

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
 + + + + +
 ROLL CALL HEARING

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 IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
 9th Street Lounge, LLC :
 t/a Mirror Lounge :
 1920 9th Street NW :
 License #111950 :
 Retailer CT - ANC 1B :
 Case #22-PRO-00154 :
 :
 (License Renewal) :
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Tuesday
 December 27, 2022

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

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABRA Board's Agent

ALSO PRESENT:

ERIC BEHNA, ANC 1B
 BRUNO CASU, Applicant
 FRANK CHAUVIN, Protestant
 DAVID GREER, Protestant
 SUDHA GOLLAPUDI, Protestant
 NICK SCINTA, Protestant
 ALEX SMITH, Protestant
 AMANDA TOLES, Protestant

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

2 10:04 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning, everyone.
4 Thank you for joining ABRA's roll call hearings
5 via the WebEx platform.

6 My name is LaVerne Fletcher. I'll be
7 conducting the roll call hearings as the Board's
8 agent.

9 There are five cases on the calendar
10 today.

11 The first case on the calendar today
12 is -- before we get started, please mute
13 yourself. If you're going to be speaking or if
14 there's any noise in the background.

15 Mr. Zerihun, I'm hearing background
16 noise, so if you can mute yourself or -- okay.

17 And because I said your name, I'm just
18 going to tell the court reporter how to spell it.
19 It's spelled Z-E-R-I-H-U-N.

20 The first case on the calendar today
21 is Mirror Lounge. That's Case Number 22-PRO-
22 00154, 9th Street Lounge, LLC, 1920 9th Street,
23 Northwest, License Number ABRA-111950. This is a
24 Retailer Class CT license renewal. The protest
25 issues are ABRA's impact on peace, order, and

1 quite, real property values, and residential
2 parking, and vehicular and pedestrian safety.

3 My name is LaVerne Fletcher conducting
4 the roll call hearing as the Board's agent.

5 Is anyone present on behalf of Mirror
6 Lounge?

7 MR. CASU: Yes.

8 MS. FLETCHER: If you would state your
9 name and spell it for the record, please?

10 MR. CASU: Good morning, everyone. My
11 name is Bruno Casu. It's spelled B-R-U-N-O-C-A-
12 S-U.

13 MS. FLETCHER: I'm going to have to
14 turn my volume up, maybe it's on my end, I
15 couldn't hear you very well. Give me one minute,
16 please.

17 Did you say Bruno?

18 MR. CASU: That's correct.

19 MS. FLETCHER: That was the first
20 name?

21 MR. CASU: Correct.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. So, Bruno, would
23 you state and spell your last name again, please?

24 MR. CASU: Last name it's Casu, C- --

25 MS. FLETCHER: The last name is?

1 MR. CASU: Casu, C as in cat, A-S-U.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you very
3 much.

4 Is anyone else present with you today?

5 MR. CASU: No.

6 MS. FLETCHER: From your lounge?

7 Thank you. Thank you very much.

8 And is anyone present on behalf of ANC
9 1B?

10 MR. BEHNA: Yes, Ms. Fletcher, this is
11 Eric Behna with ANC 1B. First name Eric, E-R-I-
12 C, last name Behna, B-E-H-N-A.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Behna.
14 ANC 1B does have standing as a protestant.

15 We have a group of 15. Is anyone
16 present on behalf of the group of 15?

17 MR. SCINTA: Yes, Nick Scinta, that's
18 N-I-C-K-S-C-I-N-T-A.

19 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

20 Anyone else?

21 MR. CHAUVIN: My name's Frank Chauvin,
22 F-R-A-N-K-C-H-A-U-V as in Victor, I-N as in
23 Nancy.

24 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, Mr. Chauvin.

25 Anyone else from the group?

1 MR. SMITH: Alex Smith, A-L-E-X-S--, -I-
2 T-H.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

4 Anyone else?

5 MS. TOLES: Amanda --

6 MR. GREER: Yes --

7 MS. TOLES: A-M-A-N-D-A, last name
8 Toles, T-O-L-E-S.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Toles, can you
10 spell -- state your first name and spell it
11 again, please?

