



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

2 10:43 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning.

4 We're on the record. As Chairperson of the  
5 Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board for the  
6 District of Columbia and in accordance with D.C.  
7 Official Code Section 2571 et. seq. of the Open  
8 Meetings Act, OMA, I'm welcoming you to the  
9 regularly scheduled meeting of the Alcoholic  
10 Beverage and Cannabis Board.

11 This meeting is being conducted  
12 pursuant to guidance made available by the  
13 District of Columbia's Office of Open Government  
14 regarding electronic meetings held by public  
15 bodies. Electronic meetings by the ABC Board are  
16 authorized pursuant to Section 2577(a) of that  
17 D.C. Code.

18 Pursuant to the OMA requirements,  
19 notice of today's meeting was provided 48 hours  
20 in advance of the meeting on ABCA's website and  
21 on the District's Central Meeting Calendar. The  
22 notice included the time, date, agenda, and call-  
23 in or log-in information for public  
24 participation.

25 This electronic meeting is being

1 hosted by a Webex account provided by the  
2 District of Columbia Government. Please address  
3 any questions or complaints to the OOG at  
4 opengovoffice@dc.gov.

5 My name is Donovan Anderson. I'm  
6 Chairperson of the Board. I would like to  
7 introduce the other members of the ABC Board who  
8 are also participating electronically. Please  
9 respond when I announce your names.

10 Mr. James Short?

11 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short,  
12 present.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Silas  
14 Grant?

15 MEMBER GRANT: Mr. Silas Grant,  
16 present.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Teri Janine  
18 Quinn?

19 MEMBER QUINN: Teri Janine Quinn,  
20 present.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board has  
22 four members in attendance for the conduct of  
23 business today, and that constitutes a quorum.

24 Before we get underway with this  
25 morning's hearing calendar, I need to make a few

1 instructions very clear so that the conduct of  
2 these hearings is understood by everyone.

3           There are five cases scheduled for  
4 this morning's calendar. Once your case is  
5 called, I will take a moment for our IT  
6 specialist to elevate the rights for each party  
7 to enable their camera and microphone. Then and  
8 only then will you have the ability to enable  
9 your equipment. If your case is not being heard,  
10 you will remain mute, and your cameras will be  
11 disabled.

12           At the conclusion of each case, the  
13 parties will have the option to leave. If the  
14 party chooses to stay, all cameras and  
15 microphones for the concluded case will be  
16 disabled. Should you have any questions or  
17 require technical assistance during the hearing,  
18 please submit them using the question and answer  
19 feature.

20           Before I go on with our calendar  
21 today, I just want to state that this morning is  
22 actually a bittersweet morning for the Board. I  
23 would like to take the opportunity to recognize  
24 and thank Board Member James Short.

25           James Short is one of the longest-

1 serving ABC Board members ever, having served on  
2 the Board since January of 2014. Today will be  
3 Mr. Short's last meeting date with the Board, as  
4 his holdover period expires on Sunday, November  
5 3rd, 2024.

6 Since Mr. Short's initial appointment  
7 to the Board in 2014, he has set the high  
8 standard of what a Board member should strive to  
9 be. Mr. Short is ethical, understands the intent  
10 of the Agency's regulatory provisions, and stands  
11 by his convictions.

12 Mr. Short has consistently provided  
13 his public safety perspective to the Board and  
14 made sure that the Board considered and took into  
15 account appropriate crowd limits for special  
16 events and pub crawls.

17 Many of the Board's and Agency's  
18 successes over the past ten years can be  
19 attributed to Mr. Short during his time on the  
20 Board. For example, Mr. Short played a major  
21 role with the Board in revising and implementing  
22 new pub crawl regulations taking into account  
23 public safety. These revised pub crawl  
24 regulations have allowed pub crawls to continue  
25 in the District instead of prohibiting them,

1 while taking steps to limit the impact of these  
2 events on our community.

3 Mr. Short was invaluable to the Board  
4 during the COVID-19 pandemic and could also be  
5 counted upon to attend Board meetings to ensure a  
6 quorum, including on non-Wednesdays. He could  
7 always be relied upon as a Board member to act  
8 quickly through rulemaking to navigate the  
9 pandemic as guidance changed from the Department  
10 of Health.

11 Mr. Short also played a major role in  
12 helping the Agency take over the implementation  
13 of the District's medical cannabis program. He  
14 was supportive of changes proposed by the Agency  
15 to improve the program and patient access to  
16 medical cannabis.

17 Mr. Short took the Agency's  
18 enforcement responsibilities seriously and was  
19 able to strike the proper balance between the  
20 concerns of ANCs and the public and requests from  
21 applicants and licensees. He has also made sure  
22 that the Board responded swiftly and effectively  
23 when responding to cases involving incidents of  
24 violence.

25 I will miss Mr. Short, my fellow Ward

1 7 resident, and his contributions to the Board.  
2 While Mr. Short and I may not have always agreed  
3 on Board decisions, Mr. Short does a great job of  
4 providing a public safety and community  
5 perspective to support his position and benefit  
6 the Board.

