

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
+ + + + +  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
+ + + + +  
MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF:                   :  
  :  
  :  
Franklin J. Davis                   :  
  : Fact Finding  
  : Hearing  
(Application for a                   :  
Manager's License)                 :

Friday,  
October 19, 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  
JAMES SHORT, Member  
MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member  
BOBBY CATO, JR., Member

**ALSO PRESENT:**

FRANKLIN J. DAVIS, Applicant

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

2 10:11 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,  
4 everyone. I would like to welcome you to a  
5 special meeting of the Alcoholic Beverage Control  
6 Board.

7 Please note that today's hearings will  
8 be conducted in accordance with D.C. Official  
9 Code Section 2-574 of the Open Meetings Act.

10 Today is October 19, 2018. I would  
11 like to introduce Member of the Board with us  
12 today. To my far right is Mr. Bobby Cato. To my  
13 far left is Mr. Mike Silverstein. To my  
14 immediate left is Mr. James Short. My name is  
15 Donovan Anderson. I'm the Chairman of the Board.  
16 We have four Members in attendance today. We do  
17 have a quorum.

18 I would like to mention two things  
19 before we get started. First of all, if you have  
20 any electronic devices, pagers, cell phones or  
21 such, please, make certain that they are turned  
22 off to avoid any interruption of the proceedings.

1           Secondly, there is a piece of paper on  
2 each table. When you come forward as your case  
3 is called, please, take a seat at the table and,  
4 please, sign-in. This is to ensure the correct  
5 spelling of your name for the record.

6           Additionally, when you introduce  
7 yourself for the record, please, spell your name  
8 aloud for the court reporter.

9           I would note that the approximate time  
10 is 10:13 a.m.

11           The first case on our calendar today  
12 is a Fact-Finding Hearing regarding Franklin J.  
13 Davis.

14           Mr. Davis, please, step up. If you  
15 are not a family member or supporter of Mr.  
16 Davis, could you, please, step out of the room  
17 until this case is over, please?

18           Is that a friend of your's, sir, Mr.  
19 Davis?

20           MR. DAVIS: Yes, sir, yes. Yes, sir.

21           CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. All  
22 right. It's a confidential matter, so that's one

1 of the reasons why if it's not someone that you  
2 want to be in the room --

3 MR. DAVIS: That's my manager, yes,  
4 sir.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, that's  
6 fine. I'm just explaining to you that it's a  
7 confidential matter. And so it's about you and  
8 so we don't want someone who is not related to  
9 you to be in the room to be a part of what --  
10 this discussion. You can have a seat, sir.

11 Yes, this concern, you had applied for  
12 a manager's license and as part of the manager's  
13 license, you have to do a background check and I  
14 want to comment to you -- commend you, first and  
15 foremost, that you checked the right box on the  
16 application, because a lot of times when people--  
17 you ask the questions, they say no. And then  
18 because you have to do a criminal background  
19 check and if it comes up and says yes, for me,  
20 that's a strike.

21 So it's not an issue that there is --  
22 that you have a record. My concern more so is

1 that if you have a -- if you don't talk about it  
2 and then we see it, then I'm not likely to -- the  
3 Board wouldn't be likely to approve it.

4 This is just a matter, some Members of  
5 the Board had some concerns and wanted to make  
6 sure that if we are going to offer you a license  
7 to -- I know that you had some concerns in your  
8 past. To ensure that if we are going to offer  
9 you a license, you are the one who is going to be  
10 in charge of making sure that someone does not  
11 get themselves in trouble as you are, what it is  
12 that you are going to do to ensure that if we  
13 were to give you this license.

14 So it's -- you don't necessarily have  
15 to -- some Board Members might have questions,  
16 but maybe you can just tell us a little bit about  
17 yourself. Where is it that you are working and  
18 just whatever you want to provide to us this  
19 morning, sir.

20 MR. DAVIS: I work at Camelot Showbar.

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What's Camelot?

22 Oh, I'm sorry. Sometimes I'm a little -- don't

1 worry. Go ahead.

