DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA + + + + + ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD + + + + + + MEETING IN THE MATTER OF: : Privateer 4400, LLC, t/a To Be Determined : 4400 Jenifer Street NW : Protest Retailer CT - ANC 3E : Hearing (Status)

> Wednesday April 6, 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:

SARAH FASHBAUGH, DC ABRA Staff SIDON YOHANNES, Applicant Counsel JONATHAN BENDER, ANC 3E

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	10:43 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: We're in the
4	record. Good morning, everyone. As Chairperson
5	of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for the
6	District of Columbia and in accordance with DC
7	Code Section 2-571 of the Open Meetings Act, OMA,
8	I am welcoming you to regular scheduled meeting
9	of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board.
10	This meeting is being conducted
11	pursuant to guidance made available the District
12	of Columbia's Office of Open Government regarding
13	electronic meetings held by public bodies.
14	Electronic meetings by the ABC Board are
15	authorized pursuant to Section 2-577(a) of the DC
16	Code.
17	Pursuant to the OMA requirements,
18	notice of today's meeting was provided 48 hours
19	in advance of the meeting on ABRA's website and
20	on the District's central meeting calendar. The
21	notice included the time, date, agenda, and call-
22	in or login information for public participation.
23	This electronic meeting is being
24	hosted by a Webex account provided by the
25	District of Columbia government. Please address

any questions or complaints to the OOG at 1 2 opengovoffice@dc.gov. 3 My name is Donovan Anderson, I'm Chairman of the Board. I would like to introduce 4 5 the other members of the ABC Board, who are also participating electronically. Please respond 6 7 when I announce your name. 8 Mr. James Short. 9 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short, 10 present. 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Bobby Cato. 12 MEMBER CATO: Bobby Cato, present. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Rafi 14 Crockett. 15 MEMBER CROCKETT: Rafi Crockett, 16 present. 17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Jeni 18 Hansen. 19 MEMBER HANSEN: Jeni Hansen, present. 20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Edward 21 Grandis. 22 MEMBER GRANDIS: Edward Grandis, 23 present. 24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board has 25 six members in attendance for the conduct of

business today, and that constitutes a quorum. 1 2 Before we get underway with today's 3 hearing calendar, I need to make a few instructions very clear so that the conduct of 4 5 these hearings is understood by everyone. There are six cases scheduled for this 6 7 morning's calendar. Once a case, it will take a moment for our IT specialist to elevate the 8 9 rights for this party to enable their camera and 10 microphone. Then and only then will you have the 11 ability to enable your equipment. If your case 12 is not being heard, you will remain mute and your camera will be disabled. 13 14 At the conclusion of each case, the 15 parties will have the option to leave. If the 16 party chooses to stay, all cameras and 17 microphones from the concluded case will be disabled. 18 19 Should you have any questions or 20 require technical assistance during the hearing, 21 please submit them using the question and answer 22 feature. 23 Our first order of business this 24 morning is a protest hearing status, Case No. 22-PRO-00013, Privateer, 4400, LLC, Trade Name To Be 25

Determined, License No. 119655. 1 2 Could our IT specialist please elevate 3 the rights of the parties in this case, please. MS. FASHBAUGH: Good morning, Board 4 5 members, please stand by. Sidon Yohannes, your rights have been 6 7 I'm unable to elevate Sidon Yohannes, elevated. but I will unmute her. 8 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. 10 MS. FASHBAUGH: Jonathan Bender, your 11 rights have been elevated. 12 That is all, Mr. Chair. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. 14 Ms. Yohannes, are you there? I can't 15 see you, but are you -- are you on, online? I think she's having 16 MS. FASHBAUGH: 17 technical difficulties because I can't unmute her 18 or make her a panelist. 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But -- she's in 20 the room, is that correct? 21 MS. FASHBAUGH: That looks to be the 22 case. 23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Yohannes, 24 can you -- can you connect us -- contact us 25 through the question and answer? I'm not quite

sure what's going on since I'm told that you are online for us to figure out how to enable your equipment.

All right, we're going to -- Mr. Bender, you can stay there. I'm just going to call some other cases that don't -- that don't require us to elevate the rights of any parties. And so hopefully during this period of time we'll be able to connect with Ms. Yohannes.

10Have we heard anything from Ms.11Yohannes?

12 MS. FASHBAUGH: She's left the room. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I just want to 14 let the parties know that I'm going to call -- I 15 saw something in the chat regarding Good Food Yes, I will be calling the case. 16 Market. So I 17 haven't passed that case, it's on the calendar.

