## THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

In the Matter of:	)		
BL 1701 14th DC, LLC	)		
t/a Bluestone Lane	)	Case No.:	19-PRO-00112
Application for a New	)	License No.:	ABRA-114952
Retailer's Class CR License	) )	Order No.:	2019-926
at premises	)		
1701 14th Street, NW	)		
Washington, D.C. 20009	)		

BL 1701 14th DC, LLC, t/a Bluestone Lane, Applicant

Mathew Minora, Counsel, on behalf of the Applicant

John Fanning, Chairperson, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2F

Mathew Jones, on behalf of A Group of Five or More Individuals

**BEFORE:** 

Donovan Anderson, Chairperson

James Short, Member Bobby Cato, Member

Rema Wahabzadah, Member Rafi Crockett, Member

# ORDER ON SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND DISMISSAL OF A GROUP OF FIVE OR MORE INDIVIDUALS' PROTEST

The Application filed by BL 1701 14th DC, LLC, t/a Bluestone Lane (Applicant), for a new Retailer's Class CR License, having been protested by a Group of Five or More Individuals, came before the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) for a Roll Call Hearing on November 12, 2019, in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 25-601 (2001). At the hearing, the Board's agent granted conditional standing to the Group of Five or More Individuals.

The official records of the Board reflect that prior to the Protest Status Hearing, the Applicant and ANC 2F entered into a Settlement Agreement (Agreement), dated November 11, 2019, 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 Chairperson John Fanning, on behalf of ANC 2F, are signatories to the Agreement.

In addition, the Board dismissed the Protest of the Group of Five or More Individuals pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-609(b), which states that "...In the event that an affected ANC submits a settlement agreement to the Board on a protested license application, the Board, upon its approval of the settlement agreement, shall dismiss any protest of a group of no fewer than 5 residents or property owners meeting the requirements of § 25-601(2)..."

Accordingly, it is this 11th day of December, 2019, **ORDERED** that:

- 1. The Application filed by BL 1701 14th DC, LLC, t/a Bluestone Lane, for a new Retailer's Class CR License, located at 1701 14th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., is **GRANTED**;
- 2. The above-referenced Settlement Agreement submitted by the Applicant and ANC 2F to govern the operations of the Applicant's establishment is **APPROVED** and **INCORPORATED** as part of this Order, except for the following modification:

Section 2 (Nature of the Business) – The language "shall require approval by the ABC Board" shall be replaced with the language "may require approval by the ABC Board."

The Applicant and ANC 2F have agreed to this modification.

- 3. The Protest of the Group of Five or More Individuals is **DISMISSED**; and
- 4. Copies of this Order shall be sent to the Applicant, ANC 2F, and Mathew Jones, on behalf of the Group of Five or More Individuals.

District of Columbia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Donovan Anderson, Chairperson

James Short, Member

Bobby Cato, Member

Rema Wahabzadah, Member

Rafi Crockett, Member

Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-433(d)(1), 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 Regulation Administration, 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, DC 20009.

Also, pursuant to section 11 of the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act, Pub. L. 90-614, 82 Stat. 1209, D.C. Official Code §2-510 (2001), and Rule 15 of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, any party adversely affected has the right to appeal this Order by filing a petition for review, within thirty (30) days of the date of service of this Order, with the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, 430 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001; (202/879-1010). However, the timely filing of a Motion for Reconsideration pursuant to 23 DCMR §1719.1 (2008) 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).

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November 2019, by and between BL 1701 14<sup>th</sup> DC LLC ("Applicant") and Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F ("ANC 2F").

