

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD
+ + + + +
ROLL CALL HEARING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
Bilen, LLC :
t/a Minnesota Liquor :
2237 Minnesota Ave SE : Roll Call
Retailer A - ANC 8A : Hearing
License No. 106577 :
Case #24-PRO-00104 :
 :
(License Renewal) :
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Monday
October 7, 2024

The Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board met via WebEx videoconference, LaVerne Fletcher, Board's Agent, presiding.

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABC Board's Agent

ALSO PRESENT:

KYUNG HWAN LEE, Applicant Counsel
HOLLY MUHAMMAD, ANC 8A

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

2 10:05 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: There is one case on
4 the calendar today, Minnesota Liquor, Case Number
5 24-PRO-00104, Bilen, LLC, 2237 Minnesota Avenue
6 Southeast, License Number ABRA106577. This is a
7 Retailer Class A liquor store for a license
8 renewal. The protest issues are adverse impact
9 on peace, order, and quiet.

10 My name is Laverne Fletcher conducting
11 the roll call hearing as the Board agent. Is
12 anyone present on behalf of Minnesota Liquor?

13 MR. LEE: Good morning, Mr. Fletcher.
14 This is Kyung Lee. For the record, my full name
15 -- last name L-E-E, first name K-Y-U-N-G H-W-A-N.
16 I am the attorney for Minnesota Liquors.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Lee.

18 Is anyone present on behalf of ANC 8A?

19 MS. MUHAMMAD: Yes. I'm Commissioner
20 Muhammad, 8A 03. The liquor store falls in my
21 single-member district.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Commissioner
23 Muhammad. Would you spell your name for the
24 record, please?

25 MS. MUHAMMAD: My first name is H-O-L-

1 L-Y. Last name is M-U-H-A-M-M-A-D.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

3 ANC 8A does have standing as a
4 protestant. We need to set a date for mediation,
5 a status hearing, and a protest hearing. I will
6 give you the dates for the status and protest
7 hearing first.

8 The status hearing is scheduled for
9 November 6 -- November 6, 2024, at 10:30 for the
10 status hearing.

11 MR. LEE: 10:30?

12 MS. FLETCHER: 10:30. Mm-hmm, on
13 November 6. The protest hearing is set for
14 December 11 -- December 11, 2024, at 1:30.

15 MR. LEE: 1:30. Okay.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

17 (Simultaneous speaking.)

18 MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry. What did
19 you say, Mr. Lee?

20 MR. LEE: No, no, no. I'm just
21 repeating to you what you say, making sure I'm
22 not missing any date this time.

23 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, then I
24 will give you the next available date for
25 mediation.

1 Ms. Muhammad, for you, I should be
2 looking after October 16, right?

3 MS. MUHAMMAD: Yes, well after October
4 16th.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you. Let
6 me -- what about --

7 MS. MUHAMMAD: And I -- honestly, that
8 status hearing date -- I was just trying to look
9 at my calendar. I have a conflict there.

10 MS. FLETCHER: For which date?

11 MS. MUHAMMAD: That status hearing,
12 November the 6th. Could it be moved to the
13 following Wednesday?

14 MS. FLETCHER: Do you have another
15 status hearing on November 6?

16 MS. MUHAMMAD: Do I?

17 MS. FLETCHER: No, I thought you were
18 saying you already have a status hearing.

19 MS. MUHAMMAD: No, I have a conflict.
20 I have a work conflict, actually.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Oh. I see. Oh. Well,
22 what I will do -- so those are the dates,
23 Commissioner Muhammad, that had been provided to
24 me that are available on the Board's calendar,
25 which I do not manage.

1 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay.

2 MS. FLETCHER: So I'm going to leave
3 you with this date, but I'll make a note that
4 you're going to be contacting Martha Jenkins to
5 request a new date. And if you do that, you'll
6 need to copy Mr. Lee on the --

7 (Simultaneous speaking.)

8 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay. I'm sorry. So
9 contact Martha Jenkins, you said?

10 MS. FLETCHER: Uh-huh. Do you have
11 Martha Jenkins' email address?

12 MS. MUHAMMAD: I'm sure I do because
13 I've received things from her before. And you
14 said copy Mr. Lee, and I'm not sure if I have his
15 email.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

17 MR. LEE: I think you have -- I used
18 to deal with Ms. Jamila White, and then --

19 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay.

20 MR. LEE: -- I met you before, but you
21 don't remember me, I think. Yeah.

22 MS. MUHAMMAD: I'm sorry.

23 MR. LEE: No, no. That's okay. I
24 don't see you today, but I met you before on the
25 street, two -- twice --

1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 MS. MUHAMMAD: Oh. Okay.

3 MR. LEE: Yeah.

4 MS. MUHAMMAD: Well, I'll check my
5 email. I'm sure I have it because you've been
6 dealing with us for a while.

7 MR. LEE: But it's a very simple --
8 Kevin Lee Law, Gmail.

9 MS. MUHAMMAD: Did you say Kevin Lee,
10 and then what else?

11 MR. LEE: Law, L-A-W.

12 MS. MUHAMMAD: Law?

13 MR. LEE: Yeah. Kevin Lee Law. Law
14 is one word.

15 MS. MUHAMMAD: At Gmail. Okay.

16 MR. LEE: Yeah.

17 (Simultaneous speaking.)

18 MR. LEE: -- it probably popped up.

19 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay. All right.

20 Thank you.

21 MR. LEE: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Well, then -- so,
23 Commissioner Muhammad, I'll make a note that
24 you'll be requesting to change the status hearing
25 date.

