

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
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 MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:                   :  
    :  
 Carter A. Witt,                       :  
 R Street SW and Potomac       :  
 Ave SW,                               :  
 Event: Audi Field Ribbon       :  
 Cutting Ceremony                 :  
 Date of Event: July 9,           :  
 2018                                   :  
    :  
 (Temporary License               :  
 Applications)                       :

Wednesday  
 June 27, 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  
 ROBERT CATO, Member  
 JAMES SHORT, Member  
 DONALD ISAAC, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:**

**CORALIE FARLEE, ANC 6D**

**CARTER A. WITT, Applicant**

**MARK BRASHEARS, ABRA Investigator**

**KEVIN PUENTE, ABRA Investigator**

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

2 4:36 p.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So I'm going to  
4 call, there is a Fact-Finding Hearing on Audi  
5 Field Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, so license -- yes,  
6 that's the event that I'm going to -- I'm calling  
7 that one.

8 Are you here for Audi Field House --  
9 Audi Field Ribbon Cutting Ceremony? What are you  
10 here for, sir?

11 MR. GLIATIS: Field House.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on. Just  
13 hold on one minute, please.

14 All right. So let me call the --  
15 there is a temporary license application for July  
16 9, 2018 for a Carter A. Witt at the Audi Field  
17 House Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

18 MR. WITT: Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you state  
20 your name for the record, please, sir?

21 MR. WITT: Carter A. Witt.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And now, I'm

1 confused because what I have in front of me is a  
2 -- oh, okay. It's separate and apart from. All  
3 right.

4 MR. WITT: Correct.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. You have  
6 a temporary -- you put in an application for a  
7 temporary event on June --

8 MR. WITT: It's July.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- July 9,  
10 2018, so can you tell us about this event? Who  
11 are you expecting? How many people and the time  
12 of the event, sir.

13 MR. WITT: Certainly. So the event is  
14 for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Audi Field.  
15 We have applied for the one day license, because  
16 the area that will be alcohol -- we are hoping to  
17 serve alcohol in is outside of the jurisdiction  
18 of the permanent license that we are hoping to  
19 obtain.

20 So the event is slated to start at  
21 4:30 with about a 30 minute speech and ribbon  
22 cutting and then the event is projected to run

1 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at that -- that evening.  
2 So the area that the event is going to be in is  
3 actually the street between Half and 2nd, it is R  
4 Street that is currently shut down by DDOT. It  
5 is not projected to open until after this event.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What do you  
7 mean it is currently shut down by -- explain what  
8 DDOT has done.

9 MR. WITT: Yes, so DDOT currently has  
10 that street shut down for construction and just  
11 for -- they are updating the sidewalks. All that  
12 work is basically completed at this point in  
13 time, but they are not projecting to reopen the  
14 road until after this.

15 So we have applied for a special event  
16 permit and you will have to excuse my knowledge  
17 on that side of things. I'm the food and  
18 beverage provider and the team itself has applied  
19 for the special event permit.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So do you know  
21 where the team is in that process by applying for  
22 the permit?

1 MR. WITT: Yes, they have been in  
2 contact with all of the appropriate departments  
3 at DCRA and, let's see, as of about 10:30 a.m.  
4 this morning, they were somebody -- following up  
5 to just make sure. He said that everything had  
6 been submitted and he wanted to see the status of  
7 that application from the team side.

8 So he followed all the proper  
9 direction from their side. I was tasked with,  
10 obviously, getting the one day permit for this  
11 event.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay.

13 MR. WITT: From a serving perspective,  
14 since I'm responsible for the food and alcohol.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So tell us  
16 where this event again will be.

17 MR. WITT: This event will be on the--  
18 it is on R Street between 2nd and Half Street. So  
19 we kind of provided an area map of what the  
20 street will look like that is shut down. And  
21 like I said, that's currently closed by the city  
22 and not projected to reopen until after this

1 event.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So is it the  
3 entire street or that's what I'm trying -- is it  
4 the entire street or what, tell me.

5 MR. WITT: Yes, sir, it's from the  
6 fence line of the Stadium to the opposite side of  
7 the street. It's open to the public projecting  
8 between 750 and 1,000 people to be present for  
9 the event. We will have the barriers, the bike  
10 rack barriers around the entire area that people  
11 will be allowed into.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So how are you  
13 going to make sure that people are properly  
14 checked to make sure that they are 21 and over to  
15 be served alcohol?

