposed zone there are 57

liquor licenses. Thirty-five of those licenses, 65 percent are for taverns. There's only one nightclub.

And yet, the Board's draft suggests that permitting more taverns makes sense. I ask, where is the Board going with this flawed logic?

We have 7,000, 8,000 people eventually coming to taverns in the zone, because unfortunately, that is where the draft in its current form could lead us. The current problem of over-concentration of tavern licenses is first of all, a problem of violence associated with alcohol and too many people.

14 Still, it is also a problem that 15 requires the city to spend untold millions of 16 dollars for overtime police, traffic, and parking 17 enforcement every weekend to keep people safe. 18 Adding new taverns and more patrons to the 19 moratorium zone inherently worsens the problems.

With this moratorium, ABCA has to take seriously its responsibility to balance the interests of businesspeople making money from alcohol sales and the interest of taxpayers who spend tax dollars to control the over-concentration of liquor licenses in the

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moratorium zone.

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Next, it is not accurate to assert that new bars can quote, focus primarily on eating and drinking. I ask you to walk the blocks and see what the bars promote. It is not the food.

People go to bars to drink. Suppose
ABCA thinks new tavern owners could be persuaded
to serve food as much as alcohol. In that case,
ABCA only needs to look at the behavior of
existing taverns or the inability, unfortunately,
of ABCA to enforce existing laws and settlement
agreements.

For example, Section 25.725 of the DC Code prohibits quotes, any sound, noise, or music of such intensity that it may be heard in any premises other than the licensed establishment. And, states that ABCA shall maintain a compliant program.

And yet, the same noise violations at the same taverns in the 1900 block of 9th Street, just for a recent example, have been reported to ABCA 15 times in succession on January 6, 7, 8, 12, 29 and February 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. These are chronic violations

1 reported to ABCA and caused by taverns whether 2 it's by live music or a loud DJ. The frequency and consistency of 3 violations by taverns is inexcusable. And, ABCA 4 continued lic -- or ABCA's continued issuance of 5 tavern licenses is indefensible, given the 6 7 Agency's inability to enforce existing 8 regulations and settlement agreements. ABCA has created an environment that 9 can no longer be controlled without extraordinary 10 11 enforcement or sickening violence. Significant reform is needed, and it's needed now. 12 13 As Councilmember Nadeau recently told 14 a group of neighbors regarding the U Street 15 corridor quote, we are in a dark moment. And 16 quote, we need to stop the cycle. 17 Thank you for the opportunity to speak 18 with you today. 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr. ONeill. Have a great day. We now have Ms. 20 21 Elizabeth Baker. 2.2 MR. ORELLANA: Liz Kalaris, our access 23 has been elevated. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is that -- is 24 25 that Elizabeth Baker?

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1	MR. ORELLANA: Yes.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Thanks.
3	MS. BAKER: Yes. Hi. Oh, let me
4	start my video here.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, ma'am.
б	MS. BAKER: Okay. And you
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you
8	(Simultaneous speaking.)
9	MS. BAKER: And, I am
10	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you please
11	spell and state can you spell and state your
12	name for the record?
13	MS. BAKER: My legal name is Elizabeth
14	Baker, E-L-I-Z-A-B-E-T-H and Baker is B-A-K-E-R.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
16	ma'am. You have five minutes to speak.
17	MS. BAKER: Thank you very much. So,
18	I just wanted to say and thank everyone for
19	taking the time this morning and giving me an
20	opportunity to speak.
21	I've been a resident of Westminster
22	for over three years now. And, have a long
23	history in the District. I have been a full-time
24	member of literacy. And, I was a charter school
25	teacher in D.C. for many years.

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1	And, excuse me, that's been a while.	
2	I testified in the hearing several months ago.	
3	And, am concerned with, was very concerned when I	
4	saw taverns were being simply left out of the	
5	moratorium.	
6	My purpose today is to tell you that	
7	the continuing impact of the establishments on	
8	9th Street on my life as a resident of	
9	Westminster Street.	
10	So, I think everyone is aware that	
11	there are continued acts of extreme violence that	
12	occur in our neighborhood. You know, one	
13	memorable and recent one is the stabbing of three	
14	individuals at a bar in January.	
15	We continue to experience noise and	
16	parking disruption on our streets. I want to	
17	talk to about the car parties, I just want to say	
18	I've experienced many, many.	
19	It's also my opinion that the general	
20	and consistent chaos of 9th Street have	
21	contributed to increased drug sales and drug	
22	usage on the streets in our neighborhood. I want	
23	to give you an example of a single day where I	
24	called 911 on drug related issues.	
25	One is what I see at the elementary	

1 school, a gentleman who I've seen many times, was 2 on drugs and had pulled down his pants exposing himself on a school day, in front of children. 3 It is the first time this has happened with this 4 5 individual. Second, that evening, I called as I 6 7 was walking home with my two year old daughter, I called the cops on a street fight that was 8 9 happening in the area. And then finally, about a block and a 10 11 half later, I called the cops again, actually, 12 911, to report an incident scene which was quite 13 bad and having to explain that to a two year old 14 is challenging. 15 I generally avoid walking on 9th 16 street with my children. You know, there's trash 17 and drunk people. There's vomit. There's 18 needles. It is not a clean street. The job is, 19 to be accurate, it's quite scary. I also want too just, on a personal 20 21 level, I have lost two beloved neighbors who have 2.2 decided that the issues that set up on 9th Street 23 are too big for them to continue to deal with. And, have too much concern for the safety of 24 25 their family.