2 MEMBER SHORT: What's the address of  
3 the Camelot?

4 MR. DAVIS: 1823, I believe it is,  
5 Northwest.

6 MEMBER SHORT: 1823 what?

7 MR. DAVIS: D.C. It's M Street, N.W.

8 MEMBER SHORT: Oh, that's what we  
9 needed to hear.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Sometimes in my  
11 naivety, but go ahead.

12 MR. DAVIS: Yes. Currently, I'm the  
13 security there. I'm trying to get to the manager  
14 type of situation. I have worked there for about  
15 a year now. I was born in D.C. Is there  
16 anything else?

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I mean, so you  
18 have to be specific with what is in your  
19 background, but why did these things occur? And  
20 what assurances are you going to give to us that  
21 they don't repeat themselves? Since based on the  
22 position, if we are going to give you a manager's

1 license, that you are going to ensure that  
2 someone who is in your position does not -- and  
3 your security and I think it's even more  
4 important because you were security before, which  
5 comes with a whole lot of responsibility, because  
6 you can put the licensee in a whole lot of  
7 trouble as a security if you don't act -- if you  
8 don't respond appropriately when you have a  
9 patron.

10 And now that you will be in charge of  
11 regulating someone's intake, in a sense, so how  
12 can you assure the Board that what you have  
13 learned or what has occurred to you, that you  
14 have ensured that this doesn't happen to someone  
15 else, that at least when they come and visit your  
16 establishment?

17 MR. DAVIS: So I took the class online  
18 for the liquor license. I've worked security  
19 before this. The -- my background happened about  
20 six years ago. And it was non-violent. It was  
21 nothing like that. But it was just wrong place,  
22 wrong time.

1 I have went to college since then. I  
2 have done the whole nine yards. I've worked for  
3 my manager for about a year or two now trying to  
4 move up in life and now I'm here. I don't --

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Anyone, any  
6 Members have questions? Mr. Short?

7 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Mr. Davis, how  
8 old were you when these offenses occurred?

9 MR. DAVIS: I was 20, I believe. 19  
10 or 20. Yes, sir.

11 MEMBER SHORT: How many offenses were  
12 involved?

13 MR. DAVIS: Offenses?

14 MEMBER SHORT: How many offenses were  
15 you arrested for?

16 MR. DAVIS: I was only arrested for  
17 one.

18 MEMBER SHORT: And what was that?

19 MR. DAVIS: That was for the handgun  
20 on person.

21 MEMBER SHORT: And that was in, where?

22 MR. DAVIS: That was in Maryland.



1                   MEMBER SHORT: And what happened as a  
2 result of that?

3                   MR. DAVIS: I did four days in CCDC or  
4 I believe it was -- yeah, it was four days in  
5 CCDC. It was a non-violent crime. It was just a  
6 simple handgun that was not recognized to me that  
7 it was in the car and it was me and my ex-fiance  
8 and evidently there was a handgun in the back  
9 seat. We went to go pick up some pizza and then  
10 it was just wrong place, wrong time.

11                   I didn't want her to go away, so I  
12 feel like being a man --

13                   MEMBER SHORT: I don't mean to cut in  
14 on you, but you don't think that was -- I mean,  
15 that -- you were arrested for what reason? If  
16 you said it was no big deal, why did they arrest  
17 you?

18                   MR. DAVIS: Because in Maryland you  
19 can't have an unregistered weapon and it wasn't  
20 mine.

21                   MEMBER SHORT: You can't have one  
22 anywhere in the country, can you?

1 MR. DAVIS: Yes, but over 100 years  
2 old. It's a relic, so technically it was not a  
3 non-working weapon. It was a relic, like  
4 something that hangs on the wall.

5 MEMBER SHORT: That's a better  
6 explanation. Okay. Go ahead.

7 MR. DAVIS: So pretty much it was a  
8 relic from her grandfather and it was sitting in  
9 the back seat. There was no loaded. It wasn't  
10 like sitting in my crotch somewhere.

11 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Good. Okay.

12 MR. DAVIS: Yeah.

13 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Davis, thank you.  
14 That's the reason why I wanted to hear you  
15 explain to us --

16 MR. DAVIS: Okay. I got it.

17 MEMBER SHORT: -- because there are a  
18 lot of people dying in this country, all over  
19 this country, with handguns.