12 MS. TOLES: Amanda, A-M-A-N-D-A.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

14 MR. GREER: David Greer, David Greer,
15 you spell my name D-A-V-I-D-G-R-E-E-R.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Greer.

17 Anyone else?

18 MS. GOLLAPUDI: This is Sudha

19 Gollapudi. My first name is --

20 MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry, can you
21 repeat that?

22 MS. GOLLAPUDI: Yes, it's Sudha
23 Gollapudi. My first name is S-U-D-H-A. The last
24 name is G-O-L-L-A-P-U-D-I.

25 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you.

1 Anyone else?

2 Okay, so the group of 15 is granted
3 standing because there are six people present
4 today. The Board needs to see at least five
5 people in person in order for a group to be
6 granted standing and so you are granted standing
7 as a protestant.

8 I'm going to give you the date for the
9 status hearing, the protest hearing, and then,
10 we'll set a date for mediation.

11 Excuse me one second. Hold on one
12 second, please.

13 I'm back, thank you.

14 The status hearing is scheduled for
15 February 8, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.

16 The protest hearing is set for March
17 the 22nd at 1:30. That's March 22nd at 1:30 for
18 the protest hearing.

19 There are three dates available in
20 January on a Wednesday, January 4 is available,
21 the 11th is available. Is anyone available on
22 Wednesday, January 4 or 11 anytime between 10:00
23 and 1:30?

24 MR. CASU: I thought you said, Ms.
25 Fletcher, that there was another one. Is there a

1 subsequent one to that? You said three.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, the 18th is also
3 available. And if that doesn't work, we're just
4 going to move to the February calendar.

5 MR. CASU: I prefer the February
6 calendar.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, who was that
8 speaking?

9 Oh, that's the other thing, before you
10 say anything, let the court reporter know who's
11 speaking. So, can you say your name and say what
12 you just said one more time, please?

13 MR. CASU: Sure, Bruno Casu.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, you want to move
15 to February?

16 MR. CASU: Yes, ma'am.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, I'll tell you the
18 first available date in February. The first
19 available day in February is Wednesday, February
20 1 anytime between 10:00 and 1:30.

21 MR. CASU: The first week of February,
22 I'm slammed at work. Second is preferable.
23 Thank you.

24 MS. FLETCHER: Well, what about --
25 okay, your status hearing is on February 8, so we

1 need to do it before that. What about February
2 6, which is a Monday at 11:30?

3 MR. CASU: That works much better.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Does that work for you,
5 Mr. Behna or Mr. Chauvin?

6 MR. BEHNA: That works for us at the
7 ANC.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

9 MR. CHAUVIN: Yes, that would be fine
10 for me. That's February 6 at 1:30 and that's the
11 protest hearing?

12 MS. FLETCHER: That's February 6 at
13 11:30.

14 MR. CHAUVIN: 11:30.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Who's speaking? Excuse
16 me --

17 MR. CHAUVIN: That's Frank --

18 MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry, hold on.

19 The mediation is set for Monday,
20 February 6 at 11:30.

21 Mr. Chauvin, there are three
22 designated representatives for your group. Can
23 you tell me which one is going to represent the
24 entire group?

25 MR. CHAUVIN: I will be the

1 representative.

2 MS. FLETCHER: So, what that means is
3 that I'm going to send you the WebEx invitation
4 for the mediation and you will receive the WebEx
5 invitation for the status and protest hearing.
6 You may then forward it to whomever else you want
7 to appear.

8 MR. CHAUVIN: All right, thank you.

9 For the record, could we -- could you
10 re-confirm the prior two days because I was
11 confused. There was another -- there's another
12 status hearing? I thought it was going to be
13 just the protest and then a mediation or a
14 mediation and a protest hearing. Can you re-
15 confirm the dates?

