

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
+ + + + +  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
+ + + + +  
ROLL CALL HEARING

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IN THE MATTER OF:                 :  
  :  
Rosebud Liquor, Inc.                :  
t/a Rosebud Liquor                  :  
1700 17th Street NW                :  
License #60751                       :  
Retailer A - ANC 2B                 :  
Case #23-PRO-00032                 :  
  :  
(Transfer license from               :  
1711 17th Street NW to             :  
1700 17th Street NW)               :  
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Monday  
March 27, 2023

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met via WebEx videoconference, LaVerne Fletcher, Board's Agent, presiding.

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABRA Board's Agent

ALSO PRESENT:

BROOKE HOLMES, Protestant  
CAROLYN KARBEL, Protestant  
CINDY MAZA, Applicant's Personal Representative  
MARTA MENDOZA, Applicant  
JAIME O'CONNOR, Protestant  
SHENA POPAT, Protestant  
VINCENT SLATT, ANC 2B03, In Support of  
Application  
MELISSA TERZIS, Protestant  
MICHAEL VILLA, Protestant

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

2 10:31 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: The next case on the  
4 calendar is Rosebud Liquor. This is Case No. 23-  
5 PRO-00032, Rosebud Liquor, at 1700 17th Street NW,  
6 License No. ABRA-060751. This is a Retailer  
7 Class A Liquor Store Transfer From 1711 17th  
8 Street NW to 1700 17th Street NW.

9 My name is Laverne Fletcher conducting  
10 the Roll Call Hearing as the Board's Agent.

11 Is anyone present on behalf of Rosebud  
12 Liquor?

13 MS. MAZA: Yes, the owner, Marta  
14 Mendoza is here, and her daughter, Cindy Maza.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Did you say Marta  
16 Mendoza?

17 MS. MAZA: Yes.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Would you spell that for  
19 the record, please?

20 MS. MAZA: Marta, M-A-R-T-A, Mendoza,  
21 M-E-N-D-O-Z-A.

22 MS. FLETCHER: And, your name again?

23 MS. MAZA: My name is Cindy, first name  
24 C-I-N-D-Y, and last name Maza, M-A-Z-A.

25 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you, Ms.

1 Maza. So, let me ask you something, will a  
2 Spanish interpreter be necessary for this case  
3 going forward?

4 MS. MAZA: I'm going to be helping her.

5 MS. FLETCHER: So, you are going to be  
6 assisting throughout the process, it's not  
7 necessary for us to schedule a Spanish  
8 interpreter?

9 MS. MAZA: You can schedule for her,  
10 yes.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

12 MR. SLATT: Additionally, Ms. Fletcher,  
13 hello, my name is Commissioner Vincent Slatt,  
14 from 2B03, and I have served as a translator for  
15 Ms. Mendoza when these issues have appeared  
16 before the ANC Commission. And so, I am  
17 attending today in that capacity to also assist  
18 if there are Spanish language needs available at  
19 the time.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

21 There's also a Group of 17. Is anyone  
22 present on behalf of that group?

23 Ms. Karbel?

24 MS. KARBEL: Yes. My name is Carolyn  
25 Karbel, C-A-R-O-L-Y-N K-A-R-B-E-L.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Ms. Karbel.

2 Just a second, please.

3 Ms. Karbel, are there any others  
4 present from your group today?

5 If you could state your name and spell  
6 it for the record, please.

7 MS. POPAT: Sure, I'll go first. My  
8 name is Shena Popat, S-H-E-N-A, last name P-O-P-  
9 A-T.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Anybody else?

11 MR. VILLA: Yes, Michael Villa. My  
12 last name is spelled V as in Victor I-L-L-A.

13 MS. FLETCHER: B-I-L-L-A?

14 MR. VILLA: V as in Victor, I-L-L-A,  
15 Villa.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

17 Anyone else?

18 MS. TERZIS: I'm also here, Melissa  
19 Terzis, E-L-I-S-S-A, and Terzis is T like Tom,  
20 E-R-Z like zebra, I-S like Sam.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

22 Anybody else?

23 MR. HOLMES: Yes, ma'am. My name is  
24 Brooke, B-R-O-O-K-E, last name Holmes, H-O-L-M-E-  
25 S. I'm here to support the Board representative

1 of our condominium association.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Holmes, are you  
3 just, are you a Protestant, did you sign the  
4 protest letter as well?

5 MR. HOLMES: Yes, I did, in support of  
6 the Board's position.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah, but I said are you  
8 a part of the Group of 17?

9 MR. HOLMES: Yes.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Let me see. Yeah, I see  
11 where you signed the protest letter also, thank  
12 you.