20 MR. DAVIS: I understand.

21 MEMBER SHORT: Schools are being shot  
22 up. Nightclubs are being shot up. But it just--

1 riding down the road, road rage shooting people.  
2 So when I hear gun, somebody that's got a  
3 manager's license, if they can't explain like you  
4 just explained, I have a very big situation. And  
5 I'll just simply say this, I believe in  
6 redemption. I know people can change and things  
7 happen when you are younger.

8 But what you are getting ready to get  
9 involved in, and the reason why I asked you  
10 earlier to explain to me exactly where you are  
11 working, so we can understand that you understand  
12 the seriousness. The Camelot Club on M Street is  
13 a very busy place, isn't it?

14 MR. DAVIS: Yes, sir.

15 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. So when I asked  
16 you or anyone asks you and if you are an ABC  
17 Manager, you should be able to say M Street,  
18 N.W., 1800 Block, Camelot and that would say to  
19 them yes, he knows where he is. He knows what  
20 time it is. And he is trying to explain to us  
21 that he is capable of dealing with any  
22 information needed about where he works.

1                   When you say 18 something, something,  
2 I don't it's early on the morning, but -- and how  
3 old are you now?

4                   MR. DAVIS: I am 26, sir.

5                   MEMBER SHORT: Okay. All right. So  
6 you have been in security for how many years?

7                   MR. DAVIS: With them one. I have  
8 worked another security job and then been a  
9 mechanic for four years. I was a hydraulic  
10 technician for two. And before that, I worked  
11 for construction when I was 18.

12                  MEMBER SHORT: Okay. So you worked  
13 and

14                  MR. DAVIS: I'm a very hands-on guy.

15                  MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Well, good.  
16 Your work history means a lot to a person like  
17 myself also, because like yourself from the time  
18 I was a teenager, way before 18, I always had a  
19 job.

20                  MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

21                  MEMBER SHORT: I always worked all my  
22 life. And so when I ran into those difficulties

1 out there as a juvenile, I was able to step up to  
2 the next notch and people overlooked it. But you  
3 have to be prepared because this is always going  
4 to come back sooner or later and somebody is  
5 going to look at your record and say well, why,  
6 when, how and what is different now than what  
7 happened then?

8 You say you went to college. Which  
9 college did you go to?

10 MR. DAVIS: CSI, sir. College of  
11 Southern Idaho.

12 MEMBER SHORT: Idaho, the State of  
13 Idaho?

14 MR. DAVIS: Yes, sir.

15 MEMBER SHORT: How did you get out  
16 there?

17 MR. DAVIS: My uncle, my dad's brother  
18 lives there, so when I was -- as soon as I got  
19 out of high school, I went over there for about a  
20 year and a half, community college, it was  
21 nothing big, but still college. I went for  
22 analytical statistics, money management, business

1 and fine arts.

2 MEMBER SHORT: What part of Idaho?

3 MR. DAVIS: Huh?

4 MEMBER SHORT: What part of Idaho?

5 MR. DAVIS: Hailey. Hailey, Idaho,  
6 sir.

7 MEMBER SHORT: Everybody out there has  
8 got guns.

9 MR. DAVIS: It's -- yes, sir.

10 MEMBER SHORT: Pretty much, yeah,  
11 yeah.

12 MR. DAVIS: I believe in guns. I  
13 mean, you -- I believe in protecting yourself.

14 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. I don't have a  
15 problem with that.

16 MR. DAVIS: Yeah.

17 MEMBER SHORT: I'm just stating you  
18 give me some background that is -- in my head  
19 says you are ready for some things. You sound  
20 like a very responsible person.

21 MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

22 MEMBER SHORT: So that's just some

1 background that I needed. And so you have been  
2 working at the Camelot for one year?

3 MR. DAVIS: Yes, sir.

4 MEMBER SHORT: And this is a step up  
5 from security to?

6 MR. DAVIS: Management.

7 MEMBER SHORT: Management. So what  
8 happens if someone comes in and you recognize  
9 that they are underage, but they have a forged ID  
10 and you are the ABC Manager? What would you do?  
11 Someone comes in to the Camelot, they look  
12 underage. They present a forged document to you.  
13 As an ABC Manager, what is your responsibility?