1 So, as financial costs and loss, they 2 decided to sell their houses at interest rates 3 that are, as you can imagine, quite a lot higher, and move away from their homes. But, that is, 4 you know, we're losing the status of our 5 neighborhood first, which is, it's really bad to 6 7 see. 8 To summarize, this is an urgent issue 9 that is impacting the people who call it, this neighborhood home, which is what, you know, at 10 11 times is very magical and beautiful for our 12 neighborhood. 13 And, I ask the Board to take immediate and urgent action to include taverns in the 14 15 moratorium because they are unsafe. 16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, 17 Have a great day. All right. ma'am. So, is 18 there a Justin Campbell? 19 MR. ORELLANA: Justin Campbell, your 20 access has been elevated. That is all, Chairman. 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. 2.2 MR. CAMPBELL: Hi. Good morning. 23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. Do 24 you have a camera, sir? 25 MR. CAMPBELL: Yes. One sec. Sorry.

1	All right, let's see here.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That is fine.
3	All right. Good morning, Mr. Campbell. Can you
4	spell and state your name for the record?
5	MR. CAMPBELL: Certainly. Good
6	morning. My name is Justin Campbell, J-U-S-T-I-N
7	C-A-M-P-B-E-L-L.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
9	sir. You have five minutes to speak.
10	MR. CAMPBELL: Great. Thank you for
11	having me again today. My presentation today is
12	singularly focusing on asking the Board to add
13	tavern licenses to the final moratorium rule.
14	The Board has found the need to
15	institute a North Shaw Moratorium Zone due to
16	over-concentration with the basis found via the
17	in-person testimony and written comments when
18	described the extent of the associated adverse
19	impacts.
20	These proceedings illustrated the deep
21	extent of the problems, conveying that, you know,
22	it's the baseline set of approved licenses.
23	There are already too many patrons coming into
24	the neighborhood.
25	Too many patrons leaving all at the
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1same time. And, the crime statistics reflecting2that in the Shaw the North Shaw Neighborhood3The U Street area has the highest violence and4property crime reported in D.C.5So, these facts remain a strong6underpinning, which, I think, requires that no7new taverns which would, you know, cause an8expanded patron base to be licensed for three9years, while stakeholders continue to, you know10work on a more positive resolution.11So, with this, in the time that I12have, I'm going to show this short video to13illustrate, further illustrate the reasons that14there is a draft moratorium rule being discusse	-
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14 there is a draft meratorium rule being disquase	
14 there is a draft moratorium rule being discusse	d
15 today.	
16 And, the reasons why no additional	
17 patrons should be added to this problem by addi	ng
18 a tavern moratorium to the rule for following	
19 today's meeting, or hearing I should say.	
20 So, I'm just going to share	
21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You know, I	
22 don't think you have the ability to share your	
23 screen, sir. I have to if you want to share	
24 your screen, you need to tell me.	
25 MR. CAMPBELL: Okay.	

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And then, I
2	have to I have to give you permission to share
3	your screen. So, how long is this video, sir?
4	MR. CAMPBELL: It is three minutes and
5	40 seconds.
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But, you only
7	have hold on. You only have three minutes and
8	three seconds, three minutes to speak, sir.
9	But, anyway, share your screen. But,
10	you have less than three minutes. So, I'm not
11	going to allow you to go over.
12	Mr. Orellana, I'll allow him to share
13	his screen.
14	MR. ORELLANA: Access has been
15	elevated.
16	MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you. Now, I want
17	to ensure that everyone can hear the video as
18	well. So, please let me know.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I don't hear
20	anything, sir. I see a video but don't hear it.
21	MR. CAMPBELL: Okay. Can you hear?
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. I
23	can hear some noise in the background.
24	(Video recording played.)
25	MR. CAMPBELL: All right. I'll stop
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it there.

2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, sir.
3	Thank you, Mr. Campbell for your for your
4	comments today. And, of course, the Board will
5	take all comments that we receive into
6	consideration.
7	MR. CAMPBELL: Okay.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You have a
9	great day. Thank you, sir. All right. So, let's
10	have Thomas M. Abebe.
11	MR. ORELLANA: Thomas M. Abebe, our
12	access has been elevated. That is all, Chairman.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr.
14	Abebe, all right. All right. Good morning, sir.
15	Can you spell and state your name for the record?
16	MR. ABEBE: Good morning. My name is
17	Thomas M. Abebe, T-H-O-M-A-S M A-B-E-B-E.
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And, you have
19	five minutes, sir.
20	MR. ABEBE: Thank you so much. So,
21	thank you for the opportunity for, as I said, my
22	name is Thomas M. Abebe. And, I am a manager at
23	Meskerem Abebe LLC.
24	As we all know, the purpose of this
25	proposed moratorium zone is to address increased
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crime and cleanliness issues. Businesses in the area have been unfairly blamed for the rising crime.

But, it's a nationally posted that the city-wide crime rate has been doubled in the last couple of years. So, it is currently impacting our business, our permanently operated businesses have been in the area for over 30 years.