13 Anyone else?

14 MS. TERZIS: I do want to note that we  
15 have Cara Lanza on. She said she's on the call  
16 but I don't know what's happening on her end,  
17 because she said she can't hear anything, but she  
18 said she is on the call.

19 MS. FLETCHER: I can see that she's  
20 there.

21 MS. TERZIS: Okay.

22 MS. FLETCHER: I'll spell her name for  
23 the record. Her name is Cara Lanza.

24 MS. TERZIS: Yes.

25 MS. FLETCHER: Her name is spelled C-A-

1 R-A L-A-N-Z like zebra, A.

2 MS. TERZIS: Correct.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

4 And, she did sign the protest letter.

5 MS. TERZIS: Yes, ma'am.

6 MS. FLETCHER: Anybody else present?

7 MS. O'CONNOR: Hi, I'd like to sign the  
8 protest letter, I just signed on, sorry.

9 MS. FLETCHER: You said you did sign  
10 the protest letter?

11 MS. O'CONNOR: I didn't, but I meant  
12 to. Can I right now?

13 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. O'Connor, you would  
14 have had to have signed the protest letter before  
15 today.

16 MS. O'CONNOR: Okay. Well, I'm there  
17 to hear it.

18 MS. FLETCHER: But, it's okay that you  
19 are here, you are in support of the protest.  
20 But, so you can stay on the line, this is a  
21 public hearing.

22 MS. O'CONNOR: Okay, thank you.

23 MS. FLETCHER: You can go ahead and  
24 spell your name, since you spoke, though. Jaime  
25 O'Connor?

1 MS. O'CONNOR: Yes, ma'am.

2 MS. FLETCHER: You can spell it.

3 MS. O'CONNOR: Oh, J-A-I-M-E, and my  
4 last name is O- -C-O-N-N-O-R.

5 MS. FLETCHER: So, Ms. O'Connor, you  
6 are in support of the protest, you are not a  
7 Protestant, but you are in support of the  
8 protest, so you can just stay on the line if you  
9 like.

10 MS. O'CONNOR: All right, thank you.

11 MS. FLETCHER: You are welcome.

12 Anybody else?

13 You have six people from the group  
14 present today. The Group of 17 has standing as a  
15 Protestant.

16 Ms. Karbel, can you hear me?

17 MS. KARBEL: Yes, I can.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Karbel, what that  
19 means is that at the upcoming status hearing only  
20 you will need to appear for that hearing because  
21 the group has already been granted standing as a  
22 Protestant. And, I'm going to give you a date  
23 for a mediation in a moment, and only you need to  
24 appear for the mediation as well. Only the  
25 designated representatives need to appear for

1 mediation and the status hearing.

2 MS. KARBEL: And, if, what I heard from  
3 previous is that if that needs to change we are  
4 able to do that, correct?

5 MS. FLETCHER: So, Ms. Karbel, I don't  
6 know why I can't hear you very well, but can you  
7 say that again?

8 MS. KARBEL: If the representative  
9 needs to change from myself to someone else, we  
10 are able to do that, correct?

11 MS. FLETCHER: Uh-huh, any time.

12 MS. KARBEL: Great, just making sure,  
13 it depends on the date.

14 MS. FLETCHER: The, Mr. Holmes, you  
15 mentioned that you are also here on behalf of the  
16 Board.

17 MR. HOLMES: No, not on behalf, I just  
18 joined the protest and added my signature to the  
19 letter, but I'm not speaking for the Board, as I  
20 am not a member of the Board.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you, because  
22 the Admiral Dupont Condominium Association also  
23 filed, signed on to this protest. Condominium  
24 associations don't have standing as Protestants,  
25 so I am dismissing the Dupont Condominium



1 Association.

2           Actually, what the protest letter  
3 says, the protest letter refers to Dupont  
4 Condominium, and a Board of the Dupont  
5 Condominium. So, I'm assuming it's an  
6 association. And so, I'm dismissing -- Mr.  
7 Holmes, did you say something?

8           MR. HOLMES: Just that that's my  
9 understanding, but the other participant, Ms.  
10 Terzis, would know better than I.

11           MS. FLETCHER: The other participants  
12 what, Mr. Holmes?

13           MR. HOLMES: Melissa, Melissa Terzis.

14           MS. FLETCHER: You are coming through  
15 a little muffled, Mr. Holmes. Can you repeat  
16 that one more time?

17           MR. HOLMES: I think there's a  
18 representative of the 1700 17th Street Condo  
19 Association, Melissa Terzis, if she is still with  
20 us.