14 MR. DAVIS: I'll deny entry,  
15 confiscate the ID and possibly let the  
16 neighboring clubs know that he is like no good.

17 MEMBER SHORT: But he will be escorted  
18 out of your establishment?

19 MR. DAVIS: He wouldn't get through  
20 the door. Yes, sir, yeah. Yes, sir.

21 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. That's all I  
22 have for right now, Mr. Chair. I might have some

1 others. Thank you for your testimony.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Any other  
3 questions? Go ahead, Mr. Silverstein.

4 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Thank you, sir.  
5 Thanks for coming here, Mr. Davis. I live two  
6 blocks away from where you are working and I have  
7 seen your face many times walking down M Street.

8 And perhaps you, when you first came  
9 here, were a bit maybe a little intimidated when  
10 you had your first question asked, it's a big  
11 distance from here to Twin Falls, Idaho.

12 MR. DAVIS: Yes, sir.

13 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: And I want to  
14 echo what my friend and colleague, Mr. Short,  
15 said. Our neighborhood down there, the key to  
16 everything is that people can enjoy that area  
17 safely and we trust those who are involved in  
18 both security and management to keep things under  
19 control.

20 Almost 60,000 people are employed in  
21 the hospitality industry in the city and 3  
22 billion dollars in revenue back and forth. After



1 Government it is our second largest industry in  
2 the city. And in a position of management, you  
3 are in a position of trust.

4 You may have made a mistake or two in  
5 the past. Haven't we all? Good luck.

6 MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Any other  
8 questions by any other Board Members? Anything  
9 else you want to say, sir?

10 MR. DAVIS: No, sir.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. You  
12 don't have any more questions, Mr. Short, right?

13 MEMBER SHORT: No. I just wanted to  
14 let him now how -- the responsibility that he has  
15 and we are looking forward to you being a very  
16 great ABC Manager for this city. And that the  
17 Camelot won't be coming before us as anything  
18 dealing with your ABC License.

19 MR. DAVIS: Okay.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: With that said,  
21 I make a motion that we approve this ABC Manager.  
22 Is there a second?

1 MEMBER SHORT: Second.

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

4 All those in favor say aye.

5 ALL: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?  
7 The matter passes 4-0-0.

8 Sir, could you sign-off on this? As  
9 soon as we sign it, you can go to the front desk,  
10 sir, and pick up your license and good luck.

11 MR. DAVIS: Did you want me to sign  
12 this paper here?

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Just sign-in  
14 that you were here.

15 So she will give this to you. You can  
16 take it to the front desk and they will -- and  
17 you can pick up your license, sir.

18 MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

19 MEMBER SHORT: You're welcome.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

21 (Whereupon, the Fact-Finding Hearing  
22 was concluded at 10:25 a.m.)