I will be calling the case, but I
wanted to -- since -- I called the other cases
since they were penciled and we did not have to
elevate the rights of any parties.

So I know I'll try to see -- I'll wait a couple more minutes for Ms. Yohannes to try to access the site for us to move forward. If she does not, I'll give her maybe two more minutes.

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1	If she's unable, I will pass that case on and
2	then call the other case. And then we'll try to
3	figure out how to get her to participate.
4	What I'm going to do, Mr. Bender, I'm
5	going to I'm going to call another case. I'm
6	going to call another case that let me call
7	let me call another case, because it appears that
8	the parties are there. And I will recall your
9	case, okay, so I'll recall your case.
10	All right, so the next case, hopefully
11	that I'm trying to find out, let me see. All
12	right, let me it's my understanding our IT
13	person is trying to get her to to get her back
14	online. So let me wait a couple of minutes
15	before I pass this case.
16	All right, I'm going to call our other
17	case, and hopefully all right, so I'm going to
18	call another case, and hopefully Ms. Yohannes
19	will able to to we'll be able to connect
20	her. So let me call so Mr. Bender, you can
21	stay in the room. We're going to move on.
22	All right, I'm going to recall No. 22-
23	PRO-00013, Privateer, 4400 LLC, Trade Name To
24	Determined, License No. 119655. We do have Mr.
25	Bender in the in the already here, and I

see, I believe that Ms. Yohannes, okay, thank
you.
All right, let's have the parties
introduce themselves for the record. Let's start
with the representative of the licensee.
MS. YOHANNES: Hi, good morning, Sidon
Yohannes on behalf of the licensee, and that's S-
I-D-O-N Y-O-H-A-N-N-E-S.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
Ms. Yohannes.
Mr. Bender, can you please spell and
state your name for the record, please.
MR. BENDER: Yes, good morning, Mr.
Chair. My name is Jonathan Bender, J-O-N-A-T-H-
A-N B-E-N-D-E-R. And I'm here representing ANC
3E.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, good
morning. Are there any preliminary matters that
the parties would like us to address, Mr Ms.
Yohannes?
MS. YOHANNES: No, not at this time.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Bender?
MR. BENDER: I don't know if this
something that the Board plays could play a
role in, but we just had a sort of slow process

with settlement discussions. The parties are
 involved with settlement, but it's taken a long
 time to get responses on things.

And you know, just if the Board could -- I mean, this could be taken as seriously as whatever else, what other commitments the -- our other opposing party has.

8 MS. YOHANNES: I would recommend that 9 we move forward with this matter and we can --10 initially we were doing -- just having settlement 11 discussions outside of mediation. And I think a 12 mediation needs to now be set.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, I 14 was not aware. So we'll -- the agency will -- if 15 mediation has not been scheduled. Because this 16 matter is scheduled for a protest hearing on May 17 If mediation has not been scheduled, I will 4. 18 infer that the agency scheduled a mediation 19 session in due course.

The Board supports settlement, because of that, basically stated, if this matter can be settled, at least the parties can mutually agree on the terms of -- because after they send you a license, other parties can -- could mutually agree on whether on not this license will be

granted and what the terms are -- what the terms 1 2 are. 3 I will -- I -- the Board will suggest and nudge both parties to be as responsive as 4 5 possible to these matters. And I'm not saying that the other side -- and I'm not saying, Mr. 6 7 Bender, that they have not been responsive, 8 because I don't know that. 9 MR. BENDER: Understood. 10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But I'm just --11 but I'm just stating that for the record, we 12 would like to parties to be responsive as ever. 13 And I would also, because this is a new license, 14 so therefore we're going -- we are going to have, 15 if this matter is not settled, we are going to 16 have a protest hearing on May 4. 17 Because for a new license we have a timeline that we have to move forward with. 18 So 19 we are going to move forward. And so the parties, if they're -- if 20 21 the parties believe that this matter can be 22 settled prior to the hearing, then we support 23 that, and we support the parties to do whatever 24 that they can to ensure that there's 25 conversation.

