

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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ROLL CALL HEARING

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IN THE MATTER OF:           :
                             :
Allure Lounge, LLC          :
t/a Allure Lounge           :
711 H Street NE             :
License #ABRA-108303        :
Retailer Class CT           :
New Application              :
Case #18-PRO-00001          :
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018

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The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., Ms. LaVerne Fletcher, Agent, presiding.

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

2 10:13 a.m.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Would the
4 parties in the matter of Allure Lounge, please,
5 come forward? This is Case No. 18-PRO-00001,
6 Allure Lounge, LLC, 711 H Street, N.E., License
7 No. ABRA-108303. This is a Retailer Class CT new
8 application.

9 The protest issues are adverse impact
10 on peace, order and quiet; residential parking
11 and vehicular and pedestrian safety and real
12 property values.

13 My name is LaVerne Fletcher. I'm
14 conducting the Roll Call Hearing as the Board's
15 Agent. Is the Applicant present?

16 Present on behalf of ANC-6C?

17 MR. MILLER: Christopher Miller,
18 Commissioner.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr.
20 Miller. Mr. Miller, has there been any
21 communication between the ANC and the Applicant,
22 as far as you know?

1 MR. MILLER: The chair of our Alcohol
2 Committee emailed a draft settlement agreement to
3 the Applicant or the Applicant's representative,
4 but I'm not aware of any response.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: The application, the
6 new application is dismissed because the
7 Applicant is not present.

8 The Applicant will receive a Board
9 Order dismissing the new application and the ANC
10 will receive a copy of that. He will have -- he
11 or she will have 10 days to seek reinstatement of
12 the application. And if that happens, then we
13 will let you know.

14 If a settlement agreement is
15 submitted, the Board will receive it and review
16 it --

17 MR. MILLER: Okay.

18 AGENT FLETCHER: -- for approval. But
19 at this moment, the new application is dismissed.

20 MR. MILLER: All right.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. And, Mr.
22 Miller, did you put your contact information on

1 that sheet already?

2 MR. MILLER: Yes, I did.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you very
4 much. The Roll Call Hearing is concluded. Thank
5 you.

6 MR. MILLER: Thank you.

7 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
8 went off the record at 10:15 a.m. and resumed at
9 10:29 a.m.)

10 AGENT FLETCHER: We are reopening Case
11 No. 18-PRO-00001 to allow the Applicant an
12 opportunity to introduce himself for the record.

13 The application was previously
14 dismissed because the Applicant was not present.
15 The Applicant is now present. The time is,
16 approximately, 10:30. The record is being
17 reopened to give the Applicant an opportunity to
18 introduce himself.

19 Your name, sir?

20 MR. PEARLY: My name is Romeo Pearly.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: How do you spell the
22 first name?

1 MR. PEARLY: R-O-M-E-O.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: And what's the last
3 name?

4 MR. PEARLY: Spelling is P-E-A-R-L-Y.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: P-E-R?

6 MR. PEARLY: P-E-A-R-L-Y.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. And your name,
8 ma'am?

9 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Adanech Gebremeskel.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: Could you spell your
11 first name?

12 MS. GEBREMESKEL: A-D-A-N-E --

13 AGENT FLETCHER: I'm sorry? A?

14 MS. GEBREMESKEL: D-A --

15 AGENT FLETCHER: D as in dog?

16 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Yes. A-N-E-C-H.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: T-A?

18 MS. GEBREMESKEL: C-H.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: T-H?

20 MS. GEBREMESKEL: C like cat.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: What's -- the last
22 letter is H?

1 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Yes.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: And what's the last
3 name?

4 MS. GEBREMESKEL: G-E-B-R-E-M-E-S-K-E-
5 L.

6 AGENT FLETCHER: I'm going to ask you
7 to --

8 MR. PEARLY: Should I give you ID?

9 AGENT FLETCHER: No. I had taken --
10 just a second. Give me a second, please. I'm
11 going to ask you both to sign-in. If you could
12 just --

13 MR. PEARLY: Sure, ma'am.

14 AGENT FLETCHER: -- on there and you
15 are his agent? What is your role, did you say
16 earlier? Your role is?

17 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Yes.

18 MR. PEARLY: Owner, agent, yes.

19 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Owner and agent.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: Agent?

21 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Yes.

22 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. So when you

1 sign-in, if you could just write that beside your
2 name just for our records.

3 MR. PEARLY: All right.

4 AGENT FLETCHER: You're the owner?

5 MR. PEARLY: I'm the representative of
6 the owner.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay.

8 MR. PEARLY: I'm one of the partners.

9 AGENT FLETCHER: You're one of the --
10 so are you a co-owner?

11 MR. PEARLY: Yes.

12 AGENT FLETCHER: Or representative of
13 an owner?

14 MR. PEARLY: Yes, representative,
15 right.

16 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. I'm saying
17 that because if you are not the owner, the owner
18 -- because if you are not the owner, the owner
19 must be present at the upcoming hearing.

