

**THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD**

**In the Matter of:**

District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge, LLC  
t/a District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge

Holder of a  
Retailer's Class CR License

at premises  
500 8th Street, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Case No.: 20-CMP-00115  
License No.: ABRA-112072  
Order No.: 2021-252

**BEFORE:** Donovan Anderson, Chairperson  
James Short, Member  
Bobby Cato, Member  
Rema Wahabzadah, Member  
Rafi Aliya Crockett, Member  
Jeni Hansen, Member  
Edward S. Grandis, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge, LLC, t/a District Soul Food  
Restaurant & Lounge, Respondent

Jessica Krupke, Assistant Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia

Martha Jenkins, General Counsel  
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration

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**ORDER APPROVING OIC**

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The above-mentioned parties filed an offer-in-compromise (OIC) that was reviewed by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board on May 5, 2021. The OIC resolves the enforcement action described in the above-mentioned case. The Board approved the OIC at the hearing.

**ORDER**

Therefore, on this 5th day of May 2021, the Board **APPROVES** the OIC presented by the parties. The terms of the OIC shall be binding and are described below.

1. For the charges described in Case No. 20-CMP-00115, the Respondent shall **SURRENDER** its license into safekeeping and abide by the terms and conditions contained in the OIC.

The ABRA shall deliver copies of this Order to the Government and the Respondent.

District of Columbia  
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com

*Donovan Anderson*

Key: ac435806100589647300231e0c

Donovan Anderson, Chairperson

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com

*James Short*

Key: 547e0373f920e6cc8d1e052e024e

James Short, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com

*Bobby Cato*

Key: 7e8f8fced7d168774b75b47917d2c

Bobby Cato, Member

Rema Wahabzadah, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com

*Rafi Aliya Crockett* Member

Key: b520e91845e1f9e401e155e5c12f81c

Rafi Crockett, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com

*Jeni Hansen* Member

Key: 8272997c50944742e1568c2a418f

Jeni Hansen, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com

*Edward Grandis* Member

Key: 5c27bda7f9f0040ec14ddeb52541cef

Edward S. Grandis, 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).

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATION ADMINISTRATION  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD**



<p>IN THE MATTER OF:</p> <p>DISTRICT SOUL FOOD RESTAURANT &amp; LOUNGE, LLC t/a DISTRICT SOUL FOOD RESTAURANT &amp; LOUNGE,</p> <p style="text-align:center">Respondent.</p>	<p>Case No. 20-CMP-00115 License No. 112072 Retailer Class CR</p>
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**OFFER IN COMPROMISE FOR BOARD APPROVAL**

The District of Columbia, jointly with the licensee (respondent) submits this Offer in Compromise (OIC) to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board), as authorized by 23 DCMR § 1611.5, for approval by the Board.

The Parties understand that if the Board approves the OIC, appeal and judicial review are waived under 23 DCMR § 1611.6, scheduled hearings will be vacated, and the case will conclude. Respondent will be obligated to abide by the OIC terms shown below. If the Board does not approve the OIC, the matter will be continued to a Show Cause Hearing on May 5, 2021.

The respondent has been advised that there is no obligation to accept the OIC. Respondent has been advised, through service of the Notice of Status Hearing and Show Cause Hearing that at a Show Cause Hearing, respondent may be represented by legal counsel, have subpoenas issued to require the production of witnesses and

evidence, produce witnesses and evidence, cross-examine witnesses, and apply to the Board for a qualified interpreter.

The OIC terms are as follows.

Charge I: Failure to follow a Board Order by allowing the sale, service or consumption of alcohol on the premises while the establishment's license was suspended.

Statutory Authority: D.C. Code § 25-823(a)(6)

- (1) Fine: n/a
- (2) Suspension: n/a
- (3) Other term: Surrender license for safekeeping. Following the Board's approval of this OIC, Respondent shall immediately cease all sale and service of alcohol and ensure that all alcoholic beverages are secure and not accessible to the public for sale, service, or consumption. Respondent shall surrender the license for safekeeping and all alcohol will be removed from respondent's premises by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7, 2021. Respondent shall file an application for the transfer of respondent's ABC License within 30 days of the Board's Order accepting this OIC. Respondent's owners, including David Rountree, will have no ownership interest in the new license holder, who shall be a bona fide purchaser. If a transfer application cannot be filed in 30 days, then within the same period, respondent must file a report with the Board detailing efforts to secure a purchaser or the license shall be canceled. Respondent may not withdraw a transfer application if the Board disapproves the transfer but may file a new transfer application within 30 days of disapproval. If the license is not transferred to a new owner by November 3, 2021, the license shall be deemed cancelled by the Board, provided that any request for an extension for reasonable cause may be made to the Board and granted or denied at its discretion.

Charge II: Interference with an investigation.

Statutory Authority: D.C. Code § 25-823(a)(5)

- (1) Fine: N/A.
- (2) Suspension: N/A.
- (3) Other term: See Charge I, Other term.

Dated: May 4, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

KARL A. RACINE  
Attorney General for the District of Columbia

FERNANDO AMARILLAS  
Acting Deputy Attorney General  
Public Interest Division

/s/ Fernando Rivero for Kimberly M. Johnson  
KIMBERLY M. JOHNSON [435613]  
Chief, Civil Enforcement Section

/s/ Jessica Krupke  
JESSICA KRUPKE [1019967]  
Assistant Attorney General  
400 Sixth Street, N.W., Suite 10100  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 727-2125  
(202) 370-7628 (fax)  
Jessica.Krupke@dc.gov

ATTORNEYS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**CONSENT OF RESPONDENT**

By this Offer in Compromise, I agree to accept and perform its terms. I acknowledge the validity of the OIC and waive a hearing to which I would have a right under D.C. Code § 25-826. I also recognize that I am waiving any right to appeal an adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed any such hearing. By this settlement, I waive all such rights. I sign this OIC without reservation, and I fully understand its meaning and my rights.

David Rountree  
Respondent  
David Rountree, Managing Member  
District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge, LLC  
t/a District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge  
500 8th Street, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20003  
davidrountree@districtsoulfood.com

05/03/2021  
DATE



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on May 4, 2021, the foregoing Offer in Compromise for Board

Approval was served by electronic mail to:

David Rountree, Managing Member  
District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge, LLC  
t/a District Soul Food Restaurant & Lounge  
500 8th Street, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20003  
davidrountree@districtsoulfood.com

Martha Jenkins  
General Counsel, ABRA  
2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400 South  
Washington, D.C. 20009  
Martha.Jenkins@dc.gov

*/s/ Jessica Krupke*  
Jessica Krupke  
Assistant Attorney General