21           MS. KARBEL: I can also speak on behalf  
22 of the Board.

23           MR. HOLMES: Okay.

24           MS. FLETCHER: And so, who is speaking?

25           MS. TERZIS: This is Melissa Terzis.

1 So, I am, I'm unclear what you are saying when  
2 you said that somebody from the Association could  
3 be dismissed, because we are all in this as  
4 individual owners. So, nobody is really  
5 representation the Association. But, some of the  
6 owners on the hearing are also on the Board.

7 MS. FLETCHER: So, you've all been  
8 granted standing as a group. You've all been  
9 granted standing as a group, everyone that signed  
10 the protest letter.

11 MS. TERZIS: Okay.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Has been granted  
13 standing. It is the condominium association  
14 itself that's not granted standing, but the  
15 individuals that signed the protest letter are  
16 granted standing.

17 MS. TERZIS: Okay, as long as we meet  
18 the minimum thresholds that we needed.

19 MS. FLETCHER: You met the minimum  
20 threshold, because, let's see, there were at  
21 least five of you present today. It's only the  
22 association that I'm dismissing, not the group of  
23 Protestants.

24 Any questions about that, Ms. Terzis?

25 MS. TERZIS: I think that's fine,

1 correct.

2 MS. FLETCHER: And so, we have as a  
3 Protestant group in this case a Group of 17.

4 Ms. Maza, I will request a Spanish  
5 language interpreter for Ms. Mendoza going  
6 forward.

7 MS. MAZA: Thank you.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Going forward, Ms. Maza,  
9 do you want us to send you the WebEx invitation  
10 to attend the hearings the same as I did for  
11 today?

12 MS. MAZA: Yes. Yes, the same email,  
13 yes.

14 MR. SLATT: Excuse me, Ms. Fletcher.  
15 This is Commissioner Slatt, Vincent, V-I-N-C-E-N-  
16 T, Slatt, S-L-A-T-T.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

18 MR. SLATT: I have a question about the  
19 standing of the Group of 17.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Uh-huh.

21 MR. SLATT: We had been informed that  
22 because they are residents of the same building  
23 that the license is being transferred that they  
24 are not eligible for standing in this case. I  
25 wondered if you could explain that.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah, and so can you  
2 explain what their reason would be again?

3 MR. SLATT: There was some discrepancy  
4 about the definition of an abutting property,  
5 because these are people that live within the  
6 same building as the requested license. And, in  
7 a previous hearing, the protest was dismissed  
8 because they are not an abutting property.

9 MS. FLETCHER: That would have been  
10 because the Protestants would have claimed to be  
11 abutting. This is no one claimed to be abutting  
12 in this case, this was just a group of people.  
13 If they had claimed to be abutting, then I would  
14 have had to check the DC Geographic Information  
15 System for each address and determine whether or  
16 not their properties abutted.

17 In this case, no one claimed to be an  
18 abutting property owner, Mr. Slatt, they just  
19 filed as a group.

20 MR. SLATT: Okay. And, therefore, they  
21 have standing as a group.

22 MS. FLETCHER: That's exactly right.

23 MR. SLATT: Okay, thank you, Ms.  
24 Fletcher.

25 MS. FLETCHER: You're welcome.

1 MR. SLATT: Would you please allow me  
2 a moment to explain that to Ms. Mendoza?

3 MS. FLETCHER: Yes. Yes.

4 MR. SLATT: Yes.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Commissioner Slatt, can  
6 I get your first name?

7 MR. SLATT: My first name is Vincent,  
8 V-I-N-C-E-N-T.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. So, I've noted,  
10 Commissioner Slatt, that you are here today, you  
11 are here today to interpret for Ms. Mendoza.

12 MR. SLATT: Yes.

13 MS. FLETCHER: And, because you are  
14 from ANC 2B, I'll just note that ANC 2B didn't  
15 file a protest, and that was the reason you were  
16 here, to assist Ms. Mendoza.

17 MR. SLATT: Yes, ma'am. This case came  
18 before the Commission on two separate occasions.  
19 In November of 2022, my predecessor, Commissioner  
20 Robin Nunn, N-U-N-N, she presented this case in  
21 support at the ANC. She's a resident of this  
22 same building, 1700 17th Street, and she had done  
23 outreach and communication with certain  
24 Protestants, with residents of the building.  
25 And, when that came up before the Commission, she

1 endorsed the transfer of this license, and said  
2 that the protests were not adequate to meet that  
3 threshold and, therefore, the Commission voted to  
4 support the transfer of the license and to take  
5 no action as a Protestant in the case.