9 When our family first moved in 1991, 10 there was very few businesses and residences due 11 to the -- due to unsafe conditions. After years 12 of settling and effort, the area has become a 13 highly desirable place to live for businesses and 14 living.

And, in the recent years, the city crime rate has surged, affecting our area as well. We would appreciate if the city public safety agencies take significant measures to reduce crime and restore the peaceful environment we enjoyed before.

We struggle -- we strongly believe that our businesses are not the cause of the crime. And, instead the mora -- instead of a moratorium an increase of police forces would greatly help the -- our business, help address

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1 the situation. 2 Thank you. And, you have a wonderful 3 day. 4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, sir, 5 for your presentation this morning. You have a 6 great day. Thank you. 7 MR. ABEBE: Thank you. 8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. So, 9 let's have Romeseged Kidane, K-I-D-A-N-E. Ι apologize for my pronunciation of the first name. 10 11 Is that person available to speak? 12 MR. ORELLANA: Checking now, Chairman. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm going to 14 move onto Mark Bescher. If Mr. Kidane, if that 15 person is available, identify yourself and I'll 16 come back to you. 17 So, let's go to Mark Bescher, 18 B-E-S-C-H-E-R. 19 MR. ORELLANA: Mark Bescher, your 20 access has been elevated. 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Bescher, 2.2 can you -- do you have a camera, sir? 23 MR. BESCHER: Good morning, sir. Yes, sir. 24 25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you have a

1 came -- do you have a camera you can turn on? 2 MR. BESCHER: A video, yes. Okay. 3 Got it. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 4 Good morning, 5 sir. Can you spell and state your name for the 6 record? 7 MR. BESCHER: Good morning. It's Mark 8 Bescher, M-A-R-K B-E-S-C-H-E-R. 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, sir. You have five minutes. 10 11 MR. BESCHER: Good morning. Thank you 12 all for having this hearing. I'm a 25-year resident of D.C. 13 14 And, I want to thank you for the 15 proposed moratorium. I'm speaking in support of 16 it. I was frustrated to see the moratorium does 17 not apply to taverns, which are the real problem. 18 As you've heard, and as you know as 19 the governing body, there are over 20 bars on one 20 tiny block of 9th Street. I live on 9th Street, 21 and I'm kept up by partiers pre-partying and post-partying until 4:00, 5:00, 6:00 a.m. 2.2 23 They pee in my yard. And, they are an absolute -- just creators of chaos. But, I'm 24 25 terrified to leave my home in the evening.

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1 We don't have friends come anywhere 2 near our home at night for fear that they will be 3 murdered. I submitted some of the video footage 4 5 that we just saw. We regularly have gun fights in front of our home. We see fist fights. 6 When 7 that happens, people call the police. 8 Now, the overstretched police are even 9 more stretched. The crimes are directly linked 10 to the partying in the bars. 11 We see in the news every day that the 12 crime in this city is out of hand. And, this is 13 your opportunity to help address this. This is real. These are not 14 15 longstanding bars necessarily. Many of them have 16 opened in the last few years. I think the fact that all interested 17 18 parties required to support the moratorium for it 19 to go forward, ended up supporting it, including 20 our council member, is testimony to the fact that 21 we need to stem the tide of bar patrons. 2.2 By including the moratorium to apply 23 to club endorsements, you all recognize the need 24 to address, excuse me, the over-concentration of 25 patrons causing problems.

1	Without including taverns, this
2	moratorium is the equivalent of banning
3	horse-drawn carriages when everyone has a car.
4	Or, banning DVDs when everyone is streaming.
5	The problem is an over-concentration
6	of liquor licenses. That is why we need the
7	immediate moratorium on new applications,
8	including those under review.
9	The licenses under review would add
10	another 2,000 people to an already
11	over-concentrated area. I appreciate that the
12	businesses want to expand and make money. That
13	makes sense.
14	But, those bar owners get to go home
15	when they want. They're able to go home and be
16	away from the crime and noise and violence. We
17	as the community do not, because we are home,
18	terrified.
19	I ask that the Board add tavern
20	endorsements to the moratorium as they are the
21	true problem. And, that an immediate moratorium
22	be enacted.
23	Thank you.
24	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, sir.
25	Have a great day.
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1 MR. BESCHER: You too. 2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Is 3 there a Chris Moore? 4 MR. ORELLANA: I think he was the Captain, Chris Moore. 5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, okay. 6 All 7 right. What about, is there an Abebe Bekele, 8 B-E-K-E-L-E?9 MR. ORELLANA: Abebe Bekele, your access has now been elevated. That is all, 10 11 Chairman. 12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Do 13 you have a camera you can turn on? 14 MR. BEKELE: Hello. 15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. All 16 Can you please spell and state your name right. for the record? 17 18 MR. BEKELE: My name is Abebe Bekele, 19 A-B-E-B-E B-E-K-E-L-E. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, 20 sir. 21 You have five minutes. 2.2 MR. BEKELE: Thank you. I would like 23 to start by saying thank you for the Board. And, my concern is the same as the neighbors. 24 25 I am the owner of Unity Lounge on 9th