#### RECITALS

- (a) Applicant has applied for a Retailer Class C/R License (the "License") for a business establishment ("Establishment") located at 1701 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Washington, DC (the "Premises"); and,
- (b) Applicant desires to cooperate with the ANC in order to mitigate concerns related to the potential impact of operation of the Establishment on the surrounding community; and,
- (c) In lieu of contested protest proceedings regarding the application for the License, the Parties wish to enter into a Settlement Agreement pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-446 to address such concerns:

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. <u>Nature of the Business</u>. The applicant will manage and operate a Australian Café. Any change from this model shall require prior approval by the ABC Board.
- 3. <u>Hours of Operation</u>. It is understood that upon expiration of the below hours of operation, no patron may remain on the interior or exterior of the Premises. Applicant's hours will not exceed the following:
  - a. Hours shall be no later than:
    - i. Sunday Thursday: 7am to 12:00am
    - ii. Friday Saturday: 7am to 12:00am

### Additionally:

- b. Applicant's kitchen facilities shall remain open with full menu service until a minimum of one (1) hour prior to closing.
- c. Alcohol service shall end 30 minutes prior to closing.
- d. Exceptions to the standard hours shall be granted for:
  - Days designated by the ABC Board as "Extended Hours for ABC Establishments" or "Daylight Savings Time Extension of Hours" - Applicant may operate for one additional hour (that is, one hour later);
  - ii. In the event the Council of the District of Columbia or the ABC Board grants licensees in general extended operating hours for specific occasions, such as Inauguration or World Cup, Applicant may avail itself of such extended hours;
  - iii. And, on January 1 of each year Applicant may operate for one additional hour.
- 4. <u>Sidewalk Café</u>. The Applicant may have outside seating in accordance with a sidewalk café endorsement to its ABC license and a duly-issued public space permit, and may serve alcoholic beverages to seated patrons in such area, provided, the total capacity for such sidewalk café shall not exceed 36 seats. Any increase in such seating shall require approval of the District of Columbia Public Space Committee and approval by the ABC Board. Applicant shall not serve alcoholic beverages on its sidewalk café later than
  - a. Sunday Thursday: 7am to 10:00pm

- b. Friday Saturday: 7am to 10:00pm
  Applicant will inspect the sidewalk cafe regularly for compliance.
- 5. Noise. Applicant shall adhere to DC Code 25-725 with respect to emanation of noise from the establishment. Applicant shall undertake such measures as reasonably are required to preclude unreasonable disturbance to occupants of abutting residential properties from emanation of noise or vibration from the Establishment, including from patrons at, entering, or exiting the establishment. Applicant shall present only recorded background music. Applicant will not install any exterior speakers to the Establishment, and agrees that no speakers will be installed in or in any way directed to the sidewalk café or summer garden.
- 6. [FOR C/R Applicants] Public Space ADA Compliance. Applicant shall make every reasonable accommodation to meet or exceed the expectations of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 7. Public Space and Trash. Applicant shall keep the sidewalk (up to and including the curb), tree boxes and alley free of litter, bottles, chewing gum, trash, and other debris in compliance with D.C. Code and Municipal Regulations. Applicant shall police these areas daily for refuse and other materials. Applicant shall also provide cigarette urns and cigarettes butt receptacle wherever patron gather to smoke.
- 8. Trash and Recycling. Applicant will contract with a trash and recycling contractor to provide sealable container(s) for trash, food waste, and recycling designed to prevent rodent intrusion, and further agrees to keep the containers closed and sealed at all times when waste is not being disposed. Applicant further agrees to hold all trash, food waste, and recycling within the building until the morning of the scheduled pick-up. The Applicant shall require its trash and recycling contractors to pick up trash and materials not earlier than 7:00 a.m. Applicant's employees shall not dispose of bottles or glass into trash containers or dumpsters in a manner which creates noise audible outside of the premises after 11:00 p.m.
- 9. Rat and Vermin Control. Applicant will contract with a professional, licensed rat, pest, and vermin control company to provide for at least bimonthly control for the interior and exterior of the premises to control pests. The professional will use, correctly locate and secure enclosed rat traps (not bait stations), and replace worn out parts inside the traps periodically. The applicant will take reasonable measures to prevent food and grease from washing down alleys and streets. Restaurant equipment, such as but not limited to kitchen mats and hood vent filters, should be cleaned offsite and not in the surrounding area of the restaurant.
- 10. <u>Patrons</u>. Applicant shall take reasonable steps to prevent its patrons from causing noise or disturbances in front of, or immediately adjacent to, the Establishment during the hours of operation and as they depart at closing.
- 11. Complaint Log. The Establishment's website will prominently feature the name and contact information for an individual to which any comments about the operation of the establishment may be addressed. The Applicant shall maintain a log for every complaint lodged with the establishment for any issue relating to this Agreement, including, but not limited to, complaints of noise, parking congestion, traffic congestion, security, trash, rodents, incidents, violence, crime, and/or operating hours. The log shall include, for each separate complaint, to the extent provided by any such complainant, the name of the complainant, the date of the complaint, any

