

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
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 MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF:      :
                        :
ZMBE, LLC,             :
t/a Axum Restaurant    :
1934 9th Street NW     : Protest
Retailer CR - ANC 1B   : Hearing (Status)
License No. 119716     :
Case #22-PRO-00006     :
                        :
(Application for a New :
License)               :
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Wednesday  
 March 9, 2022

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

PRESENT:  
 DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson  
 BOBBY CATO, JR., Member  
 RAFI ALIYA CROCKETT, Member  
 EDWARD S. GRANDIS, Member  
 JENI HANSEN, Member  
 JAMES SHORT, JR., Member

ALSO PRESENT:

ANIL JAIN, DC ABRA Staff  
 ADANECH GEBREMESKEL, Applicant  
 EVAN SCHLUM, DC OAG

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

2 10:46 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The next case  
4 on our calendar is Case Number 22-PRO-00006, Axum  
5 Restaurant, License Number 119716.

6 Can you please elevate the rights of  
7 the parties in this case, please?

8 MR. JAIN: Please stand by. Adanech  
9 Gebremeskel, your rights have been elevated.  
10 Evan Schlom, your rights have been elevated.

11 That's all, Mr. Chair.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.  
13 Adanech Gebremeskel, do you have a camera?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. or Ms.  
16 Gebremeskel, are you there? Hello?

17 (No response.)

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. or Ms.  
19 Gebremeskel, are you there?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. or Mrs. --  
22 (Simultaneous speaking.)

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, you're  
24 there. Okay, all right, thank you. All right,  
25 good morning. Could -- I would like the parties

1 to --

2 (Simultaneous speaking.)

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I would like  
4 the parties to start off --

5 (Simultaneous speaking.)

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ma'am, do you  
7 have a camera? Do you have a camera you can turn  
8 on, ma'am?

9 (Off the record comments.)

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you still  
11 there, ma'am?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms.  
14 Gebremeskel, are you there?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,  
17 they're gone, so. Mr. Jain, can you look to see  
18 if they have logged back on, please, since they  
19 have now disappeared from my screen?

20 MR. JAIN: Sure, Mr. Chair. It's not  
21 showing on the attendee list.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,  
23 thank you. I believe that they -- I'm hoping  
24 that they will try to log back in, I don't know  
25 what happened.

1 (Pause.)

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, it  
3 appears that the parties, at least the Licensee -  
4 - the Licensee appeared this morning and I'm not  
5 sure if there is an -- if we require an  
6 interpreter, so what the Board will do, we will  
7 continue this hearing for one week.

8 I know that you're there, Mr. Schlom.  
9 I do apologize, but we're having some technical  
10 difficulties. And so what the Board will do, we  
11 will continue this matter for one week to March  
12 16 at 9:30.

13 We will reach out to the Licensee to  
14 see whether or not an interpreter is required, if  
15 one is required we will provide one, but we will  
16 ensure that they will participate on, next week,  
17 March 16 at 9:30, okay?

18 MR. SCHLOM: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

20 Thank you. Have a good day, then.

21 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
22 went off the record at 10:53 a.m.)

