DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

+ + + + +

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

+ + + + + MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF: :

:

Betty's Gojo Restaurant :

and Lounge, LLC : Show Cause
t/a Betty's Gojo : Hearing

7616 Georgia Ave NW :
Retailer CR - ANC 4A :
License #102500 :
Case No. 18-CMP-00121 :

:

(Failed to Qualify as a : Restaurant) :

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

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:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson NICK ALBERTI, Member BOBBY CATO, JR., Member MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

ABEBA WELDEGEBREIL, Applicant LOUISE PHILLIPS, DC OAG

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	2:29 p.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. We are
4	back on the record. Our next case is Case No.
5	18-CMP-00121, Betty's Gojo, License No. 102500.
6	Will the parties, please, approach and
7	identify themselves for the record, please?
8	Hold on one minute, please, sir. Sir,
9	can you you are a translator?
10	INTERPRETER ZEWDE: Yes, the
11	interpreter.
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Interpreter,
13	okay.
14	INTERPRETER ZEWDE: My name is
15	Sofonmos Zewde.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what
17	language is this, sir?
18	INTERPRETER ZEWDE: Tigrinya.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
20	Hold on one minute. All right. Can you raise
21	your right hand, please?
22	Do you solemnly affirm that you will

1	faithfully and accurately interpret these
2	proceedings in the matter from English to
3	Tigrinya and from Tigrinya into English to the
4	best of your ability?
5	INTERPRETER ZEWDE: I do.
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
7	Have a seat, sir. You are the interpreter and so
8	I need you not to have a conversation, but to
9	interpret everything that is being said. Okay?
LO	INTERPRETER ZEWDE: All right.
L1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you. So
L 2	can we have the Government introduce itself?
L3	MS. PHILLIPS: Louise Phillips,
L 4	Assistant Attorney General, for the District of
L5	Columbia.
L6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Phillips.
L 7	Can I have her introduce herself, please?
L8	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: My name is Abeba
L9	Weldegebreil. Weldegebreil the last name.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good afternoon,
21	ma'am, Weldegebreil.
22	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: Weldegebreil.

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hopefully
2	before the hearing is over, I'll be able to
3	pronounce it, but there is a sign-in sheet, so if
4	you haven't signed in your name, please sign-in
5	on the sheet.
6	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: Yes.
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And the
8	interpreter should also sign-in on the sheet.
9	All right. Okay. This is a Show
10	Cause Hearing. Are there any preliminary matters
11	in this case?
12	MS. PHILLIPS: Yes, indeed, there are,
13	Mr. Chair.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is the
15	preliminary matter?
16	MS. PHILLIPS: The preliminary matter
17	is that the parties have an Offer in Compromise
18	that they wish to present to the Board. I want
19	to put some more information on the record.
20	The interpreter and I and one of the
21	owners that is present, managing members, have
22	had an extensive period of time speaking about

the investigative report and going over the 1 2 charges. So that the managing member or owner, 3 4 Ms. Weldegebreil, understands what is going on 5 and what the charges are. We have also discussed fairly 6 7 extensively during the time that we were all 8 here, and the Board came back which was good 9

extensively during the time that we were all here, and the Board came back which was good because we needed the time, ways that the owners could improve their management of their establishment, so that they are more closely aligned with the rules and regulations that ABRA enforces and which they are responsible to pursue.

With that on the record, the OIC would be a fine of \$2,500 to be paid within 90 days or the license will be suspended indefinitely.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And that's it?

MS. PHILLIPS: That's it.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

Ma'am, it is my understanding that there is an

Offer in Compromise. And the Offer in Compromise

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

1	is that there is a fine of \$2,500 payable in 90
2	days. If the fine is not payable in 90 days, the
3	license will be suspended until the fine has been
4	paid.
5	Is this your understanding of the
6	Offer in Compromise?
7	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: So we will be
8	suspended if we don't pay within 90 days?
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. So is
10	this your understanding of the Offer in
11	Compromise?
12	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: Yes.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you aware
14	that by accepting an Offer in Compromise, that
15	you are giving up your right to a hearing?
16	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: Yes.
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you aware
18	that by accepting an Offer in Compromise, that
19	you are giving up your right to appeal this
20	matter?
21	MS. WELDEGEBREIL: Yes.
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

1	Thank you. With that said, I make a motion that
2	the Offer in Compromise of a fine of \$2,500
3	payable in 90 days be accepted. If the fine is
4	not payable in 90 days, the license will be
5	suspended until the fine has been paid.
6	Is there a second?
7	MEMBER CATO: Second.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Cato has
9	seconded the motion.
10	All those in favor say aye.
11	ALL: Aye.
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?
13	The matter passes 4-0-0.
14	I would like to we will have you
15	sign-off on this paperwork, ma'am.
16	I would like to thank the parties for
17	taking the time to come to an agreement on this
18	matter. And thank you and have a good day. All
19	right. Thank you. We are off the record.
20	(Whereupon, the Show Cause Hearing was
21	concluded at 2:36 p.m.)
22	