1	And if this matter can be settled, it
2	will be settled. If it cannot be settled, then
3	we'll have a hearing on May 4, 2022.
4	As I stated before, if a mediation has
5	not been scheduled, we will we the agency
6	will schedule a mediation session forthwith. So
7	I'll ensure that if one has not been done, we
8	will schedule one forthwith, and
9	MS. YOHANNES: Just for the record to
10	be clear that a mediation was set, but upon
11	request from the parties it was moved or sort of
12	we're awaiting a new date due the parties'
13	intentions to just settle outside of a mediation.
14	So that was our upon our request. So one was
15	set, but now I think that one should be reset.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
17	Well, a mediation session was scheduled by the
18	Board on for March 24.
19	MS. YOHANNES: Right.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: As I I guess
21	I've stated, Ms. Yohannes that you have stated
22	that you've had you had asked to change that.
23	So the Board and the Board will, the agency
24	will schedule another mediation session. And I
25	guess I'll, on the record, once the agency sets
	•

another mediation session, will both parties 1 2 attend? 3 MR. BENDER: Yes. 4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Yohannes? 5 MS. YOHANNES: Yes. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, 6 7 So we will -- we will schedule one and fine. forthwith. And so the dates will be provided and 8 9 we'll provide a date hopefully that words for 10 both parties. But we will schedule one 11 forthwith. 12 And we -- both parties have now 13 confirmed on the record that they will attend the 14 next mediation session that's scheduled by the 15 All right, thank you. All right --Board. 16 MR. BENDER: Mr. Chair, just as 17 regards the schedule, will they -- will somebody reach out to us about dates or? 18 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, Mr. 20 Bender. 21 MR. BENDER: But I mean before they 22 schedule one? Because I'm going to be away next 23 week. 24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, I'm 25 not sure is Ms. LaVerne -- I know the mediations

are held by -- I'm sorry, convened by LaVerne Fletcher. But I would, if there are dates that are not workable for you, please reach out to the 4 agency.

5 I will make sure that -- I will make sure that the agency reach out with both -- to 6 7 both parties and try to come up with a mutual 8 agreeable date prior to scheduling. Because I 9 know that because of schedule -- of scheduling conflicts. But we -- I will inform the agency to 10 11 reach out to the parties before they schedule the 12 date. 13 MR. BENDER: Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Both parties 15 will be able -- all right so, yeah, we'll let Ms. 16 Fletcher, we'll let her know that she should 17 reach out to the parties to get dates prior to --18 to doing it. And all right.

19 And so that's basically where we are. 20 So as I stated before, this matter is scheduled 21 for a protest hearing on -- on May 4, 2022 at 22 Ms. Fletcher will contact both parties 1:30 p.m. to schedule -- to schedule the next mediation. 23 24 Now, are there any questions that 25 anyone has?

> Neal R. Gross and Co., Inc. Washington DC

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1	MR. BENDER: No.
2	MS. YOHANNES: No, no questions, sir.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I just read the
4	instructions regarding protest hearings. Do the
5	parties need me to review that again?
6	MR. BENDER: No.
7	MS. YOHANNES: No.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
9	again, thank you very much for your participation
10	this morning. We will schedule we'll schedule
11	a mediation, and the Board supports settlement
12	agreement. If this matter is always not settled,
13	we will have a protest hearing on May 4, 2022 at
14	1:30 p.m.
15	All right, thank you very much, have
16	a great day.
17	MS. YOHANNES: Thank you.
18	MR. BENDER: Thank you, Mr. Chair,
19	Commissioners.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
21	thank you. Ms. Yohannes, I'm not sure if we're
22	going to call an afternoon case for you. I'm
23	trying to get some clarification whether or not.
24	I was told there's a case that you have here in
25	the afternoon that we were trying to move, and I

1	don't know if that was confirmed.
2	MS. YOHANNES: With me or with?
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: With you, and
4	I guess if you don't know then I assume we're not
5	moving the case. We're not moving the afternoon
6	case from we're not moving the case from the
7	afternoon to this morning. Hold on. All right.
8	MS. YOHANNES: If the Chairman wants
9	to give me a few minutes, we can
10	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I don't know if
11	we've contacted the government. I don't know if
12	the government has I don't I do not know.
13	I thought that the parties had agreed to move the
14	case from this afternoon to this morning. But if
15	you're not if you're not aware of that, then
16	we will have this case in the afternoon. Okay,
17	that's fine.
18	MS. YOHANNES: Okay.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
20	Thank you very much. But we're going to I'm
21	going to read the agenda. I'm going to now read
22	the agenda. And so the parties, if they believe
23	that they can move the afternoon case to this
23 24	that they can move the afternoon case to this morning, then the Board will be open to doing

1	MS. YOHANNES: Great, thank you.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. All
3	right. All right so let's now do our agenda. So
4	that's the end of our I'm sorry, that is the
5	end of our morning just want to make sure I've
6	called the cases that were on our morning agenda,
7	our morning calendar. Because those we're now
8	at the end of our morning calendar.
9	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
10	went off the record at 11:08 a.m.)
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This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Privateer

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 04-06-22

Place: teleconference

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

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