DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA + + + + + ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD + + + + + MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF: : : Tariq Hussain, : t/a 7-Eleven 1101 South Capitol Street: SW : Show Cause Retailer B - ANC 6D : Hearing (Status) License No. 26520 : Case #17-CC-00142 : : (Sale to Minor Violation,: Failed to Take Steps : Necessary to Ascertain :

> Wednesday July 11, 2018

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The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009, Chairperson Donovan W. Anderson, presiding.

PRESENT:

Legal Drinking Age)

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson NICK ALBERTI, Member DONALD ISAAC, SR., Member MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member JAMES SHORT, Member REMA WAHABZADAH, Member ALSO PRESENT:

WALTER ADAMS, OAG

RICH BIANCO, LICENSEE ATTORNEY

TARIQ HUSSAIN, LICENSEE

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1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	10:12 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The next case
4	on our calendar is Case No. 17-CC-00142, 7-
5	Eleven, License No. 26520.
6	MR. ADAMS: Good morning, Mr.
7	Chairman. Walter Adams representing the District
8	of Columbia.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
10	Mr. Adams.
11	MR. BIANCO: Good morning, Mr.
12	Chairman, Members of the Board. Richard Bianco
13	on behalf of Tariq Hussain, 7-Eleven.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
15	Mr. Bianco.
16	MR. HUSSAIN: Good morning. Tariq
17	Hussain, owner of 7-Eleven.
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
19	Mr. Hussain.
20	Are there any preliminary matters in
21	this case?
22	MR. ADAMS: There are. There is a
-	

1 preliminary matter, Mr. Chairman and Members of 2 the Board. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is 3 4 that? 5 MR. ADAMS: The parties have discussed this matter and would like to make an Offer in 6 7 Compromise. 8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What is that? 9 MR. ADAMS: Yes. I will start -- I will provide the total amount of the -- there are 10 11 two charges in this case; one for the 12 establishment selling an alcoholic beverage to a 13 person under the age of 21, the other for failing 14 to take the reasonable -- or steps reasonably 15 necessary to ascertain a patron's age. 16 So I will provide the summary or the 17 total amount and then I'll break it down by 18 charge, if that would --That's fine. 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- suit the Board? 20 MR. ADAMS: The 21 Offer in Compromise we are proposing is a fine in 22 the amount of \$4,000. A suspension of 15 days, 5

1 days to be served and 10 days stayed. And 2 training -- oh, sorry. The fine is to be paid 3 within -- the \$4,000 fine to be paid within 60 4 days.

5 That all their employees who serve 6 alcoholic beverages in this establishment 7 complete an alcohol training program within 3 8 months of the Offer in Compromise date of today. 9 And in addition, this establishment will have to 10 serve a 6 day suspension that was stayed from a 11 prior case, which is Case No. 17-CC-00013.

And I can break this down by charge. Again, that will be, for Charge 1, a \$3,000 fine to be paid within 60 days. A suspension of 10 days with 5 days stayed for one year and 5 days to be served. For -- and again, the training for all employees that serve alcoholic beverages, the alcohol training program within 3 months.

19 And attached to this would be the 20 activation of the suspension from the prior 21 period, so in reality, they will be serving 11 22 days. And so the 11 day period that we are

proposing is that their license be suspended from 1 2 July 23rd, Monday, through August 2nd, Thursday. For Charge 2, there will be a \$1,000 3 4 fine to be paid within 60 days. And a 5 day 5 suspension, all those suspension days are to be stayed for a period of one year. 6 7 And just to clarify for the fines, the 8 fine is to be paid within 60 days. If they do 9 not pay within 60 days, the license will be suspended indefinitely until such time the 10 11 establishment does pay the fine. 12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. 13 MR. BIANCO: Yes, Mr. Chair, that is 14 an accurate recitation of the agreement that we Albeit, it is a lot going on here. 15 have. That's 16 it. 17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. So 18 this is the charge. The charge is for Charge 1 19 is a fine of \$3,000 payable in 60 days. There is 20 a 10 day suspension, 5 days served and 5 days 21 stayed. And that there will be training for all 22 employees who sell or serve alcohol, who I guess

1	basically sell alcohol, within 90 days.				
2	MR. ADAMS: That's correct.				
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Based on this				
4	violation, there is a, from a previous case, 6				
5	days suspension was triggered and so, therefore,				
6	you have to serve the 6 day suspension. Meaning				
7	that for Charge 1, there the establishment				
8	cannot sell any alcoholic beverages between July				
9	23rd and August 2, 2018.				
10	For Charge 2, there is a \$1,000 fine				
11	payable within 60 days. If the fine is not				
12	payable within 60 days, the license will be				
13	suspended indefinitely and there is a 5 day				
14	suspension and the 5 day suspension is stayed for				
15	one year.				
16	Is this your understanding of the				
17	Offer in Compromise?				
18	MR. BIANCO: Yes, sir.				
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you is				
20	your client aware that by accepting an Offer in				
21	Compromise, that they are giving up their right				
22	to a hearing?				