16 MR. WITT: Yes, so all ages are  
17 welcome to attend the event. We check IDs at the  
18 point of sale location that they will be selling  
19 alcohol.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But, okay,  
21 you're checking at the point of sale. I'm 18  
22 years-old. My friend decides to go buy me a

1 drink and pass it on to me, so how is that --

2 MR. WITT: So there will be security  
3 and CSC present at the event looking for those  
4 type of things. There is projected to be at  
5 least 25 personnel that will be there in terms of  
6 a security presence and they will be stationed  
7 throughout the entire area themselves keeping an  
8 eye on everything for us.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Let  
10 me ask the Investigators. Can you introduce  
11 yourself for the record, please?

12 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Kevin Puente,  
13 ABRA Investigator.

14 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Mark  
15 Brashears, ABRA Investigator.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Both, either  
17 Mr. Puente or Mr. Brashears, any questions,  
18 concerns that you have regarding this, what's  
19 going on here?

20 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Yes, sir.  
21 With regard to security, you said there would be,  
22 approximately, 25?



1 MR. WITT: Yes, sir, at least 25  
2 personnel and that would be a combination of both  
3 CSC and Guest Services for the Stadium. In the  
4 talks for the special event permit, we were -- we  
5 asked about MPD and they did not think that that  
6 presence would be needed for this event due to  
7 the small size and nature.

8 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. And as  
9 far as these 25 people, I'm assuming there will  
10 be some folks at the point of entry and then how  
11 will the rest of them be positioned?

12 MR. WITT: They will be positioned, I  
13 would assume, every, you know, 10 to 15, 20 feet  
14 or so from each other kind of along the fence  
15 lines, just ensuring that nobody kind of hops the  
16 fence. We obviously have an entry point and an  
17 exit point at both ends, but there will be people  
18 positioned throughout as well to ensure that  
19 nobody is leaving the premises over the gates and  
20 also keeping an eye on the crowd itself.

21 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. And as  
22 far as staff training, as far as like alcohol

1 servers, things like that, what kind of training  
2 do they have?

3 MR. WITT: So we have a responsible  
4 alcohol service that all of our employees must go  
5 through before their first event. We are  
6 actually flying a service -- state certified  
7 certification person in for classes on July 5th  
8 and July 6th not only for the people that will be  
9 serving at this class or at this event, but they  
10 will be serving for the Stadium itself.

11 Anybody that is hired after that point  
12 will take an online service and then the next  
13 live session, they are required to attend or they  
14 are no longer allowed to work for the restaurant.

15 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. And  
16 what are you expecting for a turnout?

17 MR. WITT: Anywhere between 750 to  
18 1,000 people. It's just kind of a rough  
19 projection. They did a ribbon cutting ceremony  
20 where they drew about 350 people and then for  
21 like the initial kickoff when they put the shovel  
22 in the dirt and then they had a second ceremony,

1 it was called The Topping Off, when the last  
2 steel beam went up. There was approximately 450  
3 to 500 people present for that.

4 So we are thinking somewhere in the  
5 realm of 750 to 1,000 people for this. It will  
6 be kind of concluding as the work day is ending,  
7 so it's kind of tough to tell what kind of crowd  
8 it will draw.

9 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. And as  
10 far as that, do you have any kind of, you know,  
11 plan in place let's say 3,000 people show up, do  
12 you have the ability to plus up security as  
13 required or as needed?

14 MR. WITT: Yes, sir. And I believe  
15 that they would cutoff entry at a certain point  
16 for that as well. There are a lot of staff  
17 members. There are probably 100, 150 staff  
18 members that will be present and can be deployed  
19 out if needed.

20 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. And  
21 you mentioned MPD was not going to be present.  
22 Do you have emergency procedures in place say MPD

1 should be needed or, you know, ambulance or  
2 whatnot?

3 MR. WITT: Yes, sir, we do.

4 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Can you  
5 elaborate on that a little bit?

6 MR. WITT: I'll have to double check  
7 and see. We do have a security control room,  
8 which we staff for every major event and you can  
9 pull a fire alarm at the touch of a button or  
10 summon the fire department, the police  
11 department. I'm sure there will be -- there will  
12 definitely, I would assume, be paramedics here.  
13 I would have to check with the team to confirm  
14 that, but any event that we have, we do have  
15 people.

