

ALSO PRESENT:**SARAH FASHBAUGH, DC ABRA Staff****SHAFI BEGZAD, Applicant****ANTHONY CELO, Assistant Attorney General**

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

2 11:18 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

4 Let's move to our show cause hearing status
5 calendar.

6 The first case in our show cause
7 hearing status calendar is Case #22-CC-00003,
8 Big D Liquors, License No. 98255.

9 Ms. Fashbaugh, can you please elevate
10 the rights of the licensee and the government
11 in this case please.

12 MS. FASHBAUGH: Shafi Begzad, your
13 rights have been elevated. And Anthony Celo,
14 your rights have been elevated.

15 That is all, Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. All
17 right. Good morning.

18 Good morning, Mr. Celo. Can you
19 please spell and state your name for the record
20 please?

21 MR. CELO: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
22 Anthony Celo. A-N-T-H-O-N-Y C-E-L-O, assistant
23 attorney general on behalf of the district.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
25 Sir.

1 Mr. Begzad. Can you please spell and
2 state your name for record, please? Mr.
3 Begzad, can you unmute your line? It appears -
4 - I see that he's a call in, but he's on mute.

5 Ms. Fashbaugh, is there anything you
6 can do to assist this person in unmuting their
7 line or do they have to unmute it themselves?

8 MS. FASHBAUGH: I sent him a request
9 to unmute but is still on muted.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I know that he
11 was having some -- it's my understanding that
12 preliminary, he was having some technical
13 challenges, but he was here.

14 But let me ask Mr. Celo, are there any
15 preliminary matters in this case?

16 MR. CELO: Yes, Mr. Chair. An offer
17 in compromise has been offered and accepted.
18 The plan had been to read it into the record
19 today. I don't know if we want to switch to
20 doing that in writing, but --

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes.

22 MR. CELO: -- I'll let you make that
23 decision.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Let me see.
25 Mr. Begzad, are you able to unmute your line to

1 participate, sir? Mr. Begzad, can you hear me
2 sir? Can you please give some indication that
3 you can hear?

4 MR. BEGZAD: Hello?

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
6 sir. Can you please --

7 MR. BEGZAD: Good morning.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you hear
9 me?

10 MR. BEGZAD: Good morning, sir. I was
11 on mute. Good morning, sir. How are you? But
12 I did press star-six. I didn't know to unmute.
13 I was on mute on my phone, but I did not know
14 there was a code, star-six. I pressed, now
15 it's good. Do you hear me?

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
17 Thank you. Can you please spell and state your
18 name for the record?

19 MR. BEGZAD: I apologize for the time.
20 And for your patience, sir, thank you so much.
21 Yeah.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You're welcome.
23 Can you please spell and state your name for
24 the record sir, please?

25 MR. BEGZAD: Yes. Shafi, S-H-A-F-I.

1 And my last name is Begzad, B-E-G-Z-A-D.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what's the
3 relationship to the establishment, sir?

4 MR.BEGZAD: I'm partner, owner.
5 Owner/Partner for Big D liquor store.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Good
7 morning.

8 All right. Mr. Celso, you said that
9 there was a preliminary matter, what is that
10 sir?

11 MR. CELO: Yes. Mr. Chair, we do have
12 an offer in compromise that has been accepted
13 by the establishment and I am prepared to read
14 that into the record at the appropriate time.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What is that,
16 sir?

17 MR. CELO: The parties have agreed
18 that there are two charges at issue in case
19 #22-CC-00003, Big D Liquors. Charge one is a
20 violation of DC code 25-781, the first primary
21 tier offense is a warning. Or no, I'm sorry.
22 There was previously a warning that was issued.
23 This will be the first primary tier offense.

24 The offer in compromise agreed upon is
25 a \$2000 fine paid within 60 days or the license

1 shall be suspended indefinitely. Until this
2 fine is paid the license shall be suspended for
3 five days with all five days stayed for one
4 year and all employees who serve alcoholic
5 beverages in the licensed establishment shall
6 complete an alcohol training program within
7 three months from the date of the OIC.

8 In charge two, failed to take
9 reasonable steps. The violation of DC code 25-
10 783. That is a first primary tier violation,
11 and that charge will be dismissed.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That's the
13 offer, sir?