<b>A</b>	<b>business</b> 13:22 <b>busy</b> 11:13	<b>cut</b> 9:13	<b>Fact-Finding</b> 3:12 18:21 <b>Falls</b> 16:11 <b>family</b> 3:15 <b>far</b> 2:12,13 <b>favor</b> 18:4 <b>feel</b> 9:12 <b>Finding</b> 1:7 <b>fine</b> 4:6 14:1 <b>first</b> 2:19 3:11 4:14 16:8 16:10 <b>foremost</b> 4:15 <b>forged</b> 15:9,12 <b>forth</b> 16:22 <b>forward</b> 3:2 17:15 <b>four</b> 2:16 9:3,4 12:9 <b>Franklin</b> 1:6,20 3:12 <b>Friday</b> 1:10 <b>friend</b> 3:18 16:14 <b>front</b> 18:9,16	
<b>a.m</b> 2:2 3:10 18:22 <b>ABC</b> 11:16 15:10,13 17:16,18,21 <b>able</b> 11:17 13:1 <b>act</b> 2:9 7:7 <b>Additionally</b> 3:6 <b>address</b> 6:2 <b>ago</b> 7:20 <b>ahead</b> 6:1,11 10:6 16:3 <b>Alcoholic</b> 1:2,12,12 2:5 <b>aloud</b> 3:8 <b>analytical</b> 13:22 <b>Anderson</b> 1:14,16 2:3 2:15 3:21 4:5 5:21 6:10,17 8:5 16:2 17:7 17:11,20 18:2,6,13,20 <b>Applicant</b> 1:20 <b>application</b> 1:8 4:16 <b>applied</b> 4:11 <b>appropriately</b> 7:8 <b>approve</b> 5:3 17:21 <b>approximate</b> 3:9 <b>area</b> 16:16 <b>arrest</b> 9:16 <b>arrested</b> 8:15,16 9:15 <b>arts</b> 14:1 <b>asked</b> 11:9,15 16:10 <b>asks</b> 11:16 <b>assurances</b> 6:20 <b>assure</b> 7:12 <b>attendance</b> 2:16 <b>avoid</b> 2:22 <b>aye</b> 18:4,5	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>G</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>calendar</b> 3:11 <b>called</b> 3:3 <b>Camelot</b> 5:20,21 6:3 11:12,18 15:2,11 17:17 <b>capable</b> 11:21 <b>car</b> 9:7 <b>case</b> 3:2,11,17 <b>Cato</b> 1:18 2:12 <b>CCDC</b> 9:3,5 <b>cell</b> 2:20 <b>certain</b> 2:21 <b>Chair</b> 15:22 <b>Chairman</b> 2:15 <b>Chairperson</b> 1:13,16 2:3 3:21 4:5 5:21 6:10 6:17 8:5 16:2 17:7,11 17:20 18:2,6,13,20 <b>change</b> 11:6 <b>charge</b> 5:10 7:10 <b>check</b> 4:13,19 <b>checked</b> 4:15 <b>city</b> 16:21 17:2,16 <b>class</b> 7:17 <b>Club</b> 11:12 <b>clubs</b> 15:16 <b>Code</b> 2:9 <b>colleague</b> 16:14 <b>college</b> 8:1 13:8,9,10 13:20,21 <b>COLUMBIA</b> 1:1 <b>come</b> 3:2 7:15 13:4 <b>comes</b> 4:19 7:5 15:8,11 <b>coming</b> 16:5 17:17 <b>commend</b> 4:14 <b>comment</b> 4:14 <b>community</b> 13:20 <b>concern</b> 4:11,22 <b>concerns</b> 5:5,7 <b>concluded</b> 18:22 <b>conducted</b> 2:8 <b>confidential</b> 3:22 4:7 <b>confiscate</b> 15:15 <b>construction</b> 12:11 <b>control</b> 1:2,12,12 2:5 16:19 <b>correct</b> 3:4 <b>country</b> 9:22 10:18,19 <b>court</b> 3:8 <b>crime</b> 9:5 <b>criminal</b> 4:18 <b>crotch</b> 10:10 <b>CSI</b> 13:10 <b>Currently</b> 6:12	<b>D.C</b> 1:13 2:8 6:7,15 <b>dad's</b> 13:17 <b>Davis</b> 1:6,20 3:13,14,16 3:19,20 4:3 5:20 6:4,7 6:12 7:17 8:7,9,13,16 8:19,22 9:3,18 10:1,7 10:12,13,16,20 11:14 12:4,7,14,20 13:10,14 13:17 14:3,5,9,12,16 14:21 15:3,6,14,19 16:5,12 17:6,10,19 18:11,18 <b>days</b> 9:3,4 <b>deal</b> 9:16 <b>dealing</b> 11:21 17:18 <b>deny</b> 15:14 <b>desk</b> 18:9,16 <b>devices</b> 2:20 <b>different</b> 13:6 <b>difficulties</b> 12:22 <b>discussion</b> 4:10 <b>distance</b> 16:11 <b>DISTRICT</b> 1:1 <b>document</b> 15:12 <b>dollars</b> 16:22 <b>Donovan</b> 1:14,16 2:15 <b>door</b> 15:20 <b>dying</b> 10:18	<b>E</b>	<b>getting</b> 11:8 <b>give</b> 5:13 6:20,22 14:18 18:15 <b>Government</b> 17:1 <b>grandfather</b> 10:8 <b>gun</b> 11:2 <b>guns</b> 14:8,12
<b>back</b> 9:8 10:9 13:4 16:22 <b>background</b> 4:13,18 6:19 7:19 14:18 15:1 <b>based</b> 6:21 <b>believe</b> 6:4 8:9 9:4 11:5 14:12,13 <b>better</b> 10:5 <b>Beverage</b> 1:2,12,12 2:5 <b>big</b> 9:16 11:4 13:21 16:10 <b>billion</b> 16:22 <b>bit</b> 5:16 16:9 <b>Block</b> 11:18 <b>blocks</b> 16:6 <b>Board</b> 1:2,12 2:6,11,15 5:3,5,15 7:12 17:8 <b>Bobby</b> 1:18 2:12 <b>born</b> 6:15 <b>box</b> 4:15 <b>brother</b> 13:17 <b>Building</b> 1:13	<b>F</b>	<b>earlier</b> 11:10 <b>early</b> 12:2 <b>echo</b> 16:14 <b>electronic</b> 2:20 <b>employed</b> 16:20 <b>enjoy</b> 16:16 <b>ensure</b> 3:4 5:8,12 7:1 <b>ensured</b> 7:14 <b>entry</b> 15:14 <b>escorted</b> 15:17 <b>establishment</b> 7:16 15:18 <b>Everybody</b> 14:7 <b>evidently</b> 9:8 <b>ex-fiance</b> 9:7 <b>exactly</b> 11:10 <b>explain</b> 10:15 11:3,10 11:20 <b>explained</b> 11:4 <b>explaining</b> 4:6 <b>explanation</b> 10:6	<b>H</b>	
			<b>Hailey</b> 14:5,5 <b>half</b> 13:20 <b>handgun</b> 8:19 9:6,8 <b>handguns</b> 10:19 <b>hands-on</b> 12:14 <b>hangs</b> 10:4 <b>happen</b> 7:14 11:7 <b>happened</b> 7:19 9:1 13:7 <b>happens</b> 15:8 <b>head</b> 14:18 <b>hear</b> 6:9 10:14 11:2 <b>Hearing</b> 1:7,12 3:12 18:21 <b>hearings</b> 2:7 <b>high</b> 13:19 <b>history</b> 12:16 <b>hospitality</b> 16:21 <b>Huh</b> 14:3 <b>hydraulic</b> 12:9	
			<b>I</b>	
		<b>face</b> 16:7 <b>Fact</b> 1:7	<b>ID</b> 15:9,15 <b>Idaho</b> 13:11,12,13 14:2 14:4,5 16:11 <b>immediate</b> 2:14 <b>important</b> 7:4 <b>industry</b> 16:21 17:1	

