

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

2 10:49 a.m.

3 The next case on our calendar is
4 Case Number 21-PRO-0017, Signature Lounge,
5 License Number 117485.

6 Ms. Andrews, can you please elevate
7 the rights of the parties for this case, please.
8 I believe its Mr. Bianco, Commissioner Meg
9 Roggensack, Commissioner Mike Silverstein, and
10 Glenn Engelmann of the Dupont Circle Citizens
11 Association.

12 MS. ANDREWS: Sure, stand by. Mr.
13 Bianco's rights have been elevated. Mr.
14 Engelmann's rights have been elevated. Mr.
15 Silverstein's rights have been elevated. And Ms.
16 Roggensack, your rights have been elevated.
17 That's all, Mr. Chair.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Ms.
19 Andrews.

20 Can I have everyone enable their
21 camera, please, so Mr. Bianco, Ms. Roggensack.

22 MS. ANDREWS: I'm sorry, Mr. Bianco
23 had logged in twice, and I elevated the wrong
24 one. Stand by.

25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, thanks.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, good
2 morning, everyone. I would like for everyone to
3 please introduce themselves for the record. I need
4 you to spell and state your name. And let's
5 start with the Licensee or the Licensee's
6 representative.

7 MR. BIANCO: Good morning, Mr.
8 Anderson and members of the Board. My name is
9 Richard Bianco. I am here on behalf of the
10 Licensee. My name is Richard, and last name is
11 spelled B-I-A-N-C-O.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
13 Mr. Bianco. Is the Licensee joining us this
14 morning, sir?

15 MR. BIANCO: I believe he is or he's
16 watching. So if he hasn't been able to login,
17 he's probably watching on the public feed.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, I was
19 just trying to find out if we need to elevate his
20 or her rights. That's why I'm asking. It's not
21 mandatory that they're here. But if they're
22 here, if we need to elevate their rights, please
23 let us know, and we'll have their rights
24 elevated.

25 MR. BIANCO: Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
2 Let's start with the ANC. Let's go with the ANC.

3 MS. ROGGENSACK: Yes, my name is Meg
4 Roggensack. I am the Commissioner representing
5 single member district 2B 01. My last name is
6 spelled R-O-G-G-E-N-S-A-C-K. And my district is
7 the district where this application is located.

8 And I'm joined by my fellow
9 Commissioner, Mike Silverstein, who has extensive
10 experience in this, for which I'm grateful, and
11 Glenn Engelmann, who is a co-petitioner as the
12 past president of the Dupont Circle Citizens
13 Association.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. So
15 Mr. Silverstein?

16 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Good morning, Mr.
17 Chairman. My name is Mike Silverstein, M-I-K-E
18 S-I-L-V-E-R-S-T-E-I-N. I represent ANC 2B-06.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, good
20 morning, Mr. Silverstein, and welcome, Mr.
21 Silverstein. And if saying more to Mr.
22 Silverstein, I served on this Board while
23 Commissioner Silverstein was a member.

24 And it's the first time that he's
25 appearing before me as a former member of the

1 Board. So I just want the public to know that I
2 am aware. I've served with Mr. Silverstein. And
3 most members of this Board have served with Mr.
4 Silverstein while he was an ABC Board member.

5 So I must say, it's fun to see you in
6 this role, Mr. Silverstein, but it's good to see
7 you. So it's good to see you. All right, thank
8 you.

9 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Thank you, Mr.
10 Chairman.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Engelmann?

12 MR. ENGELMANN: Good morning,
13 Commissioners. My name is Glenn Engelmann. First
14 name is spelled G-L-E-N-N, last name is spelled
15 E-N-G-E-L-M-A-N-N. And I'm here representing the
16 Dupont Circle Citizens Association.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
18 Mr. Engelmann.

19 Good morning. All right, good
20 morning. Are there any preliminary matters in
21 this case that need to be brought to the Board's
22 attention?

