

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

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**In the Matter of:** )  
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Georgetown Suites, LLC/Wabbit, LLC ) Case No.: 22-PRO-00034  
t/a Georgetown Inn West End/Casta's Rum ) License No.: ABRA-10946  
Bar ) Order No.: 2 2022-303  
)  
)  
Holder of a )  
Retailer's Class CR License )  
)  
)  
at premises )  
1121 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W. )  
Washington, D.C. 20037 )  

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Georgetown Suites, LLC/Wabbit, LLC, t/a Georgetown Inn West  
End/Casta's Rum Bar, Respondent

Sidon Yohannes, Counsel, on behalf of the Respondent

Michael Miller, Sally Blumenthal, and Vera Russer, Designated  
Representatives, on behalf of a Group of Residents and Property Owners,  
Protestants

Elaine Rigas, Abutting Property Owner, Protestant

Donato Alvarez, Abutting Property Owner, Protestant

Andrew Schulwolf, Counsel, on behalf of Georgetown Suites, LLC,  
Protestant

Martha Jenkins, General Counsel  
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration

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## ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

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Georgetown Suites, LLC/Wabbit, LLC, t/a Georgetown Inn West End/Casta's Rum Bar filed an Application for the renewal of its Retailer's Class CR License. The Roll Call Hearing was held on June 6, 2022, where Abutting Property Owner Donato Alvarez was denied standing in Board Order No. 2022-277.

The denial of Abutting Property Owner Donato Alvarez is based on the failure to file a signed protest petition on or before May 16, 2022. As noted in the regulations, a valid protest petition must be "signed" and filed before the end of the protest period pursuant to 23 DCMR §§ 1602.2 and 1602.3. The Abutting Property Owner argues that he filed the signed petition after the deadline after being informed that the petition lacked the appropriate signature. He further incorrectly believed that his email address would serve as his electronic signature. Nevertheless, the Board cannot accept corrected petitions after the deadline because D.C. Official Code § 25-601 creates a strict filing deadline. Finally, the Board notes that nothing prevents potential protestants from filing their petitions early and giving themselves more time to make corrections if such corrections are warranted.

Nevertheless, the Board notes that nothing in this Order prevents the Abutting Property Owner from participating in the protest as a member of a group so long as the group is granted standing and the Abutting Property Owner is a valid and timely signatory of the group's petition.

### ORDER

Therefore, the Board, on this 29th day of June 2022, hereby **DENIES** the motion for reconsideration. A copy of this Order shall be provided to the parties.

District of Columbia  
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com  
*Donovan Anderson*  
Key: ac43cb9eb9d5f09e4b730093d1dccc8

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Donovan Anderson, Chairperson

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*James Short*  
Key: 54f7ae373f820de6ac8d1b332d42949ec

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James Short, Member

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*Bobby Cato*  
Key: 256d3fcaadfb6146d7f4b75bd7917d2bd

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Bobby Cato, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com  
*Rafi Aliya Crockett, Member*  
Key: b560e91845e1f9e4016155e5c12f81cc

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Rafi Crockett, Member

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*Edward Grandis, Member*  
Key: 5027bdca7f9f0040ec14adeb52541ce5

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Edward S. Grandis, Member

I abstain in this matter.

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*Jeni Hansen, Member*  
Key: 82172931f0509447491b56f9c2a41899

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Jeni Hansen, Member

Pursuant to 23 DCMR § 1719.1, 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, Reeves Center, 2000 14th Street, N.W., 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Also, pursuant to section 11 of the District of Columbia Administrative Procedure Act, Pub. L. 90-614, 82 Stat. 1209, District of Columbia 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, 500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. However, the timely filing of a Motion for Reconsideration pursuant to 23 DCMR §

1719.1 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).