16 I'm actually CPR trained. The CPR  
17 training is required for the Levy Restaurant  
18 managers. I can't speak for the team managers,  
19 but I have at least 10 of my 12 people just on  
20 boarded two people this week, so they will be  
21 going through those trainings soon, but I have 10  
22 people that are CPR-certified on my staff.

1                   INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. And  
2                   how will the folks be communicating out there,  
3                   your security and your staff?

4                   MR. WITT: Security and staff, so I  
5                   provide my team with radios and I believe that's  
6                   the protocol for DC United as well. Like I said,  
7                   I tried to give as many details to them as  
8                   possible, based on the questions that were sent  
9                   over, but that was one question I did not ask.

10                  We will all definitely have cell  
11                  phones where we can reach out to each other. And  
12                  if -- but I can't verify radios on the security  
13                  side. CSC definitely have their own set, but as  
14                  in terms of Guest Services, I assume that is  
15                  something that they would staff them with as  
16                  well.

17                  INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: And you  
18                  believe that you will have everything as far as  
19                  like permits and things prior to the start date?

20                  MR. WITT: Yes, sir.

21                  INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay.

22                  MR. WITT: So we actually got out

1 Certificate of Occupancy for half the Stadium  
2 yesterday. I have a business license in place as  
3 of today and will be rounding out the remainder  
4 of the business licenses from now through opening  
5 day. So I have already had the conversations  
6 with the health department about the proper  
7 service of food and, obviously, you know, this  
8 hearing for the service of alcohol.

9 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Do you have  
10 any questions?

11 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: No.

12 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: That's all  
13 the questions we have, sir.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, do you  
15 have a question, Dr. Farlee for this -- on this  
16 matter? Yes?

17 DR. FARLEE: I didn't put my name on  
18 the record yet --

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh.

20 DR. FARLEE: -- for this hearing.  
21 Coralie Farlee, Chair of the ABC Committee, ANC-  
22 6D. Kind of in reverse order of my questions,

1 picking up from what you said, 10 people CPR-  
2 certified on my staff, what staff is that?

3 MR. WITT: That's the Levy Restaurant,  
4 the food and beverage provider.

5 DR. FARLEE: Okay.

6 MR. WITT: And that's for the -- my  
7 full time staff. As far as the hourly team  
8 members that I will have present for this event,  
9 I'm not sure if they are or not, but it is a part  
10 of our management class, so that people must take  
11 in the first 30 days.

12 So I do have 12 managers, which  
13 includes myself, 10 of those have been on board  
14 and have that class already, the other two just  
15 came on board with me, so they will be taking  
16 that soon.

17 DR. FARLEE: Okay. So this is your  
18 Levy at DC United?

19 MR. WITT: Yes, ma'am.

20 DR. FARLEE: Why aren't you using that  
21 license and getting a one day different  
22 location --

1 MR. WITT: Yes, so --

2 DR. FARLEE: -- for this event?

3 MR. WITT: -- at the point of the 21  
4 day period or the 20 day period that we had to  
5 apply, that license still had not been issued,  
6 because we were waiting on the Certificate of  
7 Occupancy and the business license, so we weren't  
8 sure that that would be obtainable based on where  
9 the construction was.

10 So to be safe and to ensure that we  
11 could have the event, I went ahead and applied  
12 for a one day permit, because I didn't know if we  
13 would have our full scale permanent license in  
14 place at that point. And so I didn't think --  
15 because it hasn't been issued yet based on the  
16 advice of our law firm Venable, they advised us  
17 to put in for a one day permit, because it would  
18 be very difficult if the permanent license hadn't  
19 been issued to put a substantial change for one  
20 day for a license that had not been issued yet.

21 DR. FARLEE: Okay. So since this is  
22 not under the agreement with the ANC, since this



1 is different, a one day temporary license, who is  
2 going to be responsible for the noise, parking,  
3 traffic and you have already listed security,  
4 because in our agreement you say you are not --  
5 the DC United is responsible for all those  
6 things.