20 MR. PEARLY: All right. Definitely.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay.

22 MR. PEARLY: No problem. I'll make

1 sure of that.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Can you pardon
3 me for one second?

4 MR. PEARLY: Sure.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: I'm just going to
6 grab a piece of paper. I'll be right back.

7 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
8 went off the record at 10:32 a.m. and resumed at
9 10:33 a.m.)

10 MR. PEARLY: What should I write on
11 this, establishment?

12 AGENT FLETCHER: No, that's okay.
13 Just your name, email address and daytime number,
14 Mr. Pearly, will be fine.

15 MR. PEARLY: Yes.

16 AGENT FLETCHER: So the next step, Mr.
17 Pearly, is there is going to be a mediation, a
18 Status Hearing and a Protest Hearing --

19 MR. PEARLY: All right.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: -- date scheduled.
21 You are going to get an email from me along with
22 the representative from ANC-6C --

1 MR. PEARLY: All right.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: -- to inform you of
3 the dates for the Status and the Protest Hearing
4 and I will offer you some dates for mediation to
5 consider.

6 MR. PEARLY: All right.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: The dismissal of the
8 application is retracted, because you are here
9 now.

10 MR. PEARLY: Right. Thank you.

11 AGENT FLETCHER: You're welcome. Can
12 you do me -- I want to make sure I can read your
13 email address, Mr. Pearly, because any further
14 communication is going to be by email.

15 So is that Panama Corporation?

16 MR. PEARLY: It's Panam Corporation.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: P-A-N-A?

18 MR. PEARLY: M.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

20 MR. PEARLY: C-O-R-P-O-R-A-T-I-O-N.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Oh, okay. P-A-N-A --
22 let me just make sure.

1 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes, I see the word
3 corporation in the address, but what is this
4 part?

5 MR. PEARLY: M. That's P-A-N-A-M.

6 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.
7 Thank you very much.

8 MR. PEARLY: Sure.

9 AGENT FLETCHER: I just wanted to make
10 sure, so that I can get your email to the right
11 address.

12 MR. PEARLY: I appreciate that, ma'am.

13 AGENT FLETCHER: You are very welcome.
14 And before you came, Mr. Pearly, ANC-6C, just so
15 you know, they were granted standing as a
16 protestant and I'm aware that they sent you a
17 draft settlement agreement.

18 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Did you receive it,
20 the draft settlement agreement that they sent?

21 MR. PEARLY: I haven't looked into it.
22 I didn't receive anything yet.

1 AGENT FLETCHER: And it's okay if you
2 haven't. I'm just stating this only for the
3 record.

4 MR. PEARLY: All right.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Mr. Christopher
6 Miller was here from ANC-6C.

7 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

8 AGENT FLETCHER: He mentioned that the
9 ANC had drafted a settlement agreement that they
10 sent to you or maybe you don't have it yet. But
11 if you look at that settlement agreement and it's
12 okay with you, you can just let us know.

13 MR. PEARLY: All right.

14 AGENT FLETCHER: If it's not okay with
15 you and you all can't reach a settlement, then at
16 the mediation that we set is where you would come
17 to attempt to negotiate a settlement that you are
18 in agreement with.

19 MR. PEARLY: All right.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: But if you read the
21 agreement and you are okay with it and you and
22 the ANC submit the settlement agreement, if the

1 Board approves it, then the Protest Hearing would
2 be canceled.

3 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

4 AGENT FLETCHER: And there is also a
5 Status Hearing that comes up where the Board
6 wants to know the status of the case.

7 MR. PEARLY: Right.

8 AGENT FLETCHER: And if you all have
9 entered into a settlement agreement prior to the
10 Status Hearing, the Board cancels the Status
11 Hearing as well.

12 MR. PEARLY: All right.

13 AGENT FLETCHER: So if the matter is
14 settled, we --

15 MR. PEARLY: Before it start?

16 AGENT FLETCHER: -- cancel any future
17 proceedings.

18 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: If not, we just move
20 forward.

21 MR. PEARLY: Sure.

22 AGENT FLETCHER: Any questions?

1 MR. PEARLY: I believe I have the
2 draft settlement.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. And if you
4 look at it and it's okay with you, it's fine with
5 us. I'm going to send you that email with the
6 dates that I mentioned and we can just go from
7 there.