contact information provided by the complainant, the nature of the complaint, and the response taken by the Applicant or the Establishment. Every complaint shall be kept on file in the complaint log for a minimum of three years from the date on which the complaint was made. Applicant shall make the complaint log available to the Board for inspection and copying upon reasonable advance request.

- 12. <u>Agreement Available Upon Demand</u>. A copy of this Agreement shall be kept on the premises and made available to law enforcement officers and Alcoholic Beverage Regulatory Administration inspectors immediately upon request.
- 13. <u>Compliance with ABRA Regulations</u>. Applicant shall abide by applicable Alcoholic Beverage Administration (ABRA) regulations regarding ownership of the License.
- 14. <u>Participation in the Community</u>. Applicant is encouraged to send a representative from time to time to meetings of the ABRA Policy Committee of ANC 2F. Participation in such meeting promotes open lines of communication, neighborhood involvement, and awareness of current ABRA issues. Dates and times can be found at <u>www.ANC2F.org</u>.
- 15. <u>License Ownership</u>. Applicant agrees not to transfer or sell the license to any other entity before obtaining approval from the Alcohol Beverage Control Board. Applicant agrees to specifically notify any prospective transferee of the existence of this Agreement and to provide them with a copy.
- 16. <u>Binding Effect</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon and enforceable against the successors of the Applicant.
- 17. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed simultaneously in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 18. Notice and Opportunity to Cure. In the event that either party believes that the other materially breached any obligations under this Agreement, such party shall give written notice to the other of the existence of the breach and the specific nature thereof. The party alleged to be in breach shall have fourteen (14) days from the receipt of notice to cure the alleged breach (or if the breach shall relate to excessive noise or disturbance, the lesser of 72 hours or such shorter period as may be reasonable under the circumstances to immediately restore peace, order and quiet). If the breach is not cured within the notice period—or, with respect to a breach which reasonably requires more than fourteen (14) days to cure, efforts to cure the breach have not been commenced— failure should constitute cause for the ANC to file a complaint with the ABC Board pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-446(e) in order to enforce the provisions of the Agreement. In the case of a continuing violation, no notice or opportunity to cure need be provided for subsequent violations of this Agreement, following the initial provision of notice. Any notices required to be made under this Agreement shall be in writing and sent either via email or U.S. mail, postage prepaid, to the parties to this Agreement at the addresses below. Notice shall be deemed given as of the time of receipt or refusal of receipt.

If to Applicant:

Bluestone Lane Holdings LLC

90 Water Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor New York, NY 10005

Attn: Hari Nathan Kalyan, Esq. hari@bluestonelane.com

If to the ANC:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F

5 Thomas Circle, NW Washington, DC 20005 ANC2FOffice@gmail.com

Either party may change its notice address by written notice to the other. Failure to give notice shall not constitute waiver or acquiescence to the violation, but notice shall be a prerequisite to the filing of a complaint with the ABC Board or any other enforcement action.

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F

By:

John Fanning Chairman

APPLICANT

By:

Signatory