7 MR. WITT: Correct.

8 DR. FARLEE: So now you are taking on  
9 responsibility for security.

10 MR. WITT: No, the security is  
11 happening through DC United.

12 DR. FARLEE: Okay.

13 MR. WITT: The CSC is hired through  
14 them and so is the Guest Services staff. So I  
15 only provide the food and beverage. I'm a third-  
16 party vendor in the Stadium area. So the team  
17 itself has those areas of concern, the noise, the  
18 parking, those are, you know, things that are in  
19 my control. I'm a client of DC United just like  
20 the security team is, like the parking staff is,  
21 everything like that.

22 So those things would be outside of my

1 control, so, at this point, I can't elaborate on  
2 what the team is doing in regards to those  
3 aspects.

4 DR. FARLEE: Now, your application  
5 says you have made no arrangements for parking.  
6 And I assume no arrangements or responsibility  
7 for noise and those other things that are in the  
8 PUD. Is that correct?

9 MR. WITT: I have not, correct, but  
10 the team, I would assume, would have to fill out  
11 something like that for their special events  
12 permit, but that's not something that I have seen  
13 or are privy to that information.

14 DR. FARLEE: So you don't know who is  
15 responsible for noise or parking?

16 MR. WITT: Well, I would say it would  
17 be the same people that are applying for the  
18 event permit itself, which would be DC United.

19 DR. FARLEE: Applying for the event  
20 permit from whom?

21 MR. WITT: From DCRA I believe, if I'm  
22 not mistaken. Like I said, we are a separate

1 company, so I was asked to apply for a one day --  
2 or I was asked to provide food and beverage for  
3 the event, not set the event up itself.

4 DR. FARLEE: Yeah, okay. On the  
5 security, which was mentioned, my question would  
6 be after you reach 1,000, which is your projected  
7 and your ratio of security to patrons, are you  
8 going to close down admissions and not let any  
9 more in beyond 1,000?

10 MR. WITT: I would have to check with  
11 the team on that. They will control the entry,  
12 too, in and out of the event.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

14 MR. WITT: As I stated, I believe  
15 there are quite a few office members, there are  
16 office staff, I believe it's between 100 and 150  
17 people that they could definitely deploy into  
18 security style, but I can't really elaborate any  
19 further on what that process would look like.

20 I'm not sure what the size of the  
21 event permit that they -- the special event  
22 permit is. I just know in our internal

1 discussions on how many people for myself to  
2 prepare for in terms of food and beverage would  
3 be 750 to 1,000 people.

4 DR. FARLEE: Um-hum. And you said the  
5 time of the event, the ceremony is 4:00 to 7:00,  
6 but you have a bunch of other event after that  
7 with games, music, food and beverage. What's the  
8 end time of that?

9 MR. WITT: Yeah, so the ceremony  
10 itself is from 4:30 to 5:00. It should be about  
11 25 to 30 minutes with the speakers. And then  
12 from 5:00 to 7:00 would be when the food and  
13 beverage and I guess whatever else the team is  
14 providing. I don't have that information. I'm  
15 not sure what kind of games or anything will be  
16 provided.

17 DR. FARLEE: So you mentioned music in  
18 the application. Does that mean radio music or  
19 entertainment? What kind of endorsement are you  
20 requesting?

21 MR. WITT: I'm not --

22 DR. FARLEE: If any.

1 MR. WITT: -- sure on that.

2 DR. FARLEE: You don't know?

3 MR. WITT: That's not anything --

4 DR. FARLEE: You don't know if you are  
5 going to have live entertainment?

6 MR. WITT: I do not know that, no,  
7 ma'am.

8 DR. FARLEE: When you gave the  
9 location, it seems like it was the whole Audi lot  
10 for that -- if you're going between 2nd Street and  
11 Half Street, that's the whole Audi Field, right,  
12 this event is going to be in the whole space?

13 MR. WITT: I believe that's what they  
14 are planning on putting bike barriers around.  
15 This was a drawing that the team gave me for the  
16 site plan.

17 DR. FARLEE: Yeah, I don't have that  
18 drawing. I have what we used in my ABC  
19 Committee.

20 MR. WITT: Correct. So we are not  
21 using any of those -- any of that location.  
22 That's part of the reason why I was applying for

1 that temporary permit.