information 11:22  
 intake 7:11  
 interruption 2:22  
 intimidated 16:9  
 introduce 2:11 3:6  
 involved 8:12 11:9  
 16:17  
 issue 4:21

---

**J**

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**J** 1:6,20 3:12  
**James** 1:17 2:14  
**job** 12:8,19  
**JR** 1:18  
**just--** 10:22  
**juvenile** 13:1

---

**K**

---

**keep** 16:18  
**key** 16:15  
**knows** 11:19,19

---

**L**

---

**largest** 17:1  
**learned** 7:13  
**left** 2:13,14  
**license** 1:8 4:12,13 5:6  
 5:9,13 7:1,18 11:3  
 17:18 18:10,17  
**licensee** 7:6  
**life** 8:4 12:22  
**liquor** 7:18  
**little** 5:16,22 16:9  
**live** 16:5  
**lives** 13:18  
**loaded** 10:9  
**look** 13:5 15:11  
**looking** 17:15  
**lot** 4:16 7:5,6 10:18  
 12:16  
**luck** 17:5 18:10

---

**M**

---

**M** 6:7 11:12,17 16:7  
**making** 5:10  
**man** 9:12  
**management** 13:22  
 15:6,7 16:18 17:2  
**manager** 4:3 6:13 8:3  
 11:17 15:10,13 17:16  
 17:21  
**manager's** 1:8 4:12,12  
 6:22 11:3  
**Maryland** 8:22 9:18  
**matter** 1:5 3:22 4:7 5:4  
 18:7  
**mean** 6:17 9:13,14  
 14:13