I	
1	Street. This this tavern was there for a long
2	time. I don't think the number of the taverns is
3	the problem.
4	I think, just like the neighbors, the
5	crime is so high, and I am really worried about
6	it, just like the neighbors. It's the way we
7	manage. The managers of the establishment have
8	some issues.
9	We allowed some stuff that we are not
10	supposed to allow. And, this is why the crime is
11	going up.
12	The number of people that they are
13	coming now, are not. Which, more people was
14	coming the last of three years than they are
15	coming now.
16	But, the problem is with the
17	establishment owners why this crime is going up.
18	We had a meeting with establishment owners. We
19	know what the problem is. But, we don't want to
20	do something about it.
21	So, the neighbors are right. My uncle
22	who used to live there my uncle is still
23	living on 9th Street for the last 35 years. I
24	care about my uncle's life.
25	Whatever the tavern people, the

1	lounge, all the owners are not doing enough to
2	stop this crime. And, I don't want to say what
3	is the problem of all the owners of these
4	establishments. We know what the problem is.
5	I'm not going to mention what lounge
6	or what tavern. We have most of the tavern and
7	the lounge, we allow people to smoke some drugs
8	inside the establishment.
9	So, the government, I don't know, ABCA
10	or DCRA or the Health Department, needs to do
11	something about it. If you guys need this place
12	to be peaceful and no more crimes.
13	I want an establishment in a peaceful
14	area. That's why I came to 9th Street. But,
15	it's not the same now.
16	The number of the taverns, it was
17	there before. Ninety percent of the
18	establishments were there before.
19	But, what's going on is what, just
20	like what I said now. The problem is, we are the
21	owners, are bringing all these problems to this
22	9th Street.
23	Thank you.
24	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm going to
25	break my own rule, because we have more time.
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1 But, you don't need to name establishments, sir, 2 just generally, what is it that you think are the 3 problems? 4 You can just -- you can speak 5 generally. I don't want you to call any names. 6 Just generally, what do you think the problems 7 are? 8 MR. BEKELE: The problems are smoke. 9 When you sell alcohol, when people drink, they're 10 not going to be the same as not -- the people 11 that are not drinking. 12 And, if you add into some kind of drug 13 and weed, or anything like that, if they are 14 going to smoke inside the establishment, what 15 else do you expect? 16 They're going to do some kind of 17 You're making them high. This is not how crime. 18 it was two years ago. 19 We have more, more, like three or four 20 times of these customers on 9th Street. More 21 But, we don't have this problem, because people. 2.2 there wasn't any more drugs in that area. 23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Thank 24 you, sir, for your -- your presentation today. 25 For sharing with us.

I	
1	MR. BEKELE: Yes.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I thank you for
3	taking the time to speak. You have a great day,
4	sir. Thank you.
5	All right. Stanley Mayes, do we have
6	a Stanley Mayes?
7	MR. ORELLANA: I don't see Stanley.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about
9	Robert Clayton?
10	MR. ORELLANA: Nor a Robert Clayton.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about
12	William Lewis?
13	MR. ORELLANA: William Lewis, your
14	access has been elevated. That is all, Chair.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr.
16	Lewis, do you have a camera to turn on?
17	MR. LEWIS: I thought my camera was
18	on.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, sir.
20	MR. LEWIS: Yeah, I'll do it now. I
21	see it. Okay. Thank you. Yes, just a second,
22	please. There we go.
23	Man, what's going on? There I got it.
24	Thank you very much.
25	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Mr.

1 Lewis, can you please spell and state your name 2 for the record? 3 William Lewis --MR. LEWIS: CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But, what is --4 5 MR. LEWIS: W-I-L-L-I-A-M L-E-W-I-S. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, 6 7 sir. You have five minutes. 8 MR. LEWIS: Good morning. Thank you 9 very much, sir. I appreciate this opportunity to come before you and the Board and the Members to 10 11 express my concerns. 12 I have the unique position of owning 13 an establishment at 1905 9th Street, as well as 14 being a resident of Westminster Neighborhood 15 Association. 16 Thirty-six years ago, my wife and I, 17 Michelle, moved into the neighborhood from 18 Virginia. And, 29 years ago, we had the 19 foresight and wherewithal to purchase the 20 building at 1905 9th Street. 21 The street at that time was a torrent 2.2 of crime and drugs. The city did a study and 23 presented a comprehensive plan to develop the 24 area into a C-2 Arts District, as I understand 25 it.

1	After much struggle and hardship,
2	about 2008, things began to turn around. A wide
3	variety of small businesses took root and
4	represented a good consumer mix.
5	At the height of that growth in about
6	2015 to '17, we the merchants, established the
7	Ninth Street Property Owners and Business League,
8	to work with the community and to support our
9	businesses.
10	I was elected President of that
11	organization. And, I served for maybe two years
12	or so. And, it was a great opportunity.
13	By 2019, the negative growth began to
14	develop in the neighborhood. And, the good
15	businesses were forced out by a new model that
16	was being duplicated that only addressed one
17	group.
18	And, that group basically came at
19	night. And, you know, daytime businesses, small
20	restaurants and all, all packed up and moved out.
21	So, what we're faced with now is
22	essentially a night environment. And, it's very
23	difficult as a resident of this neighborhood to
24	get into this neighborhood after 9:00 or 8:00 in
25	the evenings.

