

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD
+ + + + +
MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
3321 Bistro Tex Mex and :
International Latin :
Cuisine, Inc., :
t/a 3321 Bistro DC :
Restaurant :
3321 Connecticut Ave NW : Show Cause
Retailer CR - ANC 3C : Hearing (Status)
License No. 117625 :
Case #23-CMP-00063 :
 :
(Provided False or :
Misleading Information, :
Tampered with Evidence, :
Interfered with an ABCA :
Investigation, Failed to :
allow ABCA to Inspect :
Books and Records, Failed :
to Produce Documents :
within 48 Hours) :
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Wednesday
November 15, 2023

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

PRESENT:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson
JAMES SHORT, JR., Member
SILAS GRANT, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

JOSE ORELLANA, DC ABCA Staff

JURY MENESES, Licensee

SHANI BROWN, DC OAG

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

10:54 a.m.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning.

As chairperson of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board for the District of Columbia and in accordance with D.C. Code Section 2-571 of the Open Meetings Act, I am welcoming you to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board. This meeting is being conducted pursuant to guidance made available by the District of Columbia's Office of Open Government regarding electronic meetings held by public bodies. Electronic meetings by the ABC Board are authorized pursuant to Section 2577(a) of the D.C. Code.

Pursuant to the OMA requirements, notice of today's meeting was provided 48 hours in advance of the meeting on ABCA's website and on the District's central meeting calendar. The notice includes the time, date, agenda, and call-in or log-in information for public participation. This electronic meeting has been hosted by a Webex account provided by the District of Columbia Government. Please address any questions or complaints to the OOG at

1 opengovoffice@dc.gov.

2 My name is Donovan Anderson. I'm
3 chairperson of the Board. I would like to
4 introduce the other members of the ABC Board who
5 are also participating electronically. Please
6 respond when I announce your name.

7 Mr. James Short?

8 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. James Short,
9 present.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Silas
11 Grant.

12 MEMBER GRANT: Mr. Silas Grant,
13 present.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The Board has
15 three members in attendance in the conduct of
16 business today and that constitutes a quorum.

17 Before we get underway with today's
18 hearing calendar I need to make a few
19 instructions very clear so that the conduct of
20 these hearings is understood by everyone. There
21 are seven cases on our calendar for today. Once
22 your case is called, I will take a moment for our
23 IT specialist to elevate the rights for each
24 party to enable their camera and microphone.
25 Then and only then will you have the ability to

1 enable your equipment.

2 If your case has not been heard, you
3 will remain mute and your camera will be
4 disabled. At the conclusion of each case, the
5 parties will have the option to leave. If the
6 party chooses to stay, all cameras and
7 microphones for the concluded case will be
8 disabled. Should you have any questions or
9 require technical assistance during the hearing,
10 please submit them using the question and answer
11 feature.

12 I would also like to apologize to the
13 public for our tardiness this morning. We had an
14 extensive conversation in our Executive Committee
15 meeting this morning, so I do apologize that we
16 are not starting properly at 10:30.

17 The first case on our calendar is Case
18 No. 23-CMP-00063, Bistro DC, License No. 117625.

19 Good morning, Mr. Orellana. Can you
20 please elevate the rights of the Government and
21 the licensee in this case?

22 MR. ORELLANA: Sure. Jury Meneses,
23 your access has been elevated. Shani Brown, your
24 access has been elevated. That is all, Chairman.

25 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.

1 Jury Meneses, do you have a camera? And also
2 unmute yourself. Unmute yourself.

3 MR. MENESES: Yes, I was trying to use
4 my camera from my computer, but it's not working,
5 so I'm also joining with my cell phone. I don't
6 know if you guys can see me from my cell phone.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, I can't see
8 you, but I can hear you, sir, so that's fine.
9 All right, all right, that's fine.

10 Ms. Brown, can you please identify
11 yourself for the record by spelling and stating
12 your name?

13 MS. BROWN: Good morning. Yes, this
14 is Assistant Attorney General Shani Brown.
15 That's spelled S-H-A-N-I B-R-O-W-N, here on
16 behalf of the District.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on. Who
18 is DR Services? Oh, that's a question that was
19 asked. I apologize, Ms. Brown.

20 All right, Mr. Meneses, can you please
21 spell and state your name for the record, please?

22 MR. MENESES: Sure. Jury Meneses, J-
23 U-R-Y. Last name, Meneses, M-E-N-E-S-E-S.

24 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is
25 your relationship to this establishment, sir?

1 MR. MENESES: I'm the owner.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Ms.
3 Brown, are there any preliminary matters in this
4 case?

5 MS. BROWN: No, Mr. Chairperson.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, all
7 right, since there are no preliminary matters in
8 this case, this matter is then scheduled for a
9 Show Cause hearing on December 13th at 10:30 a.m.

