

**THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD**

**In the Matter of:** )  
)  
)  
Nobu DC, LLC )  
t/a Nobu )  
)  
Applicant for Renewal of a )  
Retailer’s Class CR License )  
)  
)  
at premises )  
2525 M Street, NW )  
Washington, D.C. 20037 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Case No.: 25-PRO-00034  
License No.: ABRA-100894  
Order No.: 2025-848

Nobu DC, LLC, t/a Nobu, Applicant

Manalle Mahmoud, on behalf of the Applicant

Karen Strohecker and Minjae Song, Representatives, on behalf of a Group of Five or More  
Individuals, Protestant

**BEFORE:** Donovan Anderson, Chairperson  
Silas Grant, Jr., Member  
Teri Janine Quinn, Member  
Ryan Jones, Member  
David Meadows, Member

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**ORDER ON SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND  
WITHDRAWAL OF THE GROUP OF FIVE OR MORE INDIVIDUALS’ PROTEST**

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The Application filed by Nobu DC, LLC, t/a Nobu (Applicant), for Renewal of its  
Retailer’s Class CR License, having been protested, came before the Alcoholic Beverage and  
Cannabis Board (Board) for a Roll Call Hearing on May 27, 2025, and a Protest Status  
Hearing on July 9, 2025, in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 25-601 (2001).

The official records of the Board reflect that the Applicant and the Group of Five or  
More Individuals have entered into a Settlement Agreement (Agreement), dated July 29,  
2025, that governs the operations of the Applicant’s establishment.

The Agreement has been reduced to writing and has been properly executed and filed with the Board. The Applicant and Karen Strohecker and Minjae Song, on behalf of the Group of Five or More Individuals, are signatories to the Agreement.

This Agreement constitutes a withdrawal of the Protest filed by the Group of Five or More Individuals of this Application.

Accordingly, it is this 6th day of August 2025, **ORDERED** that:

1. The Application filed by Nobu DC, LLC, t/a Nobu, for renewal of its Retailer's Class CR License, located at 2525 M Street, NW, Washington, D.C., is **GRANTED**;
2. The Protest of the Group of Five or More Individuals in this matter is hereby **WITHDRAWN**;
3. The above-referenced Settlement Agreement submitted by the parties to govern the operations of the Applicant's establishment is **APPROVED** and **INCORPORATED** as part of this Order; and
4. Copies of this Order shall be sent to the Parties.

District of Columbia  
Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com  
*Donovan Anderson*  
Key: ac430b06c9d5f0e4b790003d1dccc8

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Donovan Anderson, Chairperson



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Silas Grant, Jr., Member

*Teri Janine Quinn*

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Teri Janine Quinn, Member



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Ryan Jones, Member



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David Meadows, Member

Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-433(d)(1) (applicable to alcohol matters) or 22-C DCMR § 9720 (applicable to medical cannabis matters), any party adversely affected may file a Motion for Reconsideration of this decision within ten (10) days of service of this Order with the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration, 899 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 4200 B (Alcohol Division), Suite 4200 A (Medical Cannabis Division), Washington, DC 20002.

Any party adversely affected may file a Motion for Reconsideration of this decision within ten days of service of this Order with the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration, 899 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 4200-A, Washington, D.C. 20002. Also, pursuant to § 11 of the *District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act*, Pub. L. 90-614, 82 Stat. 1209, D.C. Code § 2-510 (2001), and Rule 15 of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, a party that is adversely affected may have the right to appeal this Order by filing a petition for review, within 30 days of the date of service of this Order, with the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, located at 430 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. Parties are advised that the timely filing of a Motion for Reconsideration stays the time for filing a petition for review in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals until the Board rules on the motion. *See* D.C. App. Rule 15(b) (2004). Parties are further advised that the failure to present all matters of record that have allegedly been erroneously decided in a motion for reconsideration may result in the waiver of

those matters being considered by the Board. The Board also reserves the right to summarily deny or not consider multiple and repetitive motions.

Parties are also advised that the Superior Court of the District of Columbia may have jurisdiction to hear appeals in non-contested cases or in matters where that court is specifically provided jurisdiction by law. Finally, advisory neighborhood commissions (ANCs) are advised that their right to appeal or challenge a decision of the Board may be limited by the laws governing ANCs. *See e.g.*, D.C. Code § 1-309.10(g).

## SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (“Agreement”) is made on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2025 by and between Nobu DC LLC (“Licensee”) and Karen Strohecker and Minjae Song, together designated representatives for the Group of Eight renewal protestants.

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WHEREAS, Licensee holds a Class CR license for a restaurant (“the Establishment”) located at 2501 M Street, NW (“the Building”), the Establishment sometimes being also known as 2525 M Street, NW) Washington, DC; and,

WHEREAS, the Group of Eight, each a resident of the Building in which the Establishment is situated, has protested the Licensee’s ABC license renewal due to music emanating from the Establishment on certain occasions; and,

WHEREAS, the parties are desirous of providing for governance of certain aspects of the operation of the Establishment in such a manner as to eliminate the potential for music emanating from the Establishment impacting the tranquility of the Group of 8’s residences; and,

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to enter into this Settlement Agreement pursuant to D.C. Code § 25-446 and request that the ABC Board incorporate the terms of this Agreement into the ABC license to be issued:

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals set forth above and the mutual covenants and conditions set forth below, the parties agree as follows:

1. ***Recitals Incorporated.*** The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein by reference.
2. ***Live Entertainment.*** Live entertainment (including “DJ”) may be presented in the interior of the Establishment only on (a) New Year’s Eve (running to 2:00am New Year’s Day); and (b) on such occasions when the Establishment is closed to the general public for booked private events (“buy-outs”). On such occasions when DJ entertainment is presented, all amplification of sound will be restricted to connection to the Licensee’s installed sound system. DJs will not be permitted to bring onto the premises any speakers or other amplification equipment. The Licensee’s on-site Manager shall be responsible for monitoring sound levels from any live entertainment (DJ or live musicians) so to preclude disturbance from music emanating from the Establishment to any residents of the building in which the Establishment is located.
3. ***Enforcement.*** Upon reasonable advance request, Members of the Group of 8 shall cooperate reasonably with the Licensee in the latter’s efforts to calibrate its sound system in order to comply with this Agreement. Upon occasional disturbance from music emanating from the Establishment, any resident of the Building may request immediate remediation from the Establishment’s on-site Manager. Notwithstanding the immediately forgoing, any resident of the Building may contact the Alcoholic Beverage Cannabis Administration (ABCA) to report any

contemporaneous violation of this Agreement and request immediate response from ABCA.

4. ***Incorporation of Agreement into License.*** The parties request that ABC Board enter an order dismissing the Group of Eight's protest, conditioned upon incorporation of the terms of this Agreement into the order approving Licensee's license renewal application.

NOBU DC LLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Longfield  
Chief Financial Officer

GROUP OF EIGHT

By: Karen Strohecker  
Karen Strohecker  
Designated Representative

By: Minjae Song  
Minjae Song  
Designated Representative

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NOBU DC LLC

By: Christine Longfield  
Christine Longfield  
Chief Financial Officer

GROUP OF EIGHT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Strohecker  
Designated Representative

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Minjae Song**  
**Designated Representative**