1	MR. BIANCO: Yes, sir.			
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That they are			
3	also giving up their right to appeal this matter?			
4	MR. BIANCO: Yes.			
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hearing this,			
6	I then make a motion that the Offer in Compromise			
7	be accepted. For Charge 1, there is a fine of			
8	\$3,000 payable within 60 days. If the fine is			
9	not paid within 60 days, the license will be			
10	suspended. That there is a 10 day suspension, 5			
11	days stayed for one year and 5 days will be			
12	served. And that there will be training for all			
13	employees who serve alcoholic beverages within 90			
14	days.			
15	Because of this, because of Charge 1,			
16	there is a 6 day suspension that was not that			
17	is now triggered. And the 6 day suspension that			
18	is now triggered, the licensee will have to serve			
19	an 11 day suspension and the 11 day suspension			
20	will be July 23rd through August 2, 2018.			
21	For Charge 2, there is a \$1,000 fine			
22	payable within 60 days. If the fine is not			

1	payable within 60 days, the license will be				
2	suspended. And that there is a 5 day suspension				
3	and all 5 days will be stayed for one year.				
4	Is there a second?				
5	MEMBER SHORT: Second.				
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Any discussion				
7	by any Board Members? Any questions by any Board				
8	Members?				
9	Hearing none, I make a motion				
10	hearing none, all those in favor say aye.				
11	ALL: Aye.				
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?				
13	The matter passes 6-0-0.				
14	The Board will be issuing a Board				
15	Order for this matter.				
16	Now that this case is over, sir, you				
17	are serving an 11 day suspension. Meaning that				
18	you cannot sell alcohol for 11 days. I am not				
19	here supporting Costco, but you need to follow				
20	the model that Costco utilizes.				
21	Everyone who goes to Costco, no matter				
22	how they look, they have to prove their age, sir.				

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And maybe you know something I don't know. Maybe
 you are a large business, but maybe you are a
 small business. I mean, a \$4,000 fine and you
 are unable to serve alcohol for 11 days, that's
 serious.

6 And if you get caught again within 7 another year, you are going to serve another 5 8 day suspension automatically. So you need to 9 figure out how you are operating your business, 10 sir, and what is it that I need to do right. 11 It's -- clearly, you are doing

12 something wrong and you need to do what you need 13 to do. So as I said before, everyone who comes--14 in order for you not to get caught up, if everyone who comes in your establishment, if you 15 16 ask them to prove their age, you will never get 17 in a problem. You will never come back here. 18 You will never -- the --19 MEMBER SHORT: Not for that charge.

21 charge. I mean, 11 days. I mean, I don't know 22 how much you make from alcohol, but if you can't

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON:

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Not for this

1	serve for 11 days, that's a substantial period of				
2	time. So I do hope that this is the last time				
3	that we see you for this, on this matter.				
4	But all right.				
5	MR. BIANCO: I thank the Chairman very				
6	much for the comments and well wishes. We				
7	certainly appreciate that. I think it is it				
8	would be important for my client to let the Board				
9	know that his procedures are certainly not laxed				
10	here. He takes he goes to pretty extreme				
11	measures to ensure that alcohol isn't served to				
12	underage folks.				
13	Specifically, he keeps all alcohol				
14	under lock and key at all times. So if someone				
15	is to buy alcohol in his store, they have to get				
16	the clerk to actually open the cooler where it is				
17	kept and then bring it to the front.				
18	In this case, he had a clerk who was				
19	working for him for 5 years. She is a medical				
20	student. She made a mistake. And we certainly				
21	take the Chairman's comments to heart, but we				
22	also think it is important that the Board Members				

understand that my client is not some absentee owner. He is not not paying attention to the procedures that are in place.

He has previously required training.
He is going to do that. He is going to redouble
his efforts and as you concluded, I think we very
much hope to not have to be back here.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, but I mean 9 that's -- but remember, based on what happens 10 this time, 6 days was triggered from something 11 that happened less than a year ago. And if it 12 happens again, you are going to serve another 5 13 days suspension.

So you can say to me that this is a one-time thing, but remember something happened less than a year ago and that's why the 6 days were triggered, because something else happened. So you can't tell me it was just a one-time incident, something had happened.

20 But you know what, it's your business, 21 it's your money, but if you continue to do this, 22 you will get to a point where the Board would

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1 have no choice but to take your license away from 2 you, and it's not a matter of we feel sympathetic, that's what the statute says. 3 So it's not like -- okay, and I'm not 4 5 taking the time -- I'm taking the time to state 6 this, because it's important to you as a business 7 owner. It's not -- I don't want you not to 8 operate. And I don't want to take \$4,000 from 9 And that's -- so that's not what -- that's you. the point. 10 11 The point is just to say that we want 12 you to comply with the law and you need to make 13 sure that your employees comply with the law, 14 that no matter who comes in your establishment, no matter how old they look, is that you ask them 15 16 to prove their age. Some people take it as a 17 compliment. 18 When I go, yes, I have some grey and 19 I'm 54 years-old, I do take it as a compliment 20 that you think I look like 21, that's how -- I 21 take it that way. Okay? All right. Thank you. 22 MR. BIANCO: Thank you very much, Mr.

Appreciate it. Chair. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. MR. ADAMS: CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. (Whereupon, the Show Cause (Status) Hearing was concluded at 10:24 a.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Tariq Hussain

Before: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Date: 07-11-18

Place: Washington, DC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

near A ans f

Court Reporter

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