6 The case further came forward in front  
7 of our Commission in February of 2023, when I  
8 started in my term, and again, no Protestants  
9 showed up at the ANC Commission to object to this  
10 transfer of license, and the Commission again  
11 supported the transfer of license and chose not  
12 to enter as a Protestant in this case.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, well, thank you  
14 for that.

15 MR. SLATT: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Excuse me. I'm going to  
17 give you some dates now. I'm going to give you  
18 the dates for a status and protest hearing first.  
19 The status hearing is scheduled for April the  
20 26th, at 10:30 a.m. The protest hearing is set  
21 for May 24, May 24 at 1:30. And, I will give you  
22 the next available day for mediation. The next  
23 available day for mediation is Wednesday, April  
24 12th, any time between 10:00 and 1:30.

25 And so, Mr. Slatt, is that going to be

1 good for Ms. Mendoza?

2 MS. MAZA: Yes, that's going to be good  
3 for us.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

5 Ms. Karbel, what about you?

6 MS. KARBEL: So, we'll make it work.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Hmm?

8 MS. KARBEL: We will make it work.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Did you have a  
10 preference for time? It can be anywhere between  
11 10:00 and 1:30.

12 MS. KARBEL: No preference, let's just  
13 say 10:00 a.m.

14 MS. FLETCHER: 10:00 a.m.

15 Is it okay for you, Ms. Mendoza?

16 MS. MAZA: Yes, 10:00 a.m. is okay for  
17 us.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Mediation is set for  
19 Wednesday, April 11 at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of  
20 the mediation is to attempt to resolve the  
21 protest issues as an alternative to going through  
22 the protest hearing process. If you are able to  
23 resolve the matter in mediation, then the protest  
24 hearing would be canceled. I don't know if  
25 anyone had any questions about the purpose of the

1 mediation. So, I just thought I'd offer a brief  
2 explanation.

3 Does anybody have any questions about  
4 that?

5 MS. KARBEL: I just have a question  
6 about the date, so Wednesday in April is the 12th,  
7 and Tuesday is the 11th, but you said Wednesday  
8 the 11th.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah. It's the -- oh,  
10 what did I say, the 12th? I started out saying  
11 the 12th, right?

12 MS. KARBEL: Yeah, and then you changed  
13 to the 11th.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah, thanks for that.  
15 So, you know, I'll tell you what I did. I stated  
16 10:00 on the 12th, but then I wrote it down on the  
17 11th, but it is the 12th. It is Wednesday, April  
18 12th, at 10:00 a.m.

19 MS. KARBEL: Okay, thank you for that.

20 MS. FLETCHER: You are welcome.

21 MS. KARBEL: And, the mediation is over  
22 a month before the protest hearing?

23 MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry, what did you  
24 say, Ms. Karbel?

25 MS. KARBEL: The mediation is a month



1 before the protest hearing, that is how it  
2 proceeds?

3 MS. FLETCHER: Well, that's the way  
4 this one, it turned out to be, yeah, because the  
5 protest hearing is, it's the status hearing,  
6 actually. So, the status hearing is 4/26, so  
7 it's a couple of weeks before that. And, yes,  
8 the protest hearing is 5/24.

9 MR. SLATT: Ms. Fletcher, can we please  
10 request a copy of the protest letter, or any of  
11 the other communication with the Protestants. My  
12 understanding is Ms. Mendoza has not, you know,  
13 received the information concerning the grounds  
14 of the protest, and the Protestors have not been  
15 in touch with her concerning this matter.

16 MS. FLETCHER: And so, Mr. Slatt, is  
17 that you talking, Commissioner Slatt?

18 MR. SLATT: Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. FLETCHER: The -- yeah, we can  
20 provide the information. The protest letter was  
21 sent along, a copy of the protest letter was sent  
22 along with the Notice of the Hearing to the  
23 Protestant. But, it's okay, we can send another  
24 one, it's not a problem.

25 MR. SLATT: And, would you please send

1 that also to me at my address. It's  
2 2B03@anc.dc.gov. Again, that's 2B03@anc.dc.gov.

3 MS. FLETCHER: With the permission of  
4 Ms. Mendoza.

5 MS. MAZA: Yes, she agrees.

6 MR. SLATT: And, I have to thank you,  
7 Ms. Fletcher, for your patience with this. I'm  
8 newly elected, and so this is the first case I've  
9 worked with with my neighbors and things. So, I  
10 appreciate your kindness in assisting me with  
11 learning the process.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Well, you are more than  
13 welcome.