7 The Board and ABCA cannot thank you  
8 enough for your contributions as a Board member,  
9 and we will miss you, Mr. Short, for the many  
10 contributions that you have made to this Board,  
11 to the Agency, and the residents of the District  
12 of Columbia over the past ten years. And I hope  
13 that in the nine years, I believe, that we have  
14 served together, that I will be reminded of your  
15 public safety perspective that you have taken all  
16 these years as you've served the Board, and I  
17 will do my best -- I can't say that I can beat  
18 you, but I will do my best to make public safety  
19 as you have used your tenure to ensure that  
20 public safety is a part of every decision that we  
21 make.

22 And personally, as Chair of the Board,  
23 I want to thank you for your service to this  
24 Board and to the residents of the District of  
25 Columbia.

1                   And as you see, I'm shaking his hand  
2 today, as the Board decided to meet in person,  
3 although everyone else is virtual. But the Board  
4 is meeting in person today so we can formally say  
5 goodbye to Mr. Short.

6                   If any other Board member -- I'm going  
7 to give Mr. Short an opportunity to say something  
8 if he wants. If any other Board member wants to  
9 say anything, then they are welcome to.

10                  Go ahead, Mr. Grant.

11                  MEMBER GRANT: Yeah, I just want to  
12 say to Mr. Short thank you for your leadership.  
13 Thank you for your mentorship. And thank you for  
14 all the wise counsel you've given not only me but  
15 everyone here on the Board.

16                  As our Chair said, your commitment to  
17 public safety is unmatched. And I think the  
18 residents who have watched these hearings -- they  
19 know that. It stands out. It is loud and clear  
20 that the protection of residents, tourists, the  
21 workers, anyone who's in the District of Columbia  
22 moving around -- your thoughts are always  
23 paramount when it comes to public safety.

24                  And so we appreciate your service. We  
25 appreciate, again, your wise counsel and just

1 being the person that you've been for the time  
2 that I've been on the Board. And I got a chance  
3 to interact with you prior to me being on the  
4 Board in a different capacity, so I've seen you  
5 for quite some time dedicate yourself to the  
6 work.

7 And it's my hope that you get a chance  
8 to travel and that those Wednesdays are no longer  
9 bogged down with being here in the Reeve's  
10 Center. So continue to travel. Hit those last  
11 two continents. And we'll see you around.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
13 Grant.

14 MEMBER QUINN: Mr. Short, our time  
15 together has been very short. And if I didn't  
16 know better, I would think I ran you off. But I  
17 had the great fortune of appearing before you a  
18 number of times representing the community, and I  
19 always found that the questions you directed  
20 toward me and certainly to other witnesses, as  
21 well, showed a real understanding of the need to  
22 consider the community perspective in these  
23 decisions.

24 And I hope that is something that I  
25 can continue in my tenure here. And I just, from

1 a community perspective, would like to say thank  
2 you for your service. Now that I'm on this side  
3 of it, I can better understand what sacrifices  
4 you made to be here every Wednesday, and then  
5 this last year, more than every Wednesday.

6 So I just want to give you a very  
7 hearty thank-you from the community perspective.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Ms.  
9 Quinn.

10 MEMBER SHORT: Thank you all. First,  
11 thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Board  
12 Member Grant and our new Board member, Ms. Quinn.  
13 Also, I'd like to thank Mayor Gray and Mayor  
14 Bowser for appointing me to the Board over these  
15 12 years.

16 It's been my extreme pleasure, and I  
17 take it very much -- to be able to serve the city  
18 in this capacity has improved my life. And I  
19 hope that what I've done will last. I again  
20 thank the Board. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank  
21 the citizens of the District of Columbia for  
22 relying on my service over the 12 years on the  
23 Board. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr.  
25 Short. Look forward to, as my neighbor -- so I

1 will see you. I have to drive -- every time I  
2 leave my house, I see your car, so I know that  
3 you're safe in your home. And so we will  
4 continue to be in contact moving forward. Thank  
5 you. All right. So let's go to our hearing  
6 today. The first case that we have here today is  
7 a fact-finding hearing on All Da Buz, License  
8 Number 129293. And it's a request for an  
9 extension.

10 And so, Mr. Orellana, can you please  
11 elevate the rights of the Licensee in this case?

12 MR. ORELLANA: There is no one in the  
13 attendee waiting area.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And so there is  
15 no one here from All Da Buz?

16 MR. ORELLANA: That is correct.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. This  
18 matter was scheduled for -- they requested a  
19 fact-finding -- I'm sorry. They requested an  
20 extension. This hearing was scheduled for 10:30.  
21 It is 10:54, and the Licensee, from what I'm  
22 told, is not here. And so let's move on to the  
23 next case.

24 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
25 went off the record at 10:54 a.m.)

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Before: DC ABCA

Date: 10-30-24

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