1 The actual neighborhood is shut down. 2 I haven't seen that happen anywhere else in the city. They shut the neighborhood down. 3 You can't drive in. I have to find circuitous loop 4 5 routes to get to my house. And, many times the parking is impossible. 6 7 So, I at this point, I have a 8 residence, I mean, I have a business that's in my 9 neighborhood that does sell -- I mean, that is my building that does sell alcohol. 10 11 I own -- I also have an alcoholic 12 beverage license. And, I sold the alcohol. And, 13 of course, I transferred that. 14 But, it has taken on a negative tone 15 and people are being rude. And, the groups are 16 noisy. And, the neighborhood association is 17 working diligently to try to improve the 18 neighborhood and their living environment. 19 I highly suggest that the Board 20 cooperate with them, because they're only trying 21 to work for the benefit of the neighbors, the 2.2 neighborhood, and the city. 23 And, it will be great if people could 2.4 continue to live here and that the property can 25 continue -- property rates, whatever, can

continue to improve.

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And, that improvements -- these neighborhoods, these neighborhoods are not threatened as we are by the influx of people who don't live here and who have a negative impact on the environment.

7 The moratorium would be -- act as a, 8 kind of an analogy would be, it would be a 9 prescription for a -- if you've ever had an 10 aquarium, where you introduce algae into the 11 aquarium it takes over.

12 So, you know, we can have a 13 prescription and then I think it will infect, or 14 affect the businesses that are in the process of 15 doing business now. But, it would limit the 16 amount of growth.

And, I think it would be good for the environment. And, I would suggest that if it's in your power, to help the neighbors continue to support the neighborhood and to make this a wonderful living environment, which we have, I think, over the past 36 years that I've been in the area.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you very

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24

1 much, Mr. Lewis. You have a great day. 2 All right. The next person on the 3 list is Randy Rosenfeld. 4 Randy Rosenfeld, your MR. ORELLANA: 5 access has been elevated. That is all, Chairman. 6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. 7 Yes, sir, do you have a camera you can turn on, 8 sir? MR. ROSENFELD: Yes. Yes. Can you 9 10 hear me? 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I can hear and 12 see you, Mr. Rosenfeld. Can you please spell and 13 state your name for the record? 14 MR. ROSENFELD: My name is Randy, 15 R-A-N-D-Y and the last name is Rosenfeld, 16 R-O-S-E-N-F-E-L-D. 17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, sir. 18 You have five minutes. 19 MR. ROSENFELD: Okay. Thank you. Ι 20 live on -- I'm a neighbor, I live on S Street, 21 Northwest. 2.2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, sir. 23 Can you --(Simultaneous speaking.) 24 25 MR. ROSENFELD:

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1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: On the border 2 of the moratorium roughly. I believe the moratorium is absolutely necessary and that 3 includes having the taverns. 4 5 Like so many other people who have spoken here already, I'm really fed up. And, my 6 7 wife and I, we are really fed up with the noise every Friday night and Saturday night. And, 8 9 actually, also on Sundays too, during the afternoon. 10 11 The noise is -- it wakes us up most 12 nights on Friday and Saturday nights. But, in my 13 opinion, that's the least of the problems. 14 You still have like, other people have 15 shown here, there are problems with crime. You 16 know, all that kind of stuff going on. And, you 17 can tell they're all coming from the bars. 18 We moved in before these -- a lot of 19 these bars really started opening and none of 20 this was going on before the bars occurred. Or, 21 if it was, it was so small we didn't even notice 2.2 it. 23 My wife and I know there is a lot of crooked behavior environments, you know. 2.4 We've 25 talked a lot about the crime, the stabbings and

1 that sort of thing. 2 We also notice too, that MPD, they seem to have closed down 9th Street between S and 3 And, I really wonder why, I don't know if 4 U. it's the city doing that or parking enforcement. 5 But, it does seem to create like a lot 6 of issues with traffic. And then also too, I ask 7 myself, how much does the city really have to pay 8 9 and spend to close the street? And, I really wonder if the city could 10 11 use those resources better elsewhere? It's just 12 taking them a lot of time. 13 And, we're really also concerned too 14 about all these people coming in the city and 15 being hurt. I believe the police officer mentioned there have been seven homicides. 16 That seems like an awful lot in the 17 18 past, I think he mentioned the past year. Is 19 that correct? 20 And, that really seems like a lot. 21 And, I'm going to ask you all this. What would 2.2 you do if your family members and your friends 23 were coming into these bars? How would you feel about that? 2.4 I for 25 one wouldn't recommend anyone doing it that I

1	know.
2	So, and again, that's pretty much all
3	I have to say. Thank you for taking the time to
4	listen to my concerns.
5	And again, let's please get this
6	moratorium.
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you for
8	your presentation, sir. Have a great day.
9	MR. ROSENFELD: All right.
10	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is do we
11	have Derege Zewdie? Do we have that person
12	available to testify?
13	MR. ORELLANA: No. Mulugeta, Michael
14	appears to be the next available.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, sir. Can
16	you please elevate that person, please?
17	MR. ORELLANA: Sure. Mulugeta,
18	Michael, your access has been elevated. That is
19	all, Chairman.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Can
21	you please unmute yourself and turn your camera
22	on?
23	Can you unmute yourself, please and
24	turn your camera on?
25	MR. ORELLANA: I just sent the request

1 to unmute. 2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. 3 MR. ORELLANA: Okay. So, he may not 4 be available. 5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about India Dawkins? As soon as that person 6 7 is available, then they can come back. 8 And, what about India Dawkins? MR. ORELLANA: Well, in the chat we 9 10 just got a request from ANC 1B. They are 11 requesting to come up first. 12 That --13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No. 14 are not on the list. So, I am going -- I am 15 going on every -- I am going on the list. 16 After the list, after I've gone through the list, then I will take anyone else 17 18 who has not previously sent. So, is there an

India Dawkins here? 19

> MR. ORELLANA: No.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about a

Linda Herpassa, H-E-R-P-A-S-S-A?