14 Ms. Maza?

15 MS. MAZA: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Would you like for me to  
17 send another copy of the protest letter to Ms.  
18 Mendoza?

19 MS. MAZA: Yes.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. I will do that.  
21 Okay.

22 So, we are done, unless anybody has  
23 any other questions? And, I will see you --

24 MR. SLATT: May I ask, Ms. KARBEL, can  
25 I have your contact information. I'd love to

1 speak with you directly about this.

2 MS. FLETCHER: And so, may I just  
3 clarify something for the court reported?

4 This is Commissioner Slatt asking Ms.  
5 Karbel for her contact information.

6 MS. KARBEL: Yes. I'll send it in the  
7 chat, and I also want to state for the record  
8 that the protest letter was sent to Carolyn Maza,  
9 who we were told was the representative for  
10 Rosebud, so they received the letter.

11 MS. MAZA: Sorry, it's not Carolyn  
12 Maza, it's Cindy, C-I-N-D-Y.

13 MS. KARBEL: Oh, okay. In the letter  
14 it says Carolyn Maza, but the email does say  
15 Cindy. So, it was sent to cindy-m4@hotmail.com,  
16 from the ABRA Board.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Let me look at that,  
18 too, since you said, you are saying something  
19 different than what we have. Let me see what we  
20 have here. Let's see.

21 MS. KARBEL: Ms. Fletcher, it looks  
22 like you are also on that.

23 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah, and so, Ms.  
24 Karbel, you are saying that the Roll Call Hearing  
25 Notice has a different first name for Cindy.

1 MS. KARBEL: Correct.

2 MS. FLETCHER: And, it does. So, but  
3 I have Cindy in my record, so it is Cindy Maza,  
4 right?

5 MS. MAZA: Yes.

6 MS. FLETCHER: C-I-N-D-A. The protest  
7 letter looks like it has, I mean the Hearing  
8 Notice looks like it has Carolyn Maza. I'll get  
9 that fixed.

10 MS. MAZA: Just one last thing. My Mom  
11 would like to say something if she can, if it's  
12 possible.

13 MS. FLETCHER: She sure can.

14 MR. SLATT: Can I give the translation,  
15 Commissioner Slatt.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

17 MR. SLATT: Ms. Mendoza is grateful for  
18 the assistance, but she also asks that the  
19 Protestors have some compassion for her in this  
20 case. She does have both locations and is paying  
21 \$11,000 per month in rent on the two locations.  
22 And, she's asked that no further harm be done to  
23 her in delaying these issues, and dragging out  
24 the length of her business there.

25 She's been 18 years with no problems

1 in the community, and so that's why she asks for  
2 the compassion.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

4 MS. TERZIS: Can I, this is Melissa  
5 Terzis, can I say something in response to that,  
6 because I didn't realize that this was turning  
7 into a hearing. I thought it was a roll call.

8 MS. FLETCHER: No, just a second. Just  
9 a second. This is not going to turn into a  
10 hearing. Commissioner Slatt was only allowed to  
11 speak because he was interpreting.

12 What I will allow is for you to  
13 respond to that, and then we are going to be done  
14 with that. Go ahead.

15 MS. TERZIS: Well, he's characterized  
16 this as though we just showed up to protest, and  
17 we've been protesting this all along. The onus  
18 wasn't on us to reach out to somebody who wants  
19 to move into the building where we live, and  
20 where our families are, and we are concerned  
21 about safety.

22 The liquor store has been held up at  
23 gunpoint several times in this one year.

24 MS. FLETCHER: So, Ms. Terzis, now it  
25 is turning into a hearing. This is not the --

1 MS. TERZIS: Okay, but he's, the  
2 Commissioner has turned this into a hearing by  
3 way of what he is saying. He's done a lot of  
4 explanation.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, so --

6 (Whereupon, simultaneous speaking.)

7 MS. TERZIS: He's also --

8 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Terzis --

9 MS. TERZIS: -- he's also explained.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Terzis, we are  
11 ending this right there. We have to. This is  
12 non-evidentiary. Ms. Mendoza required  
13 interpretation, and so that happened. You've had  
14 an opportunity to respond to some extent, but  
15 this should not turn into an evidentiary hearing.

16 And so, if there are no other  
17 questions I'm going to conclude the Roll Call  
18 hearing.

19 Any questions at all?

20 Okay, all right. Well, thanks  
21 everyone for coming, and I'll see you in  
22 mediation on April the 12th.

23 Thank you. Okay, bye, everybody.

24 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
25 went off the record at 10:58 a.m.)

**A**

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This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Rosebud Liquor

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 03-27-23

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.

*Neal R Gross*

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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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