#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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# ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF:

Stephen Lawrence, t/a 600 T

600 T Street NW

License #100515 : Protest Hearing
Retailer CT - ANC 2G : (Status)
Case #23-PRO-00042

Case #23-PRO-00042

(Application to Renew : the License)

Wednesday June 28, 2023

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

### PRESENT:

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

CRAIG KUJAWA, Protestant STEPHEN LAWRENCE, Applicant JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	11:07 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. To
4	now correct the record, the next case is Case
5	Number 23-PRO-00042, 600 T Street, License No.
6	100515.
7	Mr. Orellana, can you please elevate
8	the rights of the parties in this case? And I
9	believe that Mr. Lawrence was having some issues.
10	MR. ORELLANA: Yes. I'm going to
11	elevate this phone number, which I believe is
12	Stephen Lawrence. And Craig Kujawa, your access
13	has been elevated.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
15	thank you. Mr. Lawrence, can you please
16	identify, please unmute yourself and identify
17	yourself for the record, please?
18	Mr. Lawrence?
19	(No audible response.)
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now I can. Can
21	you please spell and state your name for the
22	record, and your representation, sir?
23	MR. LAWRENCE: Yes, sir. I'm the
24	owner of 600 T. My name is Stephen Lawrence, S-
25	T-E-P-H-E-N, L-A-W-R-E-N-C-E.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, 2 sir. 3 MR. LAWRENCE: Good morning. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Kujawa, can 4 5 you please spell and state your name for the record, and identify yourself, sir? 6 7 MR. KUJAWA: Yes, sir. Good morning, 8 Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. My name is 9 Craig Kujawa, that is spelled C-R-A-I-G, last 10 name K-U-J-A-W-A. And I'm the abutting property 11 owner. 12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, 13 sir. Mr. Lawrence, are there any preliminary 14 matters in this case? 15 No, sir. MR. LAWRENCE: 16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Kujawa, any 17 preliminary matters in this case? 18 MR. KUJAWA: No, Mr. Chairman. 19 just state that, although I'm not optimistic, I'm 20 hopeful that we'll be able to come to terms of a 21 settlement agreement. The mediation was not 22 successful, but we are pursuing the possibility of new windows, to which Mr. Lawrence broached 23 24 the idea of contributing to. But, we're still 25 working on that.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

This matter is scheduled for a Protest Hearing on July 26 at 1:30 p.m. And so, the parties are -the Board supports settlement. Excuse me, so,
the parties, although, as you stated, that
mediation was not successful. The parties can
continue to talk, and if the parties believe that
they can, this matter can be settled. Then you
can inform the Board and we would not have, we
won't have this hearing on the 26.

But I do support the parties to continue to talk to see if they can come to a mutual settlement. If the parties are unable to settle this matter, then at a Protest Hearing on July 26 at 1:30 the Board will issue an order on the -- this is a renewal of a license application.

Are the parties aware of the process and procedures for a Protest Hearing?

MR. KUJAWA: I am, Mr. Chairman. My only question is, if we appear to be close as the day of the Protest Hearing nears, would request for a continuance take the form of a joint motion?

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. If

the parties jointly send a motion to the Board to continue this matter. Because this is a renewal of a license, so the Board will grant a continuance, if a joint motion comes in from both parties to continue the matter. Because --

MR. KUJAWA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

Because, I mean, as I stated before, we support

believe that this matter can be settled and that they need more time, then the Board will support

settlement. And so, therefore, if the parties

12 that.

instructions. Now that we have scheduled this matter for a Protest Hearing, there are few things that I would like to instruct the Applicant and the Protestants of. So, the Protest Hearing is focused and addresses only those issues that are being protested. The Board does not intend to hear testimony on matters that are not relevant to this case.

You should have received, by electronic or regular mail, a letter explaining the protest process, a copy of the protest information form, and a copy of exhibit form. If

you do not have these documents, please contact our legal office following the hearing. It is imperative that you review the rules closely and adhere to them before and during the Protest Hearing.

These two forms and accompanying documents need to be submitted to ABRA's Legal Division and all opposing parties in this matter. If we do not receive a copy of your PIF, your application, or your protest, whichever side you're representing may be subject to dismissal.

Likewise, if we do not receive a copy of the exhibit form and of the exhibits themselves, your exhibits may be excluded from the record upon a finding that the opposing party has been prejudiced or no good cause for the failure to submit has been shown. Likewise, witnesses of the party may also be subject to exclusion if not identified on the PIF.

Accordingly, these forms are very important, they greatly assist the Board in narrowing the protest issues, facilitating the process, and keeping the parties on point during the hearing. They likewise provide notice for the opposing parties, enabling them to better

prepare for the hearing.

As you all are aware, all hearings are now conducted virtually, you'll have one hour to present your case and you'll only be allowed to call five witnesses. If you require more time to present your call, and require more than five witnesses, please file a motion with the ABC Board requesting additional time or additional witnesses.

We thank you greatly for your cooperation, if you have any questions today or at any time leading up to the hearing, please do not hesitate to contact ABRA's legal division.

Thank you for being here today, and, as stated before, if the parties believe that they need a continuance they can jointly request that from the Board, and the Board will consider that statement, okay?

All right. Thank you very much, have a great day.

MR. LAWRENCE: Thank you. You, too.

MR. KUJAWA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter

went off the record at 11:14 a.m.)

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## <u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: 600 T

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 06-28-2023

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.

Court Reporter

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