10 Since this matter is scheduled for a
11 Show Cause hearing, I would like to advise the
12 parties that seven days before the hearing, the
13 parties are required to disclose documents and
14 witnesses that will be relied upon in the
15 hearing. What that means, Mr. Meneses, is that
16 seven days before the hearing, whatever documents
17 you're going to rely upon, whatever witnesses
18 you're going to call, you need to provide -- is
19 this your case, Ms. Brown?

20 MS. BROWN: No. It's going to be
21 Assistant Attorney General Anthony Celo's case.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Then that means
23 that you need to provide this information to Mr.
24 Celo seven days before the hearing and you also
25 need to provide a copy of these documents to the

1 Board. Failure on either party -- of either side
2 to disclose the documents and witnesses seven
3 days before unless good cause is shown, the Board
4 might prevent you from relying on those documents
5 and witnesses that have not been disclosed. If
6 the parties want to settle this matter, they
7 still have an opportunity to speak and step
8 outside of the hearing.

9 Do you have any questions, sir?

10 MR. MENESES: No, I don't. Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right,
12 hearing none, then this matter is adjourned. This
13 hearing again is scheduled for December 13th at
14 10:30 a.m. Have a great day. Thank you.

15 MR. MENESES: Thank you.

16 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
17 went off the record at 11:00 a.m.)
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<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>a.m 3:2 7:9 8:14,17 ABC 3:14 4:4 ABCA 1:12,13 2:2 ABCA's 3:18 ability 4:25 above-entitled 8:16 access 5:23,24 account 3:23 Act 3:7 address 3:24 adjourned 8:12 advance 3:18 advise 7:11 agenda 3:20 Alcoholic 1:2,18 3:4,8 allow 1:13 ANC 1:9 Anderson 1:19,22 3:3 4:2,10,14 5:25 6:7,17 6:24 7:2,6,22 8:11 announce 4:6 answer 5:10 Anthony 7:21 apologize 5:12,15 6:19 asked 6:19 assistance 5:9 Assistant 6:14 7:21 attendance 4:15 Attorney 6:14 7:21 authorized 3:14 available 3:11 Ave 1:8</p>	<p>7:21 cases 4:21 cause 1:8 7:9,11 8:3 cell 6:5,6 Celo 7:24 Celo's 7:21 central 3:19 Chairman 5:24 chairperson 1:19,22 3:3,4 4:3,10,14 5:25 6:7,17,24 7:2,5,6,22 8:11 chooses 5:6 clear 4:19 Code 3:6,15 Columbia 1:1 3:5,24 Columbia's 3:11 Committee 5:14 complaints 3:25 computer 6:4 concluded 5:7 conclusion 5:4 conduct 4:15,19 conducted 3:10 Connecticut 1:8 constitutes 4:16 conversation 5:14 copy 7:25 CR 1:9 Cuisine 1:7</p>	<p>Evidence 1:12 Executive 5:14 extensive 5:14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <p>Failed 1:13,14 Failure 8:1 False 1:11 feature 5:11 fine 6:8,9 first 5:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <p>General 6:14 7:21 going 7:17,18,20 good 3:3 5:19 6:13 8:3 Government 3:12,24 5:20 Grant 1:23 4:11,12,12 great 8:14 guidance 3:10 guys 6:6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <p>Latin 1:6 leave 5:5 License 1:9 5:18 licensee 2:2 5:21 log-in 3:21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">M</p> <p>M-E-N-E-S-E-S 6:23 matter 1:5 7:8,10 8:6,12 8:16 matters 7:3,7 means 7:15,22 meeting 1:3 3:8,9,17,18 3:19,22 5:15 meetings 3:7,12,13 Member 1:22,23 4:8,12 members 4:4,15 Meneses 2:2 5:22 6:1,3 6:20,22,22,23 7:1,15 8:10,15 met 1:19 Mex 1:6 microphone 4:24 microphones 5:7 Misleading 1:11 moment 4:22 morning 3:3 5:13,15,19 6:13 mute 5:3</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">B</p> <p>B-R-O-W-N 6:15 behalf 6:16 Beverage 1:2,18 3:4,9 Bistro 1:6,7 5:18 Board 1:2,19 3:5,9,14 4:3,4,14 8:1,3 bodies 3:13 Books 1:14 Brown 2:3 5:23 6:10,13 6:14,19 7:3,5,19,20 business 4:16</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <p>D.C 3:6,15 date 3:20 day 8:14 days 7:12,16,24 8:3 DC 1:7 2:2,3 5:18 December 7:9 8:13 disabled 5:4,8 disclose 7:13 8:2 disclosed 8:5 District 1:1 3:5,11,24 6:16 District's 3:19 documents 1:14 7:13 7:16,25 8:2,4 Donovan 1:19,22 4:2 DR 6:18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <p>hear 6:8 heard 5:2 hearing 1:9 4:18 5:9 7:9 7:11,12,15,16,24 8:8 8:12,13 hearings 4:20 held 3:13 Hold 6:17 hosted 3:23 hours 1:15 3:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <p>identify 6:10 includes 3:20 information 1:11 3:21 7:23 Inspect 1:13 instructions 4:19 Interfered 1:12 International 1:6 introduce 4:4 Investigation 1:13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <p>name 4:2,6 6:12,21,23 need 4:18 7:18,23,25 notice 3:17,20 November 1:17 NW 1:8</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <p>calendar 3:19 4:18,21 5:17 call 7:18 call- 3:20 called 4:22 camera 4:24 5:3 6:1,4 cameras 5:6 Cannabis 1:2,18 3:5,9 case 1:10 4:22 5:2,4,7 5:17,17,21 7:4,8,19</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p>either 8:1,1 electronic 3:12,13,22 electronically 4:5 elevate 4:23 5:20 elevated 5:23,24 enable 4:24 5:1 equipment 5:1 establishment 6:25</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <p>J- 6:22 James 1:22 4:7,8 joining 6:5 JOSE 2:2 JR 1:22 Jury 2:2 5:22 6:1,22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <p>know 6:6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">O</p> <p>OAG 2:3 Office 3:11 Oh 6:18 Okay 7:6 OMA 3:16 Once 4:21 OOG 3:25 Open 3:7,12 opengovoffice@dc.g... 4:1 opportunity 8:7 option 5:5 Orellana 2:2 5:19,22 outside 8:8 owner 7:1</p>
			<p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <p>P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S</p>

