DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

+ + + + + MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:

Venus 2 Inc.,

t/a 9 & P St. Liquor : 1428 9th St, NW :

: Protest Hearing

License #101095 : (Status)
Retailer A - ANC 2F : Case #21-PRO-00051

(Application to Renew : the License)

Wednesday August 18, 2021

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 JAMES SHORT, JR., Member ALSO PRESENT:

SIMONE ANDREWS, DC ABRA Staff KYUNGHWAN LEE, Licensee's Counsel BRIAN ROMANOWSKI, ANC 2F01 IAN SIMON, ANC 2F06

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	11:01 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, I
4	went out of order so let me call this other case
5	that I had missed. First, the next case is case
6	number 21-PRO-00051, 9 & P Street Liquor, license
7	number 101095. Ms. Andrews, can you please
8	elevate the parties for 9 & P Street Liquor,
9	please?
10	MS. ANDREWS: Sure, stand by.
11	(Pause.) Mr. Lee, your rights have been
12	elevated. (Pause.) Mr. Romanowski, your rights
13	have been elevated. (Pause.) That's all, Mr.
14	Chair.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
16	thank you. (Pause.) All right, let's have the
17	parties introduce themselves for the record.
18	Let's start with the representative of the
19	Licensee.
20	MR. LEE: Good morning, Board members.
21	My name is Kyung Hwan Lee K-Y-U-N-G H-W-A-N L-E-E
22	representing 9 & P Street Liquor.
23	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
24	Mr. Lee.
25	MR. LEE: Good morning.

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Romanowski,
2	can you please spell and state your name for the
3	record, please? If you have a camera, can you
4	turn your camera on; if not, unmute your mic and
5	speak, sir.
6	MR. ROMANOWSKI: Yeah and can you
7	promote also Commissioner Ian Simon. He should
8	be here.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Commissioner
10	whom?
11	MR. ROMANOWSKI: Ian Simon. He should
12	be here.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Andrews, do
14	you see a Mr. Simon on the line?
15	MS. ANDREWS: Yes. Stand by.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.
17	MS. ANDREWS: Mr. Simons, your rights
18	have been elevated.
19	MR. ROMANOWSKI: And I'm Commissioner
20	Brian Romanowski from ANC 2F01 in Logan Circle.
21	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you please
22	spell your name, sir?
23	MR. ROMANOWSKI: Yep, it's Brian B-R-
24	I-A-N and the last name is Romanowski R-O-M-A-N-
25	O-W-S-K-I.

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr.
2	Simon, can you please spell and state your name
3	for the record, please?
4	MR. SIMON: Yes, it's Ian Simon, I-A-N
5	S-I-M-O-N.
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And who are
7	you, sir?
8	MR. SIMON: Yes, ANC 2406.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.
10	Good morning. All right. Are there any
11	preliminary matters in this case that need to be
12	brought to the attention of the Board?
13	MR. LEE: So, actually we had a
14	mediation and we tried to negotiate a settlement
15	agreement possibly. So, I'm just waiting for Mr.
16	Ian Simon to draft that and any suggestions from
17	them.
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
19	Thank you. Mr. Simon and Mr. RomanowskiMr.
20	Simon, I'm sorry, are there preliminary matters
21	that you need to bring to the attention of the
22	Board?
23	MR. SIMON: Yes during the mediation,
24	we had decided that Mr. Lee and the Licensee
25	would present ANC with an updated security plan

to be inserted into a revised settlement agreement. We have yet to receive any information from the Licensee or Mr. Lee.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, okay. So, Mr. Lee, it's my understanding so it appears that the ANC is waiting for some response from you so the Board does not need to be involved in the negotiations themselves, but I was told that that's an issue, so Mr. Lee, as soon as you reply to the ANC maybe this matter will go away.

MR. LEE: Yes, sir.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, okay, then this matter will be scheduled for--if the matter is not settled, it will be scheduled for a Protest Hearing on September 23rd, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., all right?

MR. LEE: Yeah.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Now that we've scheduled this matter for a Protest Hearing, there are a few things that I would like to instruct you about because the Board's practices under the Public Emergency have changed.

As you know, the Board's hearings are

conducted virtually so it is more important than ever that the Protest Hearings are focused and address only those issues that are being protested.

Following this hearing, you will receive an e-mail from Assistant General Counsel, April Randall, that will include a copy of the protest information form and a copy of an exhibit form as well as specific instructions for the hearing.