16 MS. FLETCHER: Yes, the mediation is
17 set for Monday, February 6 at 11:30. The status
18 hearing is set for February 8 at 10:30. And
19 then, there's a protest hearing set for March 22,
20 2023 at 1:30.

21 MR. CHAUVIN: And for the status
22 hearing, what are the requirements for the group.
23 Do there need to be five or have we just
24 established that a group exists and now it
25 doesn't matter who shows up?

1 MS. FLETCHER: That's exactly right,
2 only you need to appear for the status hearing.

3 MR. CHAUVIN: Okay.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Because of the fact
5 that there are more than five of you present
6 today, your group has already been granted
7 standing. So, at the status hearing, the Board
8 only needs to see a designated representative.

9 MR. CHAUVIN: All right. And then, at
10 the mediation, is that the same?

11 MS. FLETCHER: It's the same.

12 MR. CHAUVIN: Okay, all right, thank
13 you very much.

14 MS. FLETCHER: You're welcome.

15 Any other questions?

16 MR. CHAUVIN: Yes, one last thing, so
17 at the status hearing --

18 MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Chauvin, is that
19 you?

20 MR. CHAUVIN: Yes, Frank Chauvin.

21 So, the status hearing on the 8th will
22 just constitute whether or not we've mediated and
23 closed or mediated and the matter's still open?

24 MS. FLETCHER: That's basically what
25 happens at the status hearing. The Board wants

1 to know the status of the case. You will attend
2 mediation. They'll ask you if the matter was
3 resolved or not. You can let them know. It goes
4 from there.

5 If the matter is resolved, and you
6 submit a settlement agreement prior to the
7 protest hearing, the Board will cancel the
8 protest hearing.