MR. ORELLANA: No.

2.4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about Amen 25 Mareq, M-A-R-E-G?

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2.2

23

All right.

No, they

1 2 3 4	MR. ORELLANA: No. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about Tameru Zemenfes?
3	
	Tameru Zemenfes?
4	
_	MR. ORELLANA: No.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What about
б	Ashleigh Fields?
7	MR. ORELLANA: Yes. Ashleigh Fields,
8	ANC 1B, your access has now been elevated. That
9	is all, Chairman.
10	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.
11	MS. FIELDS: Hi, I'm glad we got that
12	worked out.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning.
14	Good morning, Ms. Fields. Can you please spell
15	and state your name for the record?
16	MS. FIELDS: Good morning. My name is
17	Ashleigh Fields, spelled A-S-H-L-E-I-G-H, last
18	name Fields, F-I-E-L-D-S.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
20	ma'am. You have five minutes to speak.
21	MS. FIELDS: Thank you so much for
22	having me on the call today. I'm representing
23	ANC 1B in the capacity of the ABCA Committee
24	Chair.
25	I have the right to speak on behalf of

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the resolution introduced to you to stand in support of the moratorium for the next three years.

We do understand that there's been extensive crime in this area. We understand that the (inaudible) liquor licenses in this area is fully saturated.

8 And so, we do want to see a decrease 9 in crime and a better community for homeowners to live in. Which is one of the reasons that we 10 11 support this moratorium, in addition to wanting 12 to also bring other elements of the outside to 13 the area.

14 I'm hoping to elevate activities that 15 residents and members can participate in. 16 However, I'd like to also take time to speak in 17 my own capacity as a Commissioner and my own 18 behalf of the Commission, and I would not recommend that we introduce the moratorium today 19 20 as an emergency.

I want for us to have the next 30 or 21 2.2 60 days to inform businesses in the area of what's going on. And, also give them a chance to 23 24 tie up any loose ends that they might have. 25

And so, that's my testimony. And,

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1 thank you so much for having me here. 2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. All 3 right. We have gone through and exhausted our So, if there is anyone else who would like 4 list. 5 to speak, please identify yourself through the chat and our IT will elevate you. 6 7 MR. ORELLANA: We have one more, Sudha 8 Gollapudi, your access has been elevated. 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. 10 MS. GOLLAPUDI: Good morning. 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you have a 12 camera, please, ma'am? 13 MS. GOLLAPUDI: Yes. I'm trying. One second. Good morning. 14 15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, yes. All 16 Good morning. Can you spell and state right. 17 your name for the record? 18 MS. GOLLAPUDI: Yes. It's Sudha, 19 S-U-D-H-A Gollapudi, G-O-L-L-A-P-U-D-I. 20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You have five 21 minutes, ma'am. 2.2 MS. GOLLAPUDI: Thank you. Thank you 23 for the opportunity to speak today. I am here to 24 ask for ABCA's support in passing the North Shaw 25 and 9th Street Moratorium, without the carve-out

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1 for issuing new licenses for taverns. 2 Taverns are a big part of the problem in the area. And, absolutely need to be included 3 in the moratorium. 4 5 I testified in the fall meeting as well, but I am a 15-year resident of D.C. I live 6 7 9 1/2 Street, directly behind a number of on bars on 9th that I share a property line with. 8 9 As I mentioned during the September hearing, this neighborhood has become unlivable 10 11 over the past few years. And, in the few months since the last hearing, the conditions have only 12 13 declined. 14 The big primary issues facing this 15 community, safety, sanitation, and noise, 16 continue to chaotically get worse. With regards to safety, I won't repeat all these claims 17 18 everyone else has made. 19 But, it's become a very unsafe place 20 I don't feel safe leaving my house at to live. 21 night or having others come to visit me. 2.2 I wake up in the morning to 23 notifications regarding shootings, stabbings, and 24 physical altercations occurring at bars and 25 taverns in the area.

1 Sanitation has also not improved. 2 There's a total lack of respect for those 3 patronizing bars and taverns. There is trash everywhere from the night's big activity, 4 5 particularly on the weekends. It absolutely feels like we're living 6 7 on Bourbon Street in New Orleans or something 8 like that. When it comes to noise, we continue to 9 hear music in our homes and feel base vibrations, 10 11 starting some nights as early as 7:00 p.m., and continuing until 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning. 12 13 This has significantly impacted on the 14 quality of life and physical and mental 15 well-being for this community. It often feels like there's a mini 16 earthquake happening inside our homes, given the 17 18 level of noise coming out of these 19 establishments. And, we're not able to go to 20 sleep until after these venues close. 21 While in the past, noise was often 2.2 limited to Thursday, Fridays, Saturdays, and 23 Sundays, it's now entering our homes every single 24 night. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays now 25 sound just as bad as the weekend.