2 DR. FARLEE: You're not --

3 MR. WITT: Audi Drive is actually  
4 going to be a road. It is currently being  
5 constructed. I think they are call -- they are  
6 saying it's Old First Street from things I have  
7 heard, but that's something that is currently  
8 being paved, so that would not be an area that  
9 could be used for this event. That's why we were  
10 requesting to use the already shutdown road by  
11 DDOT for this event.

12 DR. FARLEE: I thought you said  
13 earlier it's 2nd Street to Half Street. Is that  
14 right?

15 MR. WITT: I think it's technically R  
16 Street is what is being closed down, if I'm not  
17 mistaken. The city has been renaming some --

18 DR. FARLEE: Oh, R.

19 MR. WITT: -- roads around there.

20 DR. FARLEE: But the north/south  
21 streets are, I thought you said, 2nd to Half.

22 MR. WITT: Yeah, I think they are

1 planning on closing down R Street from 2nd to 1st,  
2 2nd to 1st Street.

3 DR. FARLEE: I see, okay.

4 MR. WITT: So my apologies. It does  
5 not extend all the way to Half, based on --

6 DR. FARLEE: All right.

7 MR. WITT: -- the drawing that I have.

8 DR. FARLEE: All right. Okay. So you  
9 don't know that live entertainment -- and you are  
10 the caterer then, the Levy organization is the  
11 caterer for food and alcohol?

12 MR. WITT: Correct.

13 DR. FARLEE: Is that correct?

14 MR. WITT: Yes, ma'am.

15 DR. FARLEE: Okay. I guess those are  
16 my questions for now. Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. I'm  
18 going to wrap this hearing up shortly.

19 I guess one of the things, one of the  
20 concerns that I have had, maybe you should  
21 consider issuing wristbands, because if you are  
22 saying that the event is open to everyone, and

1 what would prevent an underage drinking? If you  
2 are -- if it's basically from the point of sale  
3 that you are checking it, so but how will you  
4 prevent someone from giving their drink to  
5 someone who is not 21?

6 And so I would suggest that you think  
7 about having wristbands to issue, so, therefore,  
8 if -- or maybe a different color cups, but since  
9 this is an event, I'm concerned that it doesn't  
10 appear that there is a way to prevent someone who  
11 is underage to consume alcohol.

12 And maybe that's something that you  
13 can talk to the Investigator about how to do  
14 that. That's a problem that I see. For me it's  
15 not going to prevent -- at least it's not -- I'm  
16 not going to not approve this event, but I'm just  
17 saying that's a way, I think, to protect yourself  
18 is you talk to the Investigator about how to  
19 prevent that, because it's open to all ages.

20 MR. WITT: Certainly. And with that,  
21 I'll definitely take that into consideration,  
22 take that back to the team and have that



1 conversation with them. I would even be willing  
2 to put somebody out there. I'm not sure what  
3 kind of ID checking standards CSC or Guest  
4 Services have, but I would definitely be  
5 comfortable with putting somebody that I know has  
6 been through our training class out there to help  
7 wristband. So I can definitely have that  
8 conversation with the team.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Any other  
10 questions for -- from the Investigators?

11 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: No, sir.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

13 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: We can certainly  
14 talk off-line about, you know, suggestions for  
15 things like wristbands and X-ing minors and  
16 things of that nature.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Fine.  
18 And if there are no other questions, I'm going to  
19 close this hearing.

20 I'll make a recommendation to the  
21 Board that based on the representation that is  
22 made today, that we approve the -- that we issue

1 a one day for this event. Is there a second?

2 MEMBER SHORT: Second.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has  
4 seconded the motion.

5 All those in favor say aye.

6 ALL: Aye.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. So  
8 I will sign-off on it. We will have two more.  
9 And then office is closed, but you can come back  
10 tomorrow and apply for the license. So we will--  
11 yeah, all right.

12 So good luck.

13 MR. WITT: Okay. Thank you very much  
14 for your time. I appreciate it very much.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.  
16 Okay. All right.

17 (Whereupon, the Fact-Finding Hearing  
18 was concluded at 5:00 p.m.)

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**6D** 2:11 14:22  
**6th** 10:8

**7**

**7:00** 5:1 20:5,12  
**750** 7:8 10:17 11:5 20:3

**8**

**9**

**9** 1:8 3:16 4:9

C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Carter Witt

Before: DCABRA

Date: 06-27-18

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.

*Neal R Gross*

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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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