

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
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MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
Betty's Gojo Restaurant :
and Lounge, LLC :
t/a Betty's Gojo :
7616 Georgia Ave NW : Show Cause
Retailer CR - ANC 4A : Hearing
License No. 102500 :
Case #18-CIT-00349 :
 :
(Failed to File Quarterly:
Statements) :

Wednesday,
October 17, 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
MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member
JAMES SHORT, Member
REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

ABEBA WELDEGEBRIEL, APPLICANT
KIBREAB EMBAYE, APPLICANT
CHRISSY GEPHARDT, OAG

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

2 3:36 p.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Our next case
4 is a Show Cause Hearing, Case No. 18-CIT-00349,
5 Betty's Gojo, License No. 102500.

6 Will the parties, please, approach and
7 identify themselves for the record? I'm sorry,
8 who are you, ma'am?

9 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Abeba Weldegebriel.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You are who?

11 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Abeba. Abeba.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you a
13 translator or are you with him?

14 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Owner.

15 MR. EMBAYE: No, no, no, we are the
16 owners.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, no, I
18 apologize. I thought --

19 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Betty's Gojo.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, no, it's
21 the other case that we have the translator.

22 MR. EMBAYE: Oh, sorry, sir.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I apologize.

2 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Oh.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. All
4 right. Okay. I'm sorry, go ahead, please, yes.

5 MS. GEPHARDT: Okay. Chrissy Gephardt
6 here on behalf of the Office of the Attorney
7 General for the District of Columbia.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good afternoon,
9 Ms. Gephardt.

10 MR. EMBAYE: Kibreab Embaye.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Embaye.

12 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Embaye.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Embaye. Good
14 afternoon, sir. Yes, ma'am?

15 MS. WELDEGEBRIEL: Abeba Weldegebriel.
16 Abeba. Abeba.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right. You see
18 we always start off and then we start off loud
19 and then we trail off.

20 MR. EMBAYE: Okay.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So you have to
22 be consistent. There is a sign-in sheet, make

1 sure that you sign-in, you sign both of your
2 names on the sign-in sheet, please.

3 This is a Show Cause Hearing. Are
4 there any preliminary matters in this case?

5 MS. GEPHARDT: Yes, there is a
6 preliminary matter. The parties have agreed on
7 an Offer in Compromise to be as follows:

8 For Charge 1, for failing to file the
9 required quarterly statement for the first
10 quarter on time, it's an \$850 fine to be paid
11 within 30 days. If it is not paid within 30
12 days, the license will be suspended indefinitely
13 until the fine is paid.

14 And then I also want to make note that
15 the quarterly statement was ultimately fined --
16 filed late on June 12, 2018, so it has been
17 submitted.

18 MEMBER SHORT: Good.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That's it?

20 MS. GEPHARDT: And that's it.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. It
22 is my understanding there is an Offer in

1 Compromise and the Offer in Compromise is that
2 there is a fine of \$850 payable in 30 days. If
3 the fine is not payable in 30 days, the license
4 will be suspended until the fine has been paid.

5 And it is also my understanding that
6 the late file -- the quarterly statement was
7 subsequently filed.

8 Is this your understanding of the
9 Offer in Compromise?

10 MR. EMBAYE: Yes.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you aware
12 that by accepting an Offer in Compromise, that
13 you are giving up your right to a hearing?

14 MR. EMBAYE: Yes.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you also
16 aware that by accepting an Offer in Compromise,
17 that you are giving up your right to appeal this
18 matter?

19 MR. EMBAYE: Yes.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: With that said,
21 I then make a motion that the fine of \$850
22 payable in 30 days be accepted. If the fine is

1 not payable in 30 days, the license will be
2 suspended until the fine has been paid.

3 Is there a second?

4 MEMBER SHORT: Second.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has
6 seconded the motion.

7 All those in favor say aye.

8 ALL: Aye.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?
10 The matter passes 4-0-0.

11 All right. Thank you. I want to
12 thank the parties for coming to an agreement on
13 this matter. And thank you. I'll have you sign-
14 off on this order.

15 MS. GEPHARDT: Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: This decision
17 sheet. Thank you. Have a great day.

18 MS. GEPHARDT: Yes, you, too.

19 (Whereupon, the Show Cause Hearing was
20 concluded at 3:39 p.m.)
21
22

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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: Betty's Gojo Restaurant

Before: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Date: 10-17-18

Place: Washington, D.C.

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

Neal R Gross

Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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