You are required to complete and submit the protest information form and the exhibit form at least seven days before the date of the hearing. If we do not receive a copy of your forms seven days before the hearing, your application or your protest may be subject to dismissal. These documents not only need to be submitted to ABRA.Legal.DC.Gov but to the opposing parties as well.

Please know that these documents greatly assist the Board in narrowing the protest issues facilitating the process and keeping the parties on point during the hearing. Number three, each side is limited to no more than five witnesses and you will only have 60 minutes to

present your case. This includes all direct and cross examination of witnesses.

The Board does not intend to hear testimony on matters that are not relevant to those issues that are being protested, nor will the Board tolerate repetitive testimony. Are there any questions? (Pause.)

MR. LEE: No, no, sir.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: We thank you greatly for (Simultaneous speaking.) I'm sorry. I apologize, Mr. Simon, all right.

All right, we thank you greatly for your cooperation. If you have any questions at any time leading up to the hearing, please do not hesitate to contact Assistant General Counsel April Randall at 202-329-6354 or contact her by e-mail at April.Randall2@DC.Gov.

Mr. Simon, just a point of clarification. You have stated that you asked Mr. Lee to provide you with an updated security plan, is that what you're stating, sir?

MR. SIMON: Yes, sir. During the mediation there was an agreement that Mr. Lee and the Licensee would investigate additional security measures that they were willing to take

to solve the issues at hand and that they would present it to myself this week and from there we would vet the plan and if it seems like it would solve the issues, would become part of a revised settlement agreement and we would resolve this issue.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Just as an FYI, the Board normally if a security plan is presented, the Board will review the security plan to see if it's legally sufficient.

What I would suggest is that maybe you guys can agree that there would be a security plan and generally what should be in the security plan and then the Board would review a security plan to see if it's legally sufficient, rather than for you to state if it's legally sufficient.

I would just suggest that you can state the parties can agree what should be in a security plan, what is important to you that should be in the security plan, but the Board, the Agency, is the one who determines if the security plan is legally sufficient. Can that bring some clarification to where you are with the security plan?

MR. SIMON: Mr. Anderson, that sounds

fine to me. I did not mean to imply that we would determine what is legally allowable for a security plan. I simply meant we wanted to see a revised security plan that the community would have a feeling would provide additional safety to the area.

Of course, the Board has approval and would vet that for its legal validity. I just simply meant that the community wanted to engage with the Licensee around additional or revised security measures to provide more safety in and around their establishment.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yeah, that's fine, sir. I didn't take it that you thought you were going to make

MR. SIMON: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The legal, all I'm trying to do is to make this easier for the parties. So I'm just saying that let us do the heavy work. If you guys agree on a security plan so you can state what you believe should be in a security plan and the Agency would do the heavy work to make sure that's legally sufficient. Okay?

MR. SIMON: Sounds great.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 1 All right. 2 Mr. Lee, do you have anything you want to say, 3 sir? MR. LEE: Actually just for 4 5 clarification, oh okay, I will follow up with Mr. Simon later on by e-mail and you said that the 6 7 security plan and the plan just to apply for a C 8 license, not the A license. 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Lee? Mr. 10 Lee, the Board does not get involved in 11 (Simultaneous speaking.) settlement agreements. 12 MR. LEE: Yes, I understand that. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: However, the 14 parties can determine what it is that they want 15 to occur. So if the other side is saying that 16 they want a security plan, that's a matter of you 17 negotiating -18 MR. LEE: Yeah. 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: With them, yes 20 If the parties aren't able to agree, then or no. 21 we'll go to a hearing. 22 MR. LEE: Yeah. 23 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But I'm just 24 stating that's up to the parties to negotiate 25 what it is that they want, if they're going to

1	settle the case. (Simultaneous speaking.)
2	MR. LEE: Yeah, I totally understand
3	it.
4	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right if the
5	parties can't agree, then we'll have a hearing.
6	MR. LEE: Yeah.
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right?
8	MR. LEE: Yeah.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But
10	MR. LEE: So I'll just follow up with
11	Mr. Simon later on by e-mail.
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
13	MR. LEE: Yeah.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Fine.
15	MR. LEE: Thank you.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Have a great
17	summer. I hope that the parties are able to
18	settle this matter. If you're unable to settle
19	it, then we will see you at a Protest Hearing,
20	again, the Protest Hearing is scheduled for
21	September 23rd, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Have a great
22	day. Thank you very much.
23	MR. LEE: Thank you very much.
24	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right then,
25	bye-bye.

1	MR. LEE: Bye now.
2	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
3	went off the record at 11:11 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: 9&P St Liquor

Before: DCABRA

Date: 08-18-21

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

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