9 MR. CHAUVIN: Okay, thank you very
10 much.

11 MS. FLETCHER: You're welcome.

12 The roll call hearing in this matter
13 is concluded.

14 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
15 went off the record at 10:18 a.m.)
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<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>A-L-E-X-S,-I 5:1 A-M-A-N-D-A 5:7,12 A-S-U 4:1 a.m 2:2 6:15 11:15 above-entitled 11:14 ABRA 1:16 ABRA's 2:4,25 ABRA-111950 2:23 agent 1:14,16 2:8 3:4 agreement 11:6 Alcoholic 1:2,13 Alex 1:21 5:1 Amanda 1:22 5:5,12 ANC 1:8,18 4:8,11,14 8:7 anytime 6:22 7:20 appear 9:7 10:2 Applicant 1:19 attend 11:1 available 6:19,20,21,21 7:3,18,19</p>	<p>8:25 9:8,21 10:3,9,12 10:16,18,20,20 11:9 Class 2:24 closed 10:23 COLUMBIA 1:1 concluded 11:13 conducting 2:7 3:3 confirm 9:15 confused 9:11 constitute 10:22 Control 1:2,13 correct 3:18,21 court 2:18 7:10 CT 1:8 2:24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <p>G-O-L-L-A-P-U-D-I 5:24 give 3:15 6:8 goes 11:3 going 2:13,18 3:13 6:8 7:4 8:23 9:3,12 Gollapudi 1:20 5:18,19 5:22,23 Good 2:3 3:10 granted 6:2,6,6 10:6 Greer 1:20 5:6,14,14,14 5:16 group 4:15,16,25 6:2,5 8:22,24 9:22,24 10:6</p>	<p>minute 3:15 Mirror 1:6 2:21 3:5 Monday 8:2,19 9:17 morning 2:3 3:10 move 7:4,14 mute 2:12,16</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">B</p> <p>B-E-H-N-A 4:12 B-R-U-N-O-C-A- 3:11 back 6:13 background 2:14,15 basically 10:24 behalf 3:5 4:8,16 Behna 1:18 4:10,11,12 4:13 8:5,6 better 8:3 Beverage 1:2,13 Board 1:2,13 6:4 10:7 10:25 11:7 Board's 1:14,16 2:7 3:4 Bruno 1:19 3:11,17,22 7:13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <p>D-A-V-I-D-G-R-E-E-R 5:15 date 6:8,10 7:18 dates 6:19 9:15 David 1:20 5:14,14 day 7:19 days 9:10 December 1:11 designated 8:22 10:8 DISTRICT 1:1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <p>happens 10:25 hear 3:15 hearing 1:3,7 2:15 3:4 6:9,9,14,16,18 7:25 8:11 9:5,12,14,18,19 9:22 10:2,7,17,21,25 11:7,8,12 hearings 2:4,7 hold 6:11 8:18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <p>N-I-C-K-S-C-I-N-T-A 4:18 name 2:6,17 3:3,9,11 3:20,23,24,25 4:11,12 5:7,10,15,19,23,24 7:11 name's 4:21 Nancy 4:23 need 8:1 9:23 10:2 needs 6:4 10:8 Nick 1:21 4:17 noise 2:14,16 Northwest 2:23 Number 2:21,23 NW 1:7</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <p>C 4:1,12 C- 3:24 calendar 2:9,11,20 7:4 7:6 call 1:3,7 2:4,7 3:4 11:12 cancel 11:7 case 1:8 2:11,20,21 11:1 cases 2:9 Casu 1:19 3:7,10,11,18 3:21,24,24 4:1,1,5 6:24 7:5,13,13,16,21 8:3 cat 4:1 Chauvin 1:19 4:21,21 4:24 8:5,9,14,17,21</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p>E-R-I- 4:11 entire 8:24 Eric 1:18 4:11,11 established 9:24 exactly 10:1 Excuse 6:11 8:15 exists 9:24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <p>I-N 4:22 impact 2:25 invitation 9:3,5 issues 2:25</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">O</p> <p>Oh 7:9 okay 2:16 3:22 4:2,24 6:2 7:2,7,14,17,25 8:8 10:3,12 11:9 open 10:23 order 2:25 6:5</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <p>F-R-A-N-K-C-H-A-U-V 4:22 fact 10:4 February 6:15 7:4,5,15 7:18,19,19,21,25 8:1 8:10,12,20 9:17,18 fine 8:9 first 2:11,20 3:19 4:11 5:10,19,23 7:18,18,21 five 2:9 6:4 9:23 10:5 Fletcher 1:13,16 2:3,6 3:3,8,13,19,22,25 4:2 4:6,10,13,19,24 5:3,9 5:13,16,20,25 6:25 7:2,7,14,17,24 8:4,8 8:12,15,18 9:2,16 10:1,4,11,14,18,24 11:11 forward 9:6 Frank 1:19 4:21 8:17 10:20</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <p>January 6:20,20,22 joining 2:4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">P</p> <p>P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2:1 parking 3:2 peace 2:25 pedestrian 3:2 people 6:3,5 person 6:5 platform 2:5 please 2:12 3:9,16,23 5:11 6:12 7:12 prefer 7:5 preferable 7:22 present 1:15,17 3:5 4:4 4:8,16 6:3 10:5 presiding 1:14 prior 9:10 11:6 property 3:1 protest 2:24 6:9,16,18 8:11 9:5,13,14,19 11:7,8 protestant 1:19,20,20 1:21,21,22 4:14 6:7</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">M</p> <p>ma'am 7:16 March 6:16,17 9:19 matter 1:5 9:25 11:2,5 11:12,14 matter's 10:23 means 9:2 mediated 10:22,23 mediation 6:10 8:19 9:4 9:13,14,16 10:10 11:2 met 1:13</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <p>know 7:10 11:1,3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <p>LaVerne 1:13,16 2:6 3:3 license 1:7,9 2:23,24 LLC 1:6 2:22 lounge 1:6,6 2:21,22 3:6 4:6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Q</p> <p>questions 10:15</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: Mirror Lounge

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 12-27-22

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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