23

24

25

<b>A</b>	<b>elevated</b> 2:9,10 <b>ensure</b> 4:16 <b>Evan</b> 1:22 2:10	2:1 <b>participate</b> 4:16 <b>parties</b> 2:7,25 3:4 4:3 <b>Pause</b> 4:1 <b>please</b> 2:6,7,8 3:18 <b>PRESENT</b> 1:16,20 <b>presiding</b> 1:14 <b>Protest</b> 1:7 <b>provide</b> 4:15	<b>went</b> 4:22
<b>a.m</b> 2:2 4:22 <b>above-entitled</b> 4:21 <b>ABRA</b> 1:21 <b>Adanech</b> 1:22 2:8,13 <b>Alcoholic</b> 1:2,13 <b>ALIYA</b> 1:18 <b>ANC</b> 1:7 <b>Anderson</b> 1:14,17 2:3 2:12,15,18,21,23 3:3 3:6,10,13,16,22 4:2 4:19 <b>ANIL</b> 1:21 <b>apologize</b> 4:9 <b>appeared</b> 4:4 <b>appears</b> 4:3 <b>Applicant</b> 1:22 <b>Application</b> 1:9 <b>attendee</b> 3:21 <b>Axum</b> 1:6 2:4	<b>F</b>		<b>X</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>G</b> <b>Gebremeskel</b> 1:22 2:9 2:13,16,19 3:14 <b>GRANDIS</b> 1:18	<b>Q</b>	<b>Y</b>
<b>back</b> 3:18,24 <b>believe</b> 3:23 <b>Beverage</b> 1:2,13 <b>Board</b> 1:2,13 4:6,10 <b>BOBBY</b> 1:17	<b>H</b> <b>HANSEN</b> 1:19 <b>happened</b> 3:25 <b>hearing</b> 1:7 4:7 <b>Hello</b> 2:16 <b>hoping</b> 3:23	<b>R</b> <b>RAFI</b> 1:18 <b>reach</b> 4:13 <b>record</b> 3:9 4:22 <b>require</b> 4:5 <b>required</b> 4:14,15 <b>response</b> 2:14,17,20 3:12,15 <b>Restaurant</b> 1:6 2:5 <b>Retailer</b> 1:7 <b>rights</b> 2:6,9,10	<b>Z</b> <b>ZMBE</b> 1:6
<b>C</b>	<b>I</b> <b>interpreter</b> 4:6,14		<b>0</b>
<b>calendar</b> 2:4 <b>camera</b> 2:13 3:7,7 <b>case</b> 1:8 2:3,4,7 <b>CATO</b> 1:17 <b>Chair</b> 2:11 3:20 <b>Chairman</b> 4:18 <b>Chairperson</b> 1:14,17 2:3,12,15,18,21,23 3:3,6,10,13,16,22 4:2 4:19 <b>COLUMBIA</b> 1:1 <b>comments</b> 3:9 <b>continue</b> 4:7,11 <b>Control</b> 1:2,13 <b>CR</b> 1:7 <b>CROCKETT</b> 1:18	<b>J</b> <b>Jain</b> 1:21 2:8 3:17,20 <b>JAMES</b> 1:19 <b>JENI</b> 1:19 <b>JR</b> 1:17,19	<b>S</b> <b>S</b> 1:18 <b>Schlom</b> 1:22 2:10 4:8 4:18 <b>screen</b> 3:19 <b>SHORT</b> 1:19 <b>showing</b> 3:21 <b>Simultaneous</b> 2:22 3:2 3:5 <b>speaking</b> 2:22 3:2,5 <b>Staff</b> 1:21 <b>stand</b> 2:8 <b>start</b> 3:4 <b>Status</b> 1:7 <b>Street</b> 1:7	<b>1</b> <b>10:46</b> 2:2 <b>10:53</b> 4:22 <b>119716</b> 1:8 2:5 <b>16</b> 4:12,17 <b>1934</b> 1:7 <b>1B</b> 1:7
<b>D</b>	<b>K</b>		<b>2</b> <b>2022</b> 1:12 <b>22-PRO-00006</b> 1:8 2:4
<b>day</b> 4:20 <b>DC</b> 1:21,22 <b>difficulties</b> 4:10 <b>disappeared</b> 3:19 <b>DISTRICT</b> 1:1 <b>Donovan</b> 1:14,17	<b>L</b> <b>License</b> 1:8,10 2:5 <b>Licensee</b> 4:3,4,13 <b>list</b> 3:21 <b>LLC</b> 1:6 <b>log</b> 3:24 <b>logged</b> 3:18 <b>look</b> 3:17	<b>T</b> <b>t/a</b> 1:6 <b>technical</b> 4:9 <b>thank</b> 2:12,24 3:23 4:18 4:20 <b>try</b> 3:24 <b>turn</b> 3:7	<b>3</b> <b>4</b> <b>5</b> <b>6</b> <b>7</b> <b>8</b> <b>9</b> <b>9</b> 1:12 <b>9:30</b> 4:12,17 <b>9th</b> 1:7
<b>E</b>	<b>M</b> <b>ma'am</b> 3:6,8,11 <b>March</b> 1:12 4:11,17 <b>matter</b> 1:5 4:11,21 <b>MEETING</b> 1:3 <b>Member</b> 1:17,18,18,19 1:19 <b>met</b> 1:14 <b>morning</b> 2:25 4:4	<b>U</b>	
<b>EDWARD</b> 1:18 <b>elevate</b> 2:6	<b>N</b> <b>New</b> 1:9 <b>Number</b> 2:4,5 <b>NW</b> 1:7	<b>V</b> <b>videoconference</b> 1:14	
	<b>O</b> <b>OAG</b> 1:22	<b>W</b> <b>W</b> 1:14,17 <b>WebEx</b> 1:14 <b>Wednesday</b> 1:11 <b>week</b> 4:7,11,16	
	<b>P</b> <b>P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S</b>		

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Axum

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 03-09-22

Place: teleconference

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

*Neal R Gross*

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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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