	l ————	L	
A	D	license 1:8 2:5 5:17 6:3	pronounce 4:3
Abeba 1:21 3:18	D.C 1:15	7:4	pursue 5:14
ability 3:4	day 7:18	LLC 1:6	put 4:19
able 4:2	days 5:16 6:2,2,8 7:3,4	Louise 1:22 3:13	-
ABRA 5:12	DC 1:22	Lounge 1:6	Q
accepted 7:3	December 1:12	l	Qualify 1:10
		M	
accepting 6:14,18	discussed 5:6	ma'am 3:21 5:21 7:15	R
accurately 3:1	District 1:1 3:14	management 5:10	raise 2:20
affirm 2:22	Donovan 1:15,17		
afternoon 3:20		managing 4:21 5:3	record 2:4,7 4:19 5:15
agreement 7:17	E	matter 1:5 3:2 4:15,16	7:19
ALBERTI 1:18	enforces 5:13	6:20 7:13,18	Reeves 1:14
Alcoholic 1:2,13,14	English 3:2,3	matters 4:10	regulations 5:12
aligned 5:12	establishment 5:11	MEETING 1:3	REMA 1:19
ANC 1:8	extensive 4:22	member 1:18,18,19,19	report 5:1
Anderson 1:15,17 2:3	extensively 5:7	5:3 7:7	responsible 5:13
2:12,16,19 3:6,11,16	extensively 5.7	members 4:21	Restaurant 1:6,10
		met 1:14	Retailer 1:8
3:20 4:1,7,14 5:18,20	<u>-</u>	MIKE 1:19	Room 1:14
6:9,13,17,22 7:8,12	Failed 1:10	minute 2:8,20	rules 5:12
appeal 6:19	fairly 5:6		1 ules 5.12
Applicant 1:21	faithfully 3:1	motion 7:1,9	s
approach 2:6	favor 7:10		
Assistant 3:14	fine 5:16 6:1,2,3 7:2,3,5	N	seat 3:7
Attorney 3:14	l	N.W 1:14	second 7:6,7
Ave 1:7	G	name 2:14 3:18,19 4:4	seconded 7:9
aware 6:13,17	General 3:14	need 3:8	sheet 4:3,5,8
aye 7:10,11	Georgia 1:7	needed 5:9	Show 1:6 4:9 7:20
aye 1.10,11		NICK 1:18	sign-in 4:3,4,8
В	giving 6:15,19	NW 1:7	sign-off 7:15
	Gojo 1:6,7 2:5	1	signed 4:4
back 2:4 5:8	Government 3:12	0	SILVERSTEIN 1:19
best 3:4		OAG 1:22	
Betty's 1:6,7 2:5	Н		sir 2:8,8,17 3:7
Beverage 1:2,13,14	hand 2:21	Offer 4:17 5:22,22 6:6	Sofonmos 2:15
Board 1:2,13 4:18 5:8	hearing 1:7,14 4:2,10	6:10,14,18 7:2	solemnly 2:22
BOBBY 1:18	6:15 7:20	OIC 5:15	speaking 4:22
Building 1:14	Hold 2:8,20	opposed 7:12	Street 1:14
9	Hopefully 4:1	owner 5:3	Suite 1:15
С	Tioperany 4.1	owners 4:21 5:9	suspended 5:17 6:3,8
case 1:9 2:4,4 4:11	1		7:5
Cato 1:18 7:7,8	identify 2:7	P	l
Cause 1:6 4:10 7:20	improve 5:10	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S	T
Chair 4:13	indefinitely 5:17	2:1	t/a 1:7
Chairperson 1:15,17	information 4:19	p.m 2:2 7:21	thank 3:11 7:1,16,18,1
2:3,12,16,19 3:6,11	interpret 3:1,9	paid 5:16 6:4 7:5	Tigrinya 2:18 3:3,3
		paperwork 7:15	translator 2:9
3:16,20 4:1,7,14 5:18	interpreter 2:10,11,12	parties 2:6 4:17 7:16	
5:20 6:9,13,17,22 7:8	2:14,18 3:5,7,10 4:8	passes 7:13	U
7:12	4:20	pay 6:8	understanding 5:21 6
charges 5:2,5	introduce 3:12,17		
closely 5:11	investigative 5:1	payable 6:1,2 7:3,4	6:10
Columbia 1:1 3:15	-	period 4:22	understands 5:4
come 7:17	J	Phillips 1:22 3:13,13,16	
Compromise 4:17 5:22	JR 1:18	4:12,16 5:19	V
5:22 6:6,11,14,18 7:2		please 2:6,7,8,21 3:17	14/
concluded 7:21	K	4:4	<u>W</u>
Control 1:2,13,14		preliminary 4:10,15,16	W 1:15,17
conversation 3:8	L	present 1:16,20 4:18,21	WAHABZADAH 1:19
CR 1:8	language 2:17	presiding 1:15	Washington 1:15
	-	proceedings 3:2	ways 5:9

		9
	I	I
Wednesday 1:12		
Weldegebreil 1:21 3:18		
3:19,19,21,22,22 4:6		
5:4 6:7,12,16,21		
3.4 0.7, 12, 10,21		
wish 4:18		
X		
Υ		
Z		
Zewde 2:10,14,15,18		
3:5,10		
0		
1		
102500 1:8 2:5		
12 1:12		
14th 1:14		
18-CMP-00121 1:9 2:5		
2		
2,500 5:16 6:1 7:2		
2:29 2:2		
2:36 7:21		
2000 1:14		
20009 1:15		
2018 1:12		
2010 1.12		
3		
4		
4-0-0 7:13		
400S 1:15		
4A 1:8		
4A 1.0		
5		
<u>J</u>		
6		
7		
7616 1:7		
1010 1.7		
8		
9		
90 5:16 6:1,2,8 7:3,4		
22 3 3,2,3 7,1		
	Î	İ

<u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Betty's Gojo

Before: DCABRA

Date: 12-12-18

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

near Nous &