

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

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 IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
 VooDoo DC, LLC, :
 t/a VooDoo :
 1334 U Street NW : Roll Call
 Retailer Class CT -ANC 1B: Hearing
 License #ABRA-126026 :
 Case #23-PRO-00083 :
 :
 (New License Application):
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Monday
 November 20, 2023

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:

SARAH ELHINDI, Licensee
 JOSHUA VALENCIA, Licensee
 AUSTIN HAAG, Licensee
 ANC 1B, Protestant
 COMMISSIONER SABEL HARRIS, ANC 1B

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

2 10:07 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning, everyone.

4 Thank you for participating in ABCA's public
5 roll-call hearing via the WEBEX platform,
6 provided by the DC Office of Open Government. My
7 name is Lavern Fletcher. I'll be conducting the
8 roll call hearing as the Board's agent.

9 There is only one case on the calendar
10 today. This is the case of VooDoo, Case No.
11 23PRO00083.

12 (Audio interference.)

13 MS. FLETCHER: The address is 1334 U
14 Street NW. The license number is ABRA-126026.
15 This is a Retailer Class CT New License
16 Application. The protest issues are adverse
17 impact on peace and quiet, real property values,
18 residential crime, and vehicular and pedestrian
19 safety, overconcentration in proximity to
20 residential areas. Is anyone present on behalf of
21 VooDoo?

22 MS. ELHINDI: Yes, hi. Sarah Elhindi
23 from Effectus of behalf and present of the
24 Applicant.

25 LAVERN FLETCHER: Thank you. Ms.

1 Elhendi, would you please spell your name for the
2 record?

3 MS. ELHINDI: Yes. S-A-R-A-H E-L-H-I-N
4 as in Nancy, D as in David, I.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much. Do
6 we also have ANC 1B as a protestant. Is anyone
7 present on behalf on ANC 1B?

8 MS. HARRIS: Yes. Hi, Ms. Fletcher.
9 This is Commissioner Sabel-Harris, S-A-B-E-L H-A-
10 R-R-I-S, and I'm here for ANC 1B.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Ms. Harris,
12 and we also have a group of, I counted 20. Mr.
13 Racilla, you're representing the group of 20?

14 MR. RACILLA: That is correct.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Would you state your
16 name and spell it? Thank you.

17 MR. RACILLA: It's Brian, B-R-I-A-N,
18 last name Racilla, R-A-C-I-L-L-A.

19 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, and I note
20 there's some other individuals from your group
21 present today?

22 MR. RACILLA: Correct.

23 MS. FLETCHER: If each person would
24 state their name and spell it for the record,
25 please. Ms. Johnson, you're part of the group?

1 MS. JOHNSON: Yes, yes. I'm part of the
2 group, and my name is spelled A-I-L-E-E-N is my
3 first name, and my last name is spelled J-O-H-N-
4 S-O-N.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Anyone else?

6 MS. TWYFORD: I'll go ahead and go
7 next. I'm part of the group. My name is Holly
8 Twyford. First name is H-O-L-L-Y. Last name is T-
9 W-Y-F-O-R-D. Thanks so much.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

11 MR. ISASI: And this is William Isasi.
12 Can you hear me?

13 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

14 MR. ISASI: Hi. My name is William
15 Isasi. The last name is spelled I-S like Seattle,
16 A-S like Seattle, I. That's I-S-A-S-I.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

18 MS. CHAN: And I'm also with the group.
19 Julie Chan. J-U-L-I-E C-H-A-N as in Nancy.

20 MS. THOMPSON-MAZE: Geraldine Thompson-
21 Mayes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Can you spell that,
23 please?

24 MS. THOMPSON-MAYES: T-H-O-M-P-S-O-N
25 dash M-A-Y-E-S.

1 MS. FLETCHER: What did you say is the
2 first name?

3 MS. THOMPSON-MAYES: Geraldine.
4 G-E-R-A-L-D-I-N-E.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Anybody else?

6 MS. DALE: Sarah Dale. S-A-R-A-H D as
7 in David, A-L-E.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Ms. Dale.
9 Anyone else? Oh, Mr. Ferris, I see you. Mr.
10 Ferris, can you hear me? Well, I see Mr. Ferris.
11 I don't know why he can't hear me, but Mr. Garcia
12 is

13 MR. FERRIS: Can you hear me?

14 MS. FLETCHER: Yes, I can.

15 MR. FERRIS: Okay, great. Thank you.
16 That was my fault. Good morning, Ms. Fletcher.
17 This is Elwyn Ferris with the group of five.
18 E-L-W-Y-N, last name? F-E-R-R-I-S.

19 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Anyone else?

20 MR. WITTELS: This is Dan Wittels. I
21 don't know if you can hear me.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Actually, I can hear
23 you, Mr. Wittels.

24 MR. WITTELS: Okay, good. I can't see
25 myself on the screen here.

1 MS. FLETCHER: I can't see you, but I
2 do see your name.

3 MR. WITTELS: Oh, okay, good. All
4 right, so I'm part of the group of five, and last
5 name is W-I-T-T-E-L-S, first name is Dan.

6 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Is there
7 anyone else? I see a Joshua Valencia.

8 MR. VALENCIA: I'm here with Alchemist.

9 MS. FLETCHER: You're here with who?

10 MR. VALENCIA: Alchemist. I'm sorry,
11 VooDoo.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, well, can you
13 state your name that was for the record, please?