**means** 12:16  
**mechanic** 12:9  
**meeting** 1:3 2:5  
**Meetings** 2:9  
**member** 1:17,17,18  
 2:11 3:15 6:2,6,8 8:7  
 8:11,14,18,21 9:1,13  
 9:21 10:5,11,13,17,21  
 11:15 12:5,12,15,21  
 13:12,15 14:2,4,7,10  
 14:14,17,22 15:4,7,17  
 15:21 16:4,13 17:13  
 18:1,19

**Members** 2:16 5:4,15  
 8:6 17:8  
**mention** 2:18  
**met** 1:12  
**Mike** 1:17 2:13  
**mine** 9:20  
**mistake** 17:4  
**money** 13:22  
**morning** 2:3 5:19 12:2  
**motion** 17:21 18:3  
**move** 8:4

---

**N**

---

**N.W** 1:13 6:7 11:18  
**naivety** 6:11  
**name** 2:14 3:5,7  
**necessarily** 5:14  
**needed** 6:9 11:22 15:1  
**neighborhood** 16:15  
**neighboring** 15:16  
**Nightclubs** 10:22  
**nine** 8:2  
**non-violent** 7:20 9:5  
**non-working** 10:3  
**Northwest** 6:5  
**notch** 13:2  
**note** 2:7 3:9

---

**O**

---

**occur** 6:19  
**occurred** 7:13 8:8  
**October** 1:10 2:10  
**offenses** 8:8,11,13,14  
**offer** 5:6,8  
**Official** 2:8  
**old** 8:8 10:2 12:3  
**online** 7:17  
**Open** 2:9  
**opposed** 18:6  
**overlooked** 13:2

---

**P**

---

**P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S**  
 2:1  
**pagers** 2:20

**paper** 3:1 18:12  
**part** 4:9,12 14:2,4  
**passes** 18:7  
**patron** 7:9  
**people** 10:18 11:1,6  
 13:2 16:16,20  
**people--** 4:16  
**person** 8:20 12:16  
 14:20  
**phones** 2:20  
**pick** 9:9 18:10,17  
**piece** 3:1  
**pizza** 9:9  
**place** 7:21 9:10 11:13  
**please** 2:7,21 3:3,4,7,14  
 3:16,17  
**position** 6:22 7:2 17:2,3  
**possibly** 15:15  
**prepared** 13:3  
**present** 1:15,19 15:12  
**presiding** 1:14  
**pretty** 10:7 14:10  
**problem** 14:15  
**proceedings** 2:22  
**protecting** 14:13  
**provide** 5:18  
**put** 7:6

---

**Q**

---

**question** 16:10  
**questions** 4:17 5:15 8:6  
 16:3 17:8,12  
**quorum** 2:17

---

**R**

---

**rage** 11:1  
**ran** 12:22  
**ready** 11:8 14:19  
**reason** 9:15 10:14 11:9  
**reasons** 4:1  
**recognize** 15:8  
**recognized** 9:6  
**record** 3:5,7 4:22 13:5  
**redemption** 11:6  
**Reeves** 1:13  
**regarding** 3:12  
**regulating** 7:11  
**related** 4:8  
**relic** 10:2,3,8  
**repeat** 6:21  
**reporter** 3:8  
**respond** 7:8  
**responsibility** 7:5  
 15:13 17:14  
**responsible** 14:20  
**result** 9:2  
**revenue** 16:22  
**riding** 11:1