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1 During the September hearing I 2 mentioned that I had personally called ABCA 15 times during a three-week period to complain 3 about noises levels. And, that during many of 4 5 those calls, ABCA mentioned that they were understaffed to respond to issues. 6 7 After I testified in September, the 8 Board, all of you, recommended a meeting with Mr. 9 Moosally and Mr. Brooks. So, I and one of my neighbors did meet with them in early November. 10 11 And, while we appreciate that meeting 12 and their time, there has been no relief 13 following that meeting and several subsequent meetings with one of their lead investigators. 14 15 We are still having to call ABCA 16 multiple times a night regarding noise. In 17 January and February, we have called a minimum of 18 25 times over an eight-week period. 19 That's just the log for me and one 20 other neighbor. That doesn't include other 21 neighbors that might have also been calling ABCA 2.2 during the past two months. ABCA continues to put the burden on 23 24 residents to identify and complain regarding 25 noise multiple times each night, rather than

1 holding the bars and taverns accountable to 2 existing noise regulations. Given how long this problem has 3 persisted and how severe it is, it seems like 4 5 ABCA should be regularly monitoring and fining these establishments when noise is heard outside 6 7 the premises. 8 Yet, we're still having to call. When 9 we do call, ABCA says they often don't know where the noise is coming from and puts the burden back 10 11 on us to figure that out. 12 But, I'm not going to walk out at 1:30 13 in the morning to go look for where the noise is 14 coming from when I already don't feel safe in 15 this neighborhood. If ABCA is unable to enforce current 16 regulations with the current number of 17 18 establishments, there's no reason it should be 19 issuing even more licenses and excluding taverns from the moratorium. 20 21 I also recently found out that ABCA is 2.2 closed on Sundays and D.C. holidays. Noise 23 levels this past President's Day were absolutely at an all-time high. And, our call to ABCA went 2.4 25 unanswered, because they were closed.

1 Holidays are often nights of 2 heightened activity at bars and taverns in this And, it turns out that we actually have 3 area. zero support from ABCA during these nights. 4 5 I have always loved living in D.C. 6 But, what's taken place the past couple of years 7 has made me feel very let down by ABCA and D.C. 8 government agencies. The situation is at a level where 9 drastic action is needed. And, it's beyond due. 10 11 The moratorium is one small step in moving in the 12 right direction. 13 And, I hope ABCA will listen to the 14 community feedback today and quickly pass the 15 emergency moratorium, including also not 16 excluding taverns from the moratorium. 17 Thank you. 18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, 19 ma'am, for your -- for your testimony today. All 20 Is, Mr. Orellana, is there anyone else right. 21 who has identified that they want to speak? 2.2 MR. ORELLANA: Yes. Behzad 23 Hosseinkhan, your access has been elevated. That 2.4 is all, Chairman. 25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.

1 Sir, hello? 2 (No response.) 3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Caller, you 4 need to unmute your phone. 5 (No response.) CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I think the 6 7 person left. Maybe you need to send them a 8 request again. I don't know what happened. 9 MR. ORELLANA: I'll see if they 10 rejoin. 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Thank 12 you. Is that the last person, sir? 13 MR. ORELLANA: That is the last person 14 that has been listed to speak. 15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, but I'm 16 saying, has anyone -- has anyone else identified themselves --17 18 MR. ORELLANA: No. 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That they want 20 to speak? Okay. 21 MR. ORELLANA: Well, Kerry would like 2.2 to close. 23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right. Yes, sir. Besides her, yes? 24 25 MR. ORELLANA: No.

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1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.				
2	Just see if the call in is, that call in person				
3	is available. And then, I'll have them speak and				
4	then I'll go to Ms. Verdi.				
5	MR. ORELLANA: I think the only call				
б	in that's listed now is our backup court				
7	reporter.				
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No. I'm				
9	talking about I'm talking about the person who				
10	just, who was on screen, but then we lost them.				
11	MR. ORELLANA: Yeah. They haven't				
12	rejoined.				
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. I'll				
14	give them maybe another minute to see if they				
15	rejoin. And then, I'll have Ms. Verdi end, end				
16	this.				
17	MR. ORELLANA: Nothing yet, Chairman.				
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.				
19	Well then, you can elevate Ms. Verdi and so she				
20	can she can speak.				
21	Ms. Verdi, yeah, we'll have her, so				
22	she can end.				
23	MR. ORELLANA: Okay. Kerry Verdi,				
24	your access has been elevated. That's all,				
25	Chairman.				
I	I				

	7			
1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Ms.			
2	Verdi, I'll give you another five minutes. But,			
3	I do not expect you to take five minutes, ma'am.			
4	Okay?			
5	MS. VERDI: Chairman Anderson, I will			
6	not take five minutes. Thank you.			
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But, I know as			
8	an attorney, five that's why I'm letting you			
9	know you have five minutes, because if I don't			
10	give you the time, I think you'll go ahead.			
11	But, that's just the mark of the			
12	trade. So, it's not as an attorney, we do			
13	that.			
14	All right. So, I			
15	MS. VERDI: That's why we take the			
16	view.			
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. So,			
18	you can wrap up the hearing, ma'am. Go ahead.			
19	MS. VERDI: And, I very much			
20	appreciate this extra time. In closing, I do			
21	want to correct myself.			
22	I did pull my papers back out, I want			
23	to confirm that the WNA was seeking in their			
24	petition and continues today to only exempt			
25	licenses for hotels and new restaurants that do			