<p>3:1 participating 4:5 participation 3:22 parties 5:5 7:12,13 8:6 party 4:24 5:6 8:1 phone 6:5,6 please 3:24 4:5 5:10,20 6:10,20,21 preliminary 7:3,7 present 1:21 2:1 4:9,13 presiding 1:19 prevent 8:4 Produce 1:14 properly 5:16 provide 7:18,23,25 provided 1:11 3:17,23 public 3:13,21 5:13 pursuant 3:10,14,16</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <p>question 5:10 6:18 questions 3:25 5:8 8:9 quorum 4:16</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">R</p> <p>record 6:11,21 8:17 Records 1:14 regarding 3:12 regularly 3:8 relationship 6:25 relied 7:14 rely 7:17 relying 8:4 remain 5:3 require 5:9 required 7:13 requirements 3:16 respond 4:6 Restaurant 1:8 Retailer 1:9 right 6:9,9,20 7:7 8:11 rights 4:23 5:20</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">S</p> <p>S-H-A-N-I 6:15 scheduled 3:8 7:8,10 8:13 Section 3:6,14 see 6:6,7 Services 6:18 settle 8:6 seven 4:21 7:12,16,24 8:2 Shani 2:3 5:23 6:14 Short 1:22 4:7,8,8 Show 1:8 7:9,11 shown 8:3 side 8:1</p>	<p>Silas 1:23 4:10,12 sir 6:8,25 8:9 speak 8:7 specialist 4:23 spell 6:21 spelled 6:15 spelling 6:11 Staff 2:2 starting 5:16 state 6:21 stating 6:11 Status 1:9 stay 5:6 step 8:7 submit 5:10 Sure 5:22 6:22</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">T</p> <p>t/a 1:7 take 4:22 Tampered 1:12 tardiness 5:13 technical 5:9 Tex 1:6 Thank 5:25 7:2 8:10,14 8:15 three 4:15 time 3:20 today 4:16,21 today's 3:17 4:17 trying 6:3</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">U</p> <p>U-R-Y 6:23 understood 4:20 underway 4:17 unmute 6:2,2 use 6:3</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">V</p> <p>videoconference 1:19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">W</p> <p>W 1:19,22 want 8:6 WebEx 1:19 3:23 website 3:18 Wednesday 1:16 welcoming 3:7 went 8:17 witnesses 7:14,17 8:2,5 working 6:4</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">X</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Y</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Z</p>	<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">0</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <hr/> <p>10:30 5:16 7:9 8:14 10:54 3:2 11:00 8:17 117625 1:9 5:18 13th 7:9 8:13 15 1:17</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <hr/> <p>2-571 3:6 2023 1:17 23-CMP-00063 1:10 5:18 2577(a) 3:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <hr/> <p>3321 1:6,7,8 3C 1:9</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <hr/> <p>48 1:15 3:17</p>
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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: Bistro DC Restaurant

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 11-15-23

Place: videoconference

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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