**road** 11:1,1  
**room** 1:13 3:16 4:2,9

---

**S**

---

**safely** 16:17  
**says** 4:19 14:19  
**school** 13:19  
**Schools** 10:21  
**seat** 3:3 4:10 9:9 10:9  
**second** 17:1,22 18:1  
**seconded** 18:3  
**Secondly** 3:1  
**Section** 2:9  
**security** 6:13 7:3,4,7,18  
 12:6,8 15:5 16:18  
**seen** 16:7  
**sense** 7:11  
**seriousness** 11:12  
**shooting** 11:1  
**Short** 1:17 2:14 6:2,6,8  
 8:6,7,11,14,18,21 9:1  
 9:13,21 10:5,11,13,17  
 10:21 11:15 12:5,12  
 12:15,21 13:12,15  
 14:2,4,7,10,14,17,22  
 15:4,7,17,21 16:14  
 17:12,13 18:1,2,19  
**shot** 10:21,22  
**Showbar** 5:20  
**sign** 18:9,11  
**sign-in** 3:4 18:13  
**sign-off** 18:8  
**Silverstein** 1:17 2:13  
 16:3,4,13  
**simple** 9:6  
**simply** 11:5  
**sir** 3:18,20,20 4:4,10  
 5:19 8:10 11:14 12:4  
 13:10,14 14:6,9 15:3  
 15:20,20 16:4,12 17:9  
 17:10 18:8,10,17  
**sitting** 10:8,10  
**situation** 6:14 11:4  
**six** 7:20  
**somebody** 11:2 13:4  
**someone's** 7:11  
**soon** 13:18 18:9  
**sooner** 13:4  
**sorry** 5:22  
**sound** 14:19  
**Southern** 13:11  
**special** 2:5  
**specific** 6:18  
**spell** 3:7  
**spelling** 3:5  
**started** 2:19  
**State** 13:12  
**stating** 14:17

<p><b>statistics</b> 13:22  <b>step</b> 3:14,16 13:1 15:4  <b>Street</b> 1:13 6:7 11:12,17          16:7  <b>strike</b> 4:20  <b>Suite</b> 1:13  <b>supporter</b> 3:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>T</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>table</b> 3:2,3  <b>talk</b> 5:1  <b>technically</b> 10:2  <b>technician</b> 12:10  <b>teenager</b> 12:18  <b>tell</b> 5:16  <b>testimony</b> 16:1  <b>thank</b> 10:13 12:20          14:21 16:1,4 17:6          18:18  <b>Thanks</b> 16:5  <b>things</b> 2:18 6:19 11:6          14:19 16:18  <b>times</b> 4:16 16:7  <b>today</b> 2:10,12,16 3:11  <b>today's</b> 2:7  <b>trouble</b> 5:11 7:7  <b>trust</b> 16:17 17:3  <b>trying</b> 6:13 8:3 11:20  <b>turned</b> 2:21  <b>Twin</b> 16:11  <b>two</b> 2:18 8:3 12:10 16:5          17:4  <b>type</b> 6:14</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>U</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>uncle</b> 13:17  <b>underage</b> 15:9,12  <b>understand</b> 10:20          11:11,11  <b>unregistered</b> 9:19</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>V</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>visit</b> 7:15</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>W</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>W</b> 1:14,16  <b>walking</b> 16:7  <b>wall</b> 10:4  <b>wanted</b> 5:5 10:14 17:13  <b>Washington</b> 1:13  <b>wasn't</b> 9:19 10:9  <b>way</b> 12:18  <b>weapon</b> 9:19 10:3  <b>welcome</b> 2:4 18:19  <b>went</b> 8:1 9:9 13:8,19,21  <b>work</b> 5:20 12:16  <b>worked</b> 6:14 7:18 8:2          12:8,10,12,21</p>	<p><b>working</b> 5:17 11:11          15:2 16:6  <b>works</b> 11:22  <b>worry</b> 6:1  <b>wouldn't</b> 5:3 15:19  <b>wrong</b> 7:21,22 9:10,10</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>X</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Y</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>yards</b> 8:2  <b>year</b> 6:15 8:3 13:20          15:2  <b>years</b> 7:20 10:1 12:6,9  <b>younger</b> 11:7  <b>your's</b> 3:18</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Z</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>0</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>10:11</b> 2:2  <b>10:13</b> 3:10  <b>10:25</b> 18:22  <b>100</b> 10:1  <b>14th</b> 1:13  <b>18</b> 12:1,11,18  <b>1800</b> 11:18  <b>1823</b> 6:4,6  <b>19</b> 1:10 2:10 8:9</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>2-574</b> 2:9  <b>20</b> 8:9,10  <b>2000</b> 1:13  <b>20009</b> 1:13  <b>2018</b> 1:10 2:10  <b>26</b> 12:4</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>3</b> 16:21</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>4-0-0</b> 18:7  <b>400S</b> 1:13</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>60,000</b> 16:20</p>
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In the matter of: Franklin Davis

Before: DCABRA

Date: 10-19-18

Place: Washington, DC

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