8 MR. PEARLY: All right. So if we
9 agree to it, we sign it?

10 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

11 MR. PEARLY: And who do I provide it
12 to?

13 AGENT FLETCHER: If you agree with it
14 and you sign it, the ANC will submit it. They
15 will just submit it to the Agency.

16 MR. PEARLY: All right.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: It --

18 MR. PEARLY: How do I give it to the
19 ANC? Give it back to the ANC after I have
20 signed?

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Yeah, they -- you all
22 will coordinate that, so once you read it and

1 respond back to whomever sent it to you --

2 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: -- you all will work
4 out the logistics of getting it signed if you are
5 going to sign it.

6 MR. PEARLY: All right.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: So whatever --
8 however you all work it out. Somebody from the
9 ANC might come to you. You might go to them.

10 MR. PEARLY: Okay.

11 AGENT FLETCHER: But you all can --
12 the logistics won't be a problem.

13 MR. PEARLY: All right. That's very
14 nice of you.

15 AGENT FLETCHER: And once that is
16 done, most likely it would be the ANC that sends
17 it to us. We don't care who we get it from, as
18 long as we get it.

19 MR. PEARLY: All right.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: But they would
21 probably send it in.

22 MR. PEARLY: All right.

1 AGENT FLETCHER: And as I said, if you
2 look at it and you are not in agreement with it,
3 you can continue to try to work it out with them,
4 if you can. If not, that's what the mediation
5 here is for.

6 MR. PEARLY: All right. Thank you.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: You're very welcome.
8 And I don't have one of my cards. I took them
9 all back, but my name is LaVerne Fletcher.

10 MR. PEARLY: Can you write out the
11 name and --

12 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes, because --

13 MR. PEARLY: -- if I could have your
14 number, too?

15 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

16 MR. PEARLY: Thank you.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: My name is LaVerne
18 Fletcher. My first name is spelled L-A-V, like
19 Victor, E-R-N-E the last name is Fletcher. It's
20 spelled F, like Frank, L-E-T-C-H-E-R. My
21 telephone number is (202) 442-4499.

22 Today I am here in my capacity as the

1 Board's Agent. I'm also the Board's mediator.
2 And so if you all aren't able to resolve the
3 matter amongst yourselves --

4 MR. PEARLY: All right.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: -- then you would
6 come to mediation with the Board's mediator to
7 try to resolve the matter.

8 So if you have any questions, my email
9 address is my name. It's laverne.fletcher
10 though. There is a laverne.fletcher@dc.gov.

11 MR. PEARLY: All right.

12 AGENT FLETCHER: And LaVerne is -- I
13 don't need to tell you that part. Never mind.
14 I'm sure you wrote it altogether, so that's fine.

15 MR. PEARLY: Thank you.

16 AGENT FLETCHER: That's fine just like
17 it is. So any other questions?

18 MR. PEARLY: No, ma'am. You have been
19 completely helpful. We are thankful to you.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: You are very welcome.
21 Thank you for coming.

22 MR. PEARLY: Thank you, ma'am.

1 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Thank you.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. The Roll Call
3 Hearing is concluded.

4 MR. PEARLY: All right.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you.

6 MR. PEARLY: We really appreciate you
7 and you, sir. You have been very helpful.

8 (Whereupon, the Roll Call Hearing was
9 concluded at 10:40 a.m.)

