

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

2 10:16 a.m.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: Would the parties in
4 the matter of Empire, please, come forward? The
5 parties in the matter of Empire. This is Case
6 No. 18-PRO-00069, Empire, LLC t/a TBD, 1909 9th
7 Street, N.W., Unit 2A, License No. ABRA-110702.
8 This is a Retailer Class CT new application.

9 The protest issues are adverse impact
10 on peace, order and quiet.

11 My name is LaVerne Fletcher. I'm
12 conducting the Roll Call Hearing as the Board's
13 Agent.

14 Introductions beginning with the
15 applicant. If you could just state your name and
16 spell it for the record?

17 MS. GEBREMESKEL: My name is Adanech
18 Gebremeskel.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Can you say that
20 again?

21 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Adanech, A-D-A-N-E-
22 C-H.

1 AGENT FLETCHER: A-D-A?

2 MS. GEBREMESKEL: N-E-C-H.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: A-D-A?

4 MS. GEBREMESKEL: N-E-C-H.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes. Start over for

6 me again. A-D?

7 MS. GEBREMESKEL: A-N-E-C-H.

8 AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you.

9 MS. GEBREMESKEL: My last name G-E-B-
10 R-E-M-E-S-K-E-L.

11 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. And how do you
12 pronounce your first name?

13 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Adanech.

14 AGENT FLETCHER: So that's what I'm
15 going to call you. Can you print your last name
16 on the document for me, the sign-in sheet? If
17 you could print it out for me? Thank you.

18 Present on behalf of the Group of Five
19 or More?

20 MS. BEHRENS: I'm Erica Behrens. I
21 live at 1911 9th Street. We don't have all five
22 of us here.

1 AGENT FLETCHER: Oh, that's okay.

2 Erica, could you spell your name, please?

3 MS. BEHRENS: Sure. Erica is E-R-I-C-

4 A.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Uh-huh.

6 MS. BEHRENS: And Behrens is B-E-H-R-

7 E-N-S.

8 AGENT FLETCHER: Did you say C?

9 MS. BEHRENS: Erica is with a C.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: I mean, what's the

11 last name?

12 MS. BEHRENS: Behrens, B-E-H-R-E-N-S.

13 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.

14 Hi, and your name?

15 MS. SAYEGH: Hi. I don't live at

16 1911, but I'm here as one of the five.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: Did you sign the

18 Protest Letter?

19 MS. SAYEGH: Yes.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: Oh, and can you state

21 your name?

22 MS. SAYEGH: Sure. Hailey, H-A-I-L-E-

1 Y.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: Um-hum.

3 MS. SAYEGH: Last name Sayegh, S-A-Y-
4 E-G-H.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you very
6 much.

7 Are either one of you going to be
8 representing the entire group? It's up to you.
9 I'm just asking.

10 MS. BEHRENS: We -- I can. I don't
11 know if the --

12 AGENT FLETCHER: So it's -- so you can
13 decide that at the -- by the upcoming Status
14 Hearing. You don't even have to make that
15 decision today.

16 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: The -- so your
18 Protest Letter does list, you know, all the
19 protestants' names and signatures.

20 MS. BEHRENS: Um-hum.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: And if you don't have
22 a designated representative today, that's okay.

1 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: When you come to the
3 Status Hearing, I'll give you the date for that
4 in a moment, at that point, you will need to tell
5 the Board who is going to represent your group.

6 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: For the purpose of
8 today, if you would put your contact information
9 on that sheet, Erica, if you just do that only,
10 that would be fine, because we only need one
11 contact person. Because what is going to happen
12 is you're going to receive a hearing notice and
13 it's going to be sent to you.

14 So everything else you receive beyond
15 this point is going to be by email, that's why we
16 need your email address. So we will send it to
17 you, Erica. You designate whoever you want to be
18 your representative. I mean, it's up to you.