14 MR. VALENCIA: Yes. Joshua Valencia.
15 J-O-S-H-U-A V as in victory, A-L-E-N-C-I-A.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Joshua Valencia is here
17 with VooDoo. Anybody else here from VooDoo other
18 than you, Ms. Elhini? Anyone else?

19 MR. HAAG: Yes, ma'am. Austin Haag,
20 first name is Austin, like the city. And last
21 name is H-A-A-G.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Hogg.
23 Anyone else from VooDoo?

24 MS. ELHINDI: No. That's all.

25 MS. FLETCHER: That's it? Anyone else

1 from the group of five? ANC 1B does have standing
2 as a protestant. The group of 20 has standing as
3 a protestant, because at least five of you are
4 present today.

5 We need to set a date for mediation,
6 a status hearing, and a protest hearing. I'm
7 going to give you the date for the status and
8 protest hearing first. The status hearing is set
9 for December 13, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. That's for
10 the status hearing. The protest hearing is set
11 for January 10, 2024 at 1:30 p. m.

12 We need to schedule a date for
13 mediation. I'll give you the next available day.
14 The next available day is Wednesday, December the
15 29th. I'm sorry, November the 29th. Wednesday,
16 November the 29th, anytime between 10:30 and
17 1:30. That's the next bill day. That's good for
18 anybody?

19 MS. HARRIS: I can do that date,
20 preferably sometime after 12:00 p.m.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Ms. Sable, you
22 said after 12:00?

23 MS. HARRIS: Yes.

24 MS. FLETCHER: What about you, Mr.
25 Racilla?

1 MR. RACILLA: After twelve noon on the
2 29th would work for me as well.

3 MS. FLETCHER: And Ms. Elhindi, what
4 about you?

5 MS. ELHINDI: That should work for us
6 as well.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Well, how about November
8 29 at 1:30? Is that okay for everybody?

9 MS. ELHINDI: Yes,

10 MR. RACILLA: That works for me, Mr.
11 Racilla, as well.

12 MS. HARRIS: That works for me as well.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Ms. Harris,
14 that was you, right?

15 MS. HARRIS: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Mediation is set for
17 Wednesday, November 29 at 1:30 in the afternoon.
18 And I'll send out the WEBEX invitation. Mr.
19 Racilla, it's the same thing for the WEBEX
20 invitations. I'm going to send it to you because
21 you're the designated representative. If there's
22 anyone else that will be attending, you can
23 forward it to them.

24 MR. RACILLA: Okay.

25 MS. FLETCHER: Was somebody going to

1 say something?

2 MR. RACILLA: I was going to say
3 something. Thank you. I may have a conflict on
4 the 12/13 date at 10:30 a.m.. Is there a way to
5 push that either later in the day or to a
6 different day? For the status conference?

7 MS. FLETCHER: And just for the court
8 reporter, I'm speaking right now with Mr.
9 Racilla. So that day is the next available day on
10 the Board's calendar. If you're going to need to
11 change that date, then you will need to petition
12 the Board to change that date, and you would do
13 that by emailing Martha Jenkins.

14 And you would copy that request to all
15 the other parties, which means to Ms. Harris and
16 also to Ms. Elhindi. They may be in agreement to
17 change the date. They'll have an opportunity to
18 say whether they're in agreement or not.

19 But the other thing I should tell you,
20 Mr. Racilla, is that at the status hearing, you
21 may prefer to designate someone else to attend.
22 What happens at the status hearing is that the
23 Board will want to know the status of the case,
24 and at that point, they'll want to know if you
25 participated in mediation or not.

1 Ideally, the matter is resolved before
2 the status hearing. If not, that's okay. But
3 that's the purpose of the status hearing, to let
4 them know the status of the case right now.

5 So you will have participated in
6 mediation by then, and you'll just tell them
7 what's going on. And so if you would prefer for
8 someone else from your group just to do that,
9 then that's all that's going to happen.
10 Everybody's already been granted standing. There
11 are no outstanding issues, and so it's going to
12 take just a couple of minutes for the status
13 hearing once the case is called.

14 MR. RACILLA: Okay, fantastic. You
15 anticipated my next question. So is there
16 anything that I need to file in order to

17 MS. FLETCHER: Well, if you know now,
18 you can tell me. Otherwise, you can just send me
19 an email and let me know who it's going to be at
20 a later, before the status hearing.

21 MR. RACILLA: Okay, I will definitely
22 do that.

23 MS. DALE: One of us can do this. It's
24 not a big deal.

25 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Dale is speaking.

1 Yes. Anybody from the group can stand in for Mr.
2 Racilla on the day of the status hearing. That
3 person just has to be designated in writing so
4 that the Board knows who's coming.

5 MS. DALE: Okay, great.

6 MS. FLETCHER: And so, Mr. Racilla,
7 after the status hearing, you'll go back to
8 representing the group. It'll just be for the
9 purpose of the status hearing, right?

10 MR. RACILLA: Correct.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Unless there are
12 any questions from anybody, we're done. Thank
13 you, everybody, for coming.

14 (Whereupon the above entitled matter
15 went off the record at 10:21 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: VooDoo

Before: DC ABCA

Date: 11-20-23

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.

Neal R Gross

Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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