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1 not have an endorsement for cover charge, live 2 entertainment, or dancing. And, stated another way, the WNA is 3 not seeking to include restaurants without 4 5 endorsements in the moratorium, or hotels. But, to include all other licenses, including taverns 6 7 and retailers. 8 And, I think that today's testimony, 9 which I, along with you all, have listened to all of it. And, the overwhelming testimony that was 10 11 given today supports the inclusion of taverns in 12 this moratorium. 13 And, I think there are just a few 14 points that I think really recognize, really 15 should be highlighted. The testimony of Mr. Bekele, who said 16 17 he, as an owner, he has the same concerns about 18 this neighborhood as the neighbors, because crime 19 is so high. 20 Now, he put a lot of the problem with 21 the establishment owners. Which I really applaud 2.2 that he stepped forward to give his testimony 23 today. But, it shows that there is an issue 2.4 25 here that this moratorium is addressing, but it

-- including more establishment owners and more licensed establishments is not going to address the problem.

And, Mr. Bescher, I liked his analogy of saying that not including taverns is like banning CDs when everyone is streaming or banning horse and buggies while everyone is driving.

8 The overwhelming testimony today that 9 is consistent with the testimony that we 10 previously presented, shows the need for this 11 neighborhood to have a prize on everything so 12 that as the ANC recognized, we can bring in a 13 little more focus on the arts.

14 That there can be a more -- a 15 rebalance of this very vibrant community. That 16 it's clear that the -- that -- it's clear that 17 the people that live there, that the residents 18 love and care about this community, which is why 19 they spearheaded this effort and just want to see 20 that balance returned.

And, including taverns in this moratorium will give that needed pause so that the residents, the MPD, the other stakeholders, everybody can figure out a solution to rebalance this vibrant community, to allow the residents to

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1 feel safe, to allow new business owners to move 2 in. So, with that, we thank you for this 3 first step of finding the need for a moratorium. 4 5 We again, ask that it include taverns so that the necessary work can be done. 6 7 We also strongly believe consistent 8 with the comments that we submitted in writing 9 yesterday, that emergency rules should be adopted 10 today, to put this moratorium in place today. 11 As Mr. Bescher warned, that the licenses under review could add another 2,000 12 13 patrons to the area, which is not what this area 14 needs. This area needs a pause right now so that 15 the work can be done to rebalance this community. 16 And again, we would ask that you review the written comments that we submitted to 17 18 consider a very specific boundary, so that there 19 are no questions as to where the moratorium 20 begins and where it ends. 21 Thank you again so much for all of the 2.2 time and effort that you put into this. For 23 listening to our comments, reviewing what we submit, and really taking this matter as 24 seriously as you have. 25

1	We appreciate it. Thank you so much.			
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Ms.			
3	Verdi. All right. I'm going to bring this			
4	hearing to closure.			
5	I would like to thank all members of			
6	the public who participated in this hearing			
7	today. The Board values your input, and we will			
8	listen intently to the input that we received			
9	today.			
10	And, we will utilize this input to			
11	guide us in whether or not we will establish this			
12	moratorium for three years and the types of			
13	licenses that will be included in the moratorium.			
14	I think it's already established that			
15	the Board is in favor of a three-year moratorium.			
16	And so, we will listen again to what was the			
17	input that we received today. And, we will make			
18	a determination whether or not we will make			
19	changes to what was published.			
20	All right. So, with that said, let me			
21	close this hearing for the day. Hold on.			
22	As Chairperson of the Alcoholic			
23	Beverage and Cannabis Board for the District of			
24	Columbia and in accordance with Title III,			
25	Chapter 405, Office of Open Government, I move			
I	1			

1 that ABC Board hold a closed meeting on March 6 2 for the purpose of discussing and hearing reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations of 3 alleged criminal or civil misconduct or 4 5 violations of law or regulations and seeking legal advice from our legal counsel and the 6 7 Board's investigative agenda, legal agenda, and 8 licensing agenda for March 6, as published in the 9 D.C. Register on March 1. Is there a second? 10 11 MEMBER GRANT: Second the motion. 12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grant has 13 seconded the motion. I will now take a roll call vote on the motion before us that has been 14 15 seconded. 16 Mr. Short? 17 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Short, I agree. 18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grant? 19 MEMBER GRANT: Mr. Grant, I agree. 20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And, Mr. 21 Anderson, I agree. 2.2 As it appears that the motion has 23 passed, I hereby give notice that ABC Board will 24 hold this closed meeting pursuant to the Open 25 Meetings Act.

1	Notice will also be posted on the ABC			
2	Board Hearing Room bulletin board, placed on the			
3	electronic calendar on ABCA's website, and			
4	published in the D.C. Register in as timely a			
5	manner of manner as practical.			
6	Thank you very much. And, thank all			
7	the members of the public who participated in			
8	this hearing today.			
9	We are now adjourned for the day.			
10	And, I will now ask all Board Members to return			
11	to executive session for further development.			
12	Thank you very much. Have a great			
13	morning.			
14	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter			
15	went off the record at 11:34 a.m.)			
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In the matter of: North Shaw Moratorium Zone

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 02-29-24

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