1 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay. Thank you.

2 MS. FLETCHER: You're welcome.

3 What about -- for mediation, how about
4 October 29?

5 MR. LEE: 29th?

6 MS. FLETCHER: That's a -- October
7 29th, that's a Tuesday.

8 MR. LEE: Okay. I'm okay with that.

9 MS. MUHAMMAD: Hold on one second.
10 I'm sorry. 29th. October, you said.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

12 MS. MUHAMMAD: I think I'm going to be
13 traveling. So I'm going to be traveling that
14 weekend prior to that. I won't be returning
15 until the 30th.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

17 Mr. Lee --

18 (Simultaneous speaking.)

19 MS. MUHAMMAD: And I really don't want
20 to take my laptop with me.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Well, what about
22 October 31? When are you returning,
23 Commissioner?

24 MS. MUHAMMAD: I'm returning on the
25 30th in the evening.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Well, what about -- we
2 can do Thursday, the 31st, or Friday, November 1.

3 MS. MUHAMMAD: I can't do November 1.
4 I already know that.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Let me say something,
6 too. The week prior is available, also, any day.

7 MS. MUHAMMAD: Yeah, but that -- I
8 already have one on the 16th that I'm -- what I'm
9 understanding could be up to three hours. So --

10 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah. It could, but it
11 may not take that long. The following week,
12 between Monday, October 21, and Friday, October
13 25, is also available if that's better.

14 MR. LEE: It's hectic for me.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

16 MR. LEE: I have another hearing with
17 PG County, so --

18 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah.

19 MR. LEE: How about November 1st? I
20 don't have any problem with that, or 31st.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

22 MR. LEE: That's a Thursday or a
23 Friday. I'll be fine.

24 MS. FLETCHER: Well, then,
25 Commissioner Muhammad, do you have a preference

1 for Thursday, October 31st, or Friday, November
2 1st? Are you available on either one of those
3 days?

4 MS. MUHAMMAD: No, but I could
5 actually do November the 4th.

6 MS. FLETCHER: November 4 at 11:30
7 will work.

8 MR. LEE: November 1st?

9 MS. FLETCHER: Uh-huh. That's the
10 4th, number 4.

11 MR. LEE: Oh. That's a Monday.

12 MS. FLETCHER: That's a Monday. We
13 can do 11:30 or 1:30 on November 4.

14 MR. LEE: 11:30 will be fine to me.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Commissioner Muhammad?

16 MS. MUHAMMAD: And this is for what?
17 The mediation?

18 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

19 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Are you good for 11:30?

21 MS. MUHAMMAD: Yeah, I can do 11:30.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Mediation will be set
23 for Monday, November 4, at 11:30.

24 MR. LEE: Yeah. Can I have one --
25 yeah. Cru Muhammad? If --

1 MS. MUHAMMAD: Yes.

2 MR. LEE: Yeah. If you're willing to
3 do a settlement agreement for this establishment,
4 I know this place a lot, and I know the
5 community. So, if you're willing to negotiate
6 for the settlement agreement, if you have dropped
7 at any time, send me over before mediation so we
8 can avoid a mediation because we have to wait for
9 almost one month. So --

10 MS. MUHAMMAD: Right.

11 MR. LEE: And so it's a good time for
12 -- do that. It's up to you.

13 MS. MUHAMMAD: Well, Mr. Lee, our
14 biggest issue with that whole block is that --

15 MR. LEE: Okay.

16 MS. MUHAMMAD: -- none of these
17 establishments are enforcing any of this
18 loitering, public drinking, in front of their
19 establishment --

20 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Muhammad and Mr.
21 Lee, those are the issues that you would discuss
22 during --

23 MR. LEE: Yeah. I know. I know.

24 (Simultaneous speaking.)

25 MS. FLETCHER: Yeah, but that would --

1 and at least Mr. Lee gets some idea of what your
2 concerns are.

3 MR. LEE: Yeah, and it's up to you.
4 Yeah.

5 MS. MUHAMMAD: I can file -- I will
6 see if we -- I can give you -- I'll email you and
7 let you know a date that we can have a call --

8 MR. LEE: Okay.

9 MS. MUHAMMAD: -- so that we can talk
10 about what the issues are. And if we're able to
11 come to an agreement before November the 4th,
12 that is welcomed.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. And if that
14 happens, you can just let me know, and we'll
15 cancel the mediation. And if a settlement
16 agreement is submitted, then the status hearing
17 and protest hearing will be canceled as well.

18 MS. MUHAMMAD: Okay.

19 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Anything else?

20 MS. MUHAMMAD: That is it for me.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, then,
22 thank you for coming, and the --

23 MS. MUHAMMAD: So, Mr. Lee, I will
24 just email you -- just give me the next couple of
25 days, and I'll email you after I look at my

1 schedule. And we can try to set up a time and
2 have a call.

3 MR. LEE: Okay.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, just keep
5 us posted. Thank you for coming.

6 MS. MUHAMMAD: Thank you.

7 MR. LEE: Thank you very much.

8 MS. FLETCHER: See you November 4,
9 maybe. You're very welcome, Mr. Lee. Enjoy the
10 rest of the day.

11 MR. LEE: All right. Thank you. Have
12 a good day.

13 MS. FLETCHER: You, too. Thank you.

14 MR. LEE: Bye.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Bye-bye.

16 MS. MUHAMMAD: Bye.

17 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
18 went off the record at 10:17 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: Minnesota Liquor

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 10-07-24

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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