19 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

20 AGENT FLETCHER: The Group of Five or
21 More is granted conditional standing. Two of you
22 are present today. When you appear for your

1 Status Hearing, bring at least 3 more people.
2 The Board needs to see 5 people in-person. So
3 you -- two of you were here today, at the
4 upcoming Status Hearing, 3 more people that are
5 not here today need to show up for a total of 5.

6 MS. BEHRENS: Is it if one of us can't
7 make it that day, is that okay, because we are
8 here today?

9 AGENT FLETCHER: That's fine. As long
10 -- because there is going to be in the record
11 that you two were here.

12 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

13 AGENT FLETCHER: So if neither one of
14 you come, it's okay, as long as 3 more people
15 come.

16 MS. BEHRENS: Sure.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: And as I stated at
18 that point, let the Board know who is going to
19 represent the group, because we only contact one
20 person on behalf of a whole group.

21 I'm going to give you the date for a
22 Status Hearing and a Protest Hearing and we will

1 need to set a date for mediation as well.

2 I'll give you the date for the Status
3 and Protest Hearing first.

4 The date for the Status Hearing is
5 going to be October 31st at 9:30 a.m.

6 The date for the Protest Hearing is
7 November 28th, that's 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

8 Were you going to say something,
9 Adanech?

10 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Yes. November 28th?

11 AGENT FLETCHER: What was that?

12 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Is the Protest
13 Hearing?

14 AGENT FLETCHER: The Protest Hearing
15 is November 28 at 4:30. And you are going to
16 receive a hearing notice by email of these dates.

17 We need to set a date for mediation to
18 occur prior to the October 31st Status Hearing.
19 I'll give you the next available day for
20 mediation. The next available day for mediation
21 is Tuesday, October 9 at 11:00, 11:30 or 1:00 in
22 the afternoon, that's the next available day. If

1 that works for everybody, we will stick with that
2 date, otherwise, I'll keep moving through the
3 calendar.

4 MS. BEHRENS: And who needs to be at
5 mediation?

6 AGENT FLETCHER: Your designated
7 representative. You can -- it's up to you who
8 comes.

9 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: So you have a total
11 group of nine. Generally, one person would
12 appear on behalf of that entire group, not the
13 entire group, but the entire group can come if
14 they want to or anybody from the group, that's
15 why we get a designated representative to
16 represent a group. So that's up to you who
17 comes.

18 MS. BEHRENS: If the person who
19 appears at the Status Hearing and Protest Hearing
20 can't make it to the mediation, can someone go in
21 their place?

22 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes, yes, it doesn't

1 matter.

2 MS. BEHRENS: Okay.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: But make sure it's
4 somebody that you all agree can come, so that
5 there is no conflict later about who should have
6 come and so if you can make sure of that, that
7 would be helpful. Thank you.

8 Is October 9 good for anybody?

9 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Yes, it's okay for
10 me.

11 AGENT FLETCHER: Any particular time
12 good for you or Ms. Adanech or it doesn't matter?

13 MS. GEBREMESKEL: I accept these okay.

14 MS. BEHRENS: Yeah, I mean, earlier
15 would be better, but either is --

16 AGENT FLETCHER: We can do -- so
17 that's Tuesday. We could do it at 11:00.

18 MS. BEHRENS: 11:00, that's fine.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Um-hum.

20 MS. GEBREMESKEL: That's okay.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: So mediation is set
22 for 11:00 on Tuesday, October 9.

1 Any questions at all? Okay. The Roll
2 Call Hearing is concluded. Thanks for coming.

3 MS. BEHRENS: Thank you.

4 MS. GEBREMESKEL: Thank you.

5 MS. BEHRENS: If we do have additional
6 questions, can we email you or --

7 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes, that's -- here
8 is my card, you know, feel free.

9 MS. BEHRENS: Okay. Thank you.

10 MS. SAYEGH: Thanks very much.

11 AGENT FLETCHER: You're welcome.

12 (Whereupon, the Roll Call Hearing was
13 concluded at 10:25 a.m.)

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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: Empire

Before: DCABRA

Date: 10-01-18

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.



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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