23 MR. BIANCO: Mr. Anderson, on behalf
24 of the licensee, we don't have anything. The
25 parties have really come a long way in settlement

1 discussions. I'm very encouraged. I think we're
2 going to be able to get something done. We have
3 only a few impediments remaining.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you for
5 that representation, Mr. Bianco.

6 On behalf of the ANC, any preliminary
7 issues that need to be brought to the Board's
8 attention?

9 MR. SILVERSTEIN: We have no -

10 MS. ROGGENSACK: Mr. Chair, other than
11 to observe that we are grateful for the officers
12 of the ABRA in facilitating a mediation. A week
13 ago, our principal concerns centered around
14 public safety issues.

15 As Mr. Bianco has noted, I think we
16 have arrived at a compromise on trash and noise
17 issues. We are awaiting a revised draft from Mr.
18 Bianco that incorporates the outcome of the last
19 mediation and are looking forward to working with
20 him in hopes we can reach an accommodation.

21 The position of our ANC at the moment
22 is that we are following protesting the
23 application pending resolution of those concerns
24 in a satisfactory way in the settlement
25 agreement.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you for
2 that representation. And on behalf of the Dupont
3 Circle Citizens Association, any preliminary
4 matters you want to bring to our attention?

5 MR. ENGELMANN: No preliminary
6 matters, nothing to add to the comments of
7 Commissioner Roggensack.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So just as an
9 FYI, so if there is a settlement agreement, both
10 this association and the ANC would be signing off
11 on a joint settlement agreement? I'm just
12 asking.

13 MR. ENGELMANN: Yes.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. All
15 right, thank you for that. Then if there are no
16 other preliminary matters, then this matter is
17 scheduled for a protest hearing on June 30th at
18 1:30 p.m.

19 All right, so now that we have
20 scheduled this matter for a protest hearing,
21 there are a few things I would like to instruct
22 you about, because the Board's practices under
23 the COVID-19 restrictions have changed.

24 As you know, the Board's hearings are
25 conducted virtually. So it is more important

1 than ever that protest hearings are focused and
2 address on those issues that are being protested.

3 Following this hearing, you will be
4 receiving an email from April Randall that will
5 include a copy of the protest information form,
6 and a copy of the exhibit form, as well as
7 specific instructions for the hearing.

8 You are required to complete and
9 submit the PIF and exhibit forms at least seven
10 days before the date of the hearing. If we do
11 not receive a copy of your forms seven days
12 before the hearing, your application or your
13 protest may be subject to dismissal.

14 These documents need to be submitted
15 to abra.legal@dc.gov and to the opposing parties.
16 Please know that these documents greatly assist
17 the Board in narrowing the protest issues,
18 facilitating the process, and keeping the parties
19 on point during the hearing.

20 Three, each side is limited to no more
21 than five witnesses, and you will only have 60
22 minutes to present your case. This includes all
23 direct and cross examination.

24 The Board does not intend to hear
25 testimony on matters that are not relevant to any

1 issue that have been protested. Any questions by
2 anyone based on what was just stated?

3 And as I said before, I'm hoping that
4 this does not go to a protest hearing, but you're
5 only limited to five witnesses in this matter.
6 And each side would only have 60 minutes if we
7 were to go to a protest hearing. Is that clear?

8 MR. BIANCO: That's clear. Nothing
9 further from the Licensee.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

11 MR. ENGELMANN: It's clear.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you very
13 much, then.

14 All right, we thank you greatly for
15 your cooperation. If you have any questions at
16 any time leading up to the hearing, please do not
17 hesitate to contact Assistant General Counsel
18 April Randall at (202) 329-6354.

19 I want to thank the parties for the
20 appearance today. I wish you good luck in your
21 settlement discussions. The Board supports the
22 parties' settlement matters, because if the
23 parties settle the matter, at least we know that
24 each side will be happy with the decisions that
25 are made. But if the matter is unable to be

1 settled, we will have a hearing in June.

2 So if there are no other questions,
3 thank you very much for being here today, and
4 have a great day.

5 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
6 went off the record at 10:59 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Signature Lounge

Before: DCABRA

Date: 05-12-21

Place: teleconference

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



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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