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<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>A-D-A-N-E 5:12 A-N-E-C-H 5:16 a.m 2:2 4:8,9 8:8,9 17:9 able 16:2 above-entitled 4:7 8:7 ABRA-108303 1:10 2:7 Adanech 5:9 address 8:13 9:13 10:3 10:11 16:9 adverse 2:9 Agency 13:15 agent 1:17 2:3,15,19 3:5,18,21 4:3,10,21 5:2,5,7,10,13,15,17 5:19,21 6:2,6,9,14,15 6:18,19,20,20,22 7:4 7:7,9,12,16,21 8:2,5 8:12,16,20 9:2,7,11 9:17,19,21 10:2,6,9 10:13,19 11:1,5,8,14 11:20 12:4,8,13,16,19 12:22 13:3,10,13,17 13:21 14:3,7,11,15,20 15:1,7,12,15,17 16:1 16:5,12,16,20 17:2,5 agree 13:9,13 agreement 3:2,14 10:17 10:20 11:9,11,18,21 11:22 12:9 15:2 Alcohol 3:1 Alcoholic 1:3,16,16 allow 4:11 Allure 1:9,9 2:4,6 altogether 16:14 ANC 2:21 3:9 11:9,22 13:14,19,19 14:9,16 ANC-6C 2:16 8:22 10:14 11:6 Applicant 2:15,21 3:3,7 3:8 4:11,14,15,17 Applicant's 3:3 application 1:11 2:8 3:5 3:6,9,12,19 4:13 9:8 appreciate 10:12 17:6 approval 3:18 approves 12:1 approximately 4:16 attempt 11:17 aware 3:4 10:16</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">B</p> <p>back 8:6 13:19 14:1 15:9 behalf 2:16 believe 13:1 Beverage 1:3,16,16 Board 1:3,16 3:8,15</p>	<p>12:1,5,10 Board's 2:14 16:1,1,6 Building 1:17</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <p>C 5:20 C-H 5:18 C-O-R-P-O-R-A-T-I-O-N 9:20 Call 1:5 2:14 4:4 17:2,8 cancel 12:16 canceled 12:2 cancels 12:10 capacity 15:22 cards 15:8 care 14:17 case 1:12 2:5 4:10 12:6 cat 5:20 chair 3:1 Christopher 2:17 11:5 Class 1:11 2:7 co-owner 7:10 COLUMBIA 1:1 come 2:5 11:16 14:9 16:6 comes 12:5 coming 16:21 Commissioner 2:18 Committee 3:2 communication 2:21 9:14 completely 16:19 concluded 4:4 17:3,9 conducting 2:14 consider 9:5 contact 3:22 continue 15:3 Control 1:3,16,16 coordinate 13:22 copy 3:10 corporation 9:15,16 10:3 CT 1:11 2:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">D</p> <p>D 5:15 D-A 5:14 D.C 1:17 date 8:20 dates 9:3,4 13:6 days 3:11 daytime 8:13 Definitely 7:20 dismissal 9:7 dismissed 3:6,19 4:14 dismissing 3:9 DISTRICT 1:1 dog 5:15</p>	<p>draft 3:2 10:17,20 13:2 drafted 11:9</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">E</p> <p>E-R-N-E 15:19 earlier 6:16 email 8:13,21 9:13,14 10:10 13:5 16:8 emailed 3:2 entered 12:9 establishment 8:11</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">F</p> <p>F 15:20 far 2:22 fine 8:14 13:4 16:14,16 first 4:22 5:11 15:18 Fletcher 1:17 2:3,13,19 3:5,18,21 4:3,10,21 5:2,5,7,10,13,15,17 5:19,21 6:2,6,9,14,20 6:22 7:4,7,9,12,16,21 8:2,5,12,16,20 9:2,7 9:11,17,19,21 10:2,6 10:9,13,19 11:1,5,8 11:14,20 12:4,8,13,16 12:19,22 13:3,10,13 13:17,21 14:3,7,11,15 14:20 15:1,7,9,12,15 15:17,18,19 16:5,12 16:16,20 17:2,5 forward 2:5 12:20 Frank 15:20 further 9:13 future 12:16</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <p>G-E-B-R-E-M-E-S-K-E- 6:4 Gebremeskel 5:9,9,12 5:14,16,18,20 6:1,4 6:17,19,21 17:1 getting 14:4 give 4:17 6:8,10 13:18 13:19 grab 8:6 granted 10:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <p>H 1:10 2:6 5:22 happens 3:12 hearing 1:5,16 2:14 4:4 7:19 8:18,18 9:3 12:1 12:5,10,11 17:3,8 helpful 16:19 17:7</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">I</p> <p>ID 6:8</p>	<p>impact 2:9 inform 9:2 information 3:22 introduce 4:12,18 issues 2:9</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">J</p> <p>JANUARY 1:14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <p>L 6:5 L-A-V 15:18 L-E-T-C-H-E-R 15:20 LaVerne 1:17 2:13 15:9 15:17 16:12 laverne.fletcher 16:9 laverne.fletcher@dc.... 16:10 letter 5:22 License 1:10 2:6 LLC 1:9 2:6 logistics 14:4,12 long 14:18 look 11:11 13:4 15:2 looked 10:21 Lounge 1:9,9 2:4,6</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">M</p> <p>M 9:18 10:5 ma'am 5:8 6:13 10:12 16:18,22 matter 1:8 2:4 4:7 8:7 12:13 16:3,7 mediation 8:17 9:4 11:16 15:4 16:6 mediator 16:1,6 mentioned 11:8 13:6 met 1:16 Miller 2:17,17,20,20 3:1 3:17,20,22 4:2,6 11:6 mind 16:13 moment 3:19 move 12:19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">N</p> <p>N.E 2:6 N.W 1:17 name 2:13 4:19,20,22 5:3,7,11 6:3 7:2 8:13 15:9,11,17,18,19 16:9 NE 1:10 need 16:13 negotiate 11:17 Never 16:13 new 1:11 2:7 3:6,9,19 nice 14:14</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: Allure Lounge

Before: DC ABRA

Date: 01-16-18

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.



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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