

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
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 MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
 The Public Group, LLC, :
 t/a Public Bar :
 1214 18th Street NW :
 License #81238 :
 Retailer CT - ANC 2B : Show Cause
 Case # 19-CMP-00194 : Hearing (Status)
 :
 (Increase in Occupancy :
 Without Board Approval :
 (Summer Garden), :
 Provided "back-up :
 drinks", Served Closed :
 Containers of Alcoholic :
 Beverages) :

Wednesday
 November 18, 2020

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
 JENI HANSEN, Member
 REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

SIMONE ANDREWS, DC ABRA Staff
 JOHN LUI, DC OAG
 STEPHEN O'BRIEN, Licensee's Counsel

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

2 1:32 p.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

4 Good afternoon, everyone. For folks who were not
5 here in the morning for our morning session, my
6 name is Donovan Anderson. I'm Chairman of the
7 Board.

8 We have five of the Board members who
9 will join us today. The five of the Board
10 members are Mr. Bobby Cato, Ms. Rema Wahabzadah,
11 Ms. Rafi Crockett, Ms. Jeni Hansen, Mr. Ed
12 Grandis.

13 Before we get underway with our
14 afternoon session, I need to make a few
15 instructions very clear so that the conduct of
16 this hearing is understood by everyone.

17 Today's hearings are being conducted
18 through a Webex account provided by the DC Office
19 of Open Government. I believe there are about
20 nine hearings that are scheduled for our
21 afternoon.

22 Once your case is called, I will take
23 a moment for our IT specialist to elevate the
24 rights for each party to enable their camera and
25 microphone. Then and only then will you have the

1 ability to engage your equipment.

2 If your case is not being heard, you
3 will remain mute, and your camera will be
4 disabled.

5 At the conclusion of each case, the
6 parties will have the option to leave. If a
7 party chooses to stay, all cameras and
8 microphones at the conclusion of the case will be
9 disabled.

10 Should you have any questions or
11 require technical assistance during the hearing,
12 please submit them using the question and answer
13 feature or email simone.andrews2@dc.gov.

14 So for our afternoon session -- I need
15 to find my calendar first -- the first case on
16 our afternoon calendar is Case Number 19-CMP-
17 00194, Public Bar, License Number 81238. And Ms.
18 Andrews, can you please elevate the rights of the
19 parties in this case, please?

20 MS. ANDREWS: Sure. Stand by.
21 They're elevated, Mr. Chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
23 Thank you, Ms. Andrews. Mr. O'Brien, can you
24 please, if you have a camera, please turn your
25 camera on and please unmute your microphone,

1 please.

2 MR. O'BRIEN: I believe I'm unmuted
3 now. Can you hear me, Mr. Chair?

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, I can hear
5 you. Do you have a camera or are you too shy to
6 show off your face? Because, you know, I've
7 never met Mr. O'Brien before. So I need to see
8 Mr. O'Brien on camera to make sure that it's
9 actually Mr. O'Brien speaking.

10 MR. O'BRIEN: Well, since you're new
11 to the Chair, Mr. Chair, you may not know that
12 the previous Chair told me he didn't want to see
13 my face anymore.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right, Mr.
15 O'Brien. Thank you.

16 MR. O'BRIEN: I don't know why my
17 camera is not working.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
19 Well, Mr. O'Brien, that was all in jest. I do
20 recognize your voice. So I know that it's Mr.
21 O'Brien that's on the phone.

22 So I'll have the Government introduce
23 himself for the record. And Mr. Lui, can you
24 again please identify yourself for the record and
25 spell your name, please?

1 MR. LUI: Certainly. Good afternoon,
2 Mr. Chairperson. I'm John Lui on behalf of the
3 Government. That's J-O-H-N L-U-I.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr.
5 Lui. Mr. O'Brien, can you please identify
6 yourself for the record, please?

7 MR. O'BRIEN: Certainly, Stephen
8 O'Brien on behalf of Respondent Public.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
10 Thank you. Thank you, Mr. O'Brien. Will your
11 client be joining you today?

12 MR. O'BRIEN: No.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, fine.
14 Mr. Lui, are there any preliminary matters in
15 this case?

16 MR. LUI: Mr. Chairman, the parties
17 have no Offer in Compromise to present at this
18 time.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. Mr.
20 O'Brien, do you have any preliminary matters you
21 want to bring to the attention of the Board?

22 MR. O'BRIEN: No. I did receive a
23 proposal from the prosecution late Friday. It
24 has not been accepted and may require some
25 discussion. But I do anticipate that this case

1 will be resolved by an Offer in Compromise.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you very
3 much for that representation, Mr. O'Brien. This
4 matter then will be scheduled for a show cause
5 hearing at a date to be determined. We probably
6 will have a hearing sometime in January, I
7 believe.

8 But if the parties decided prior to
9 that period of time to come to an agreement, they
10 can send the agreement -- they can sign the
11 agreement and send the agreement to the Board,
12 and the Board will put that on its legal agenda
13 and approve of it if we so desire. So I will
14 just let the parties know -- oh, Mr. O'Brien, I
15 now see you.

16 MR. O'BRIEN: Non-genuine without this
17 picture.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now I'm sure
19 that it's Mr. O'Brien that I'm speaking to. All
20 right. But thank you for that, Mr. O'Brien.

21 As I said before, the Board will
22 inform the parties when this matter is scheduled
23 for a hearing. If not, we will see you at -- if
24 it's settled, we will see you at a show cause
25 hearing once it's scheduled. Thank you very much

1 and have a great day.

2 MR. O'BRIEN: Very well. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right then.

4 Bye-bye.

5 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went
6 off the record at 1:37 p.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: Public Bar

Before: DCABRA

Date: 11-18-20

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

NEAL R. GROSS

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