14 MR. CELO: Yes.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Begzad, are
16 you still there sir?

17 MR. BEGZAD: Yes. I am here, sir.
18 But can I talk?

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir. Go
20 ahead.

21 MR. BEGZAD: Yes. Sir, actually the
22 warning was, I think it was two years ago, or
23 three years ago. One time. But, like last
24 month, I think, it was only one charges.

25 I was out of the store. I was really

1 sick. I think it was, I don't know if it was
2 Corona or something else, but I went home. It
3 was a Friday that one of my manager/cashiers
4 didn't check the I.D., but only one time.

5 But as also explained to me also, they
6 gave me two charges for the store, but I'm not
7 sure why two charges. But he explained to me
8 that an officer has the ability to give two
9 charges because, I don't know, like policy,
10 something like that. But it was only one
11 person we missed to check the I.D.

12 But it didn't happen before so this
13 will be the last time. So we always train
14 them, warn them, and always I told the guys to
15 start the training as well. I always tell them
16 it is important. But it was only one charge.
17 One time only, we missed.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So, this is
19 what you agreed to, sir. You're agreeing to
20 charge one, that to pay a --

21 MR. BEGZAD: Yes, sir. Yes, I agree.
22 Yes, I agree. Yes, I agree that the agent who
23 told me at the time what he told me that I am
24 accepting that. I am going to give them
25 training and I'm going to pay the \$2000 fine as

1 well.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. I know
3 that, sir. But I need to put certain things on
4 the record. So let me read it, and then I need
5 you to say that you agree. All right.

6 MR. BEGZAD: Okay.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So what the
8 Offer in Compromise is, is that for charge one
9 there's a fine of \$2000 paid within 60 days.
10 If the fine is not paid within 60 days, the
11 license will be suspended until the fine has
12 been paid.

13 That there has been a five-day
14 suspension. All five days have been stayed for
15 one year. All employees who serve alcohol will
16 have to undergo training within three months
17 after the date of the agreement of the OIC.
18 And that charge two is dismissed.

19 Is this the Offer in Compromise that
20 you have accepted, sir?

21 MR. BEGZAD: Yes, sir. I'm accepting
22 that.

23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. Are you
24 aware that by accepting an Offer in Compromise,
25 that you're giving up your right to a hearing?

1 MR. BEGZAD: I'm sorry, can you repeat
2 please?

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you also
4 aware that by accepting this offer, you're
5 giving up your right to go to a hearing?

6 MR. BEGZAD: Yes, please.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And you're also
8 aware that by accepting an Offer in Compromise
9 that you're giving up your right to appeal this
10 matter?

11 MR. BEGZAD: Yes, please.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
13 With this said, I will make a motion that the
14 Offer in Compromise for charge one, a \$2000
15 fine payable within 60 days. If the fine is
16 not paid within 60 days the license will be
17 suspended. That there's a five-day suspension,
18 but all five days are stayed for one year
19 provided that the licensee commits no other
20 infractions within that one year. And that all
21 employees that serve alcohol will undergo
22 training within three months. And that the
23 charge two will be dismissed.

24 Is there a second?

25 MR. BEGZAD: Okay, sir.

1 MEMBER CROCKETT: I second.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Crockett
3 has seconded the motion. We will now have a
4 roll-call vote.

5 Mr. Short:

6 MEMBER SHORT: I agree.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Crockett.

8 MEMBER CROCKETT: Rafi Crockett, I
9 agree.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Hansen.

11 MEMBER HANSEN: (no audible response)

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Grandis.

13 MEMBER GRANDIS: I agree.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And Mr. Grandis
15 and I agree. The matter passes five, zero,
16 zero. I would like to thank the parties for
17 working this -- who are able to negotiate an
18 Offer in Compromise. Thank you for that.

19 Thank you very much. Have a great
20 day. Thank you.

21 MR. BEGZAD: Hello?

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. You can
23 hang up, Mr. Begzad. The case is over.

24 MR. BEGZAD: Okay. Thank you so much
25 for your time. Thank you. Have a nice day.

1 Bye.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

3 Have a nice day, sir.

4 (Whereupon, at 11:27 a.m., the hearing
5 was concluded)

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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: Big D Liquors

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 07-20-22

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

NEAL R. GROSS

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