

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

In the Matter of:

Hakuna Matata DC, LLC
t/a Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar

Applicant for a New
Retailer's Class CR License

at premises
1128 H Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20002

License No.: ABRA-121081

Order No.: 2022-952

Hakuna Matata DC, LLC, t/a Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar, Applicant

Mona Hatoum, on behalf of Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A ABL Committee

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

ORDER ON SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The official records of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) reflect that Hakuna Matata DC, LLC, t/a Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar (Applicant), Applicant for a new Retailer's Class CR License and ANC 6A have entered into a Settlement Agreement (Agreement), dated June 3, 2022, that governs the operations of the Applicant's establishment.

The Agreement has been reduced to writing and has been properly executed and filed with the Board. The Applicant and Mona Hatoum, on behalf of ANC 6A, are signatories to the Agreement.

Accordingly, it is this 14th day of December 2022, **ORDERED** that:

1. The above-referenced Settlement Agreement submitted by the parties to govern the operations of the Applicant's establishment is **APPROVED** and **INCORPORATED** as part of this Order, except for the following modifications:

Subsection 3(d) (Music/Dancing/Entertainment) – This Subsection shall be removed.

Subsection 3(e) and 3(e)(i), (ii), and (iii) (Music/Dancing/Entertainment) – This entire Subsection shall be removed.

The parties have agreed to these modifications.

2. Copies of this Order shall be sent to the Applicant and ANC 6A.

District of Columbia
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Donovan Anderson
Key: 3c423b966b058664b7306d931dccc8

Donovan Anderson, Chairperson

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
James Short
Key: 547cc37392346c6c8b15332d2740e2

James Short, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Bobby Cato
Key: 2b5d3fca7a146b774b7b0d79170209

Bobby Cato, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Rafi Aliya Crockett, Member
Key: 2b5d3fca7a146b774b7b0d79170209

Rafi Crockett, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Jeni Hansen, Member
Key: 82172937c503447497b2c69c241805

Jeni Hansen, Member

eSigned via SeamlessDocs.com
Edward Grandis, Member
Key: 50277eda78f5047ee143deb52541ce5

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 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, DC 20009.

Also, pursuant to section II 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).



Made this 3rd day of June, 2022

by and between

Hakuna Matata DC LLC, t/a Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar (ABRA-121081)
1128 H Street NE
Washington DC 20002

and

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

Preamble

Through this Agreement, both parties aim to create an environment whereby Applicant may operate as a viable contributing business in the ANC 6A community, while concurrently curtailing any adverse effects a business such as Applicant's could have on the surrounding neighborhood.

Applicant is encouraged to work regularly with ANC 6A, neighborhood associations, and residents to ensure the business operations do not adversely affect the surrounding neighborhood. All parties believe the statements and provisions contained in this Agreement are reasonable and must become wholly integrated into the day-to-day operation of the establishment.

Witnesseth

Whereas, Applicant's premises is within the boundaries of ANC 6A; and,

Whereas, the parties desire to enter into an agreement governing certain requirements and understandings regarding the issuance of a Class C Restaurant Liquor License at the subject premises; and,

Whereas the parties wish to state their mutual intention and commitment to promote the success, peace, order, quiet, and equity of the community. Both parties recognize the importance of commercial districts (and limited commercial operations within residential districts) and their adjacent neighborhoods that are safe, clean, and "pedestrian friendly."

The Parties Agree As Follows:

1. **Public Space Cleanliness and Maintenance.** Applicant will maintain the public space (minimally the front sidewalk up to and including the gutter in front of the subject premises, and the alleyway behind the subject premises) adjacent to the establishment in a clean and litter-free condition by:
 - a. Picking up trash and recycling, including beverage bottles and cans, and all other trash a minimum of twice daily (once immediately before business hours and again between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.).
 - b. Maintaining regular trash, garbage, and recycling removal service, regularly removing trash and recycling from the trash and dumpster area, and seeing that the trash and dumpster area remain clean.

Settlement Agreement between Hakuna Matata DC LLC, t/a Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar and ANC6A

- c. Depositing trash, garbage, and recycling only in authorized rodent-proof dumpsters, and seeing that dumpster covers fit properly and remain fully closed except when trash, recycling, or garbage is being added or removed.
- d. Exercising due diligence to prevent and/or rid vermin infestation in and around the establishment, including following, minimally, the recommendations and guidelines of the Vector Control Division of the Department of Public Works.
- e. Assisting in maintenance of the curbs in front of the establishment to keep them free of trash and recycling, removing snow and ice from the sidewalk, and complying with all applicable D.C. laws and regulation in these respects.
- f. Generally tending to tree boxes directly in front of the subject premises, if any.
- g. Promptly removing or painting over any graffiti written on the exterior walls of the property.
- h. Requiring the owner and employees not to park on public space between the building and the curb.
- i. Not locating trash bins, chairs, tables, or other equipment on public space without a valid space permit.

2. **Business Operations and Practices.**

- a. Applicant will not, directly or indirectly, sell or deliver alcohol to any intoxicated person or to any person who appears to be intoxicated.
- b. Applicant agrees to take all necessary steps to prevent patron rowdiness, including refusing admission/service to rowdy and/or unruly persons.
- c. Applicant agrees to ensure that no patron shall bring an open container of an alcoholic beverage into the establishment from outside sources, nor exit the establishment with an open container of an alcoholic beverage.
- d. Applicant will not provide or sell alcoholic beverages "to go" except as authorized by DC law.
- e. Applicant agrees not to promote or participate in bar or pub "crawls" or any other event of this nature unless the event has been reviewed and approved by the ABC Board.
- f. The licensed establishment will be managed in person by Applicant or a board-licensed manager.
- g. Applicant, and all employees that are designated to serve alcoholic beverages, shall attend and complete an alcoholic beverage server training course/seminar.
- h. Applicant shall post a notice kept in good repair and visible from point of entry a sign that states:
 - i. Proper ID is required to be served and that the establishment will check IDs at all times prior to serving alcoholic beverages to patrons;
 - ii. It is illegal to sell alcohol to anyone under age 21;
 - iii. Patrons are requested not to litter, loiter, or make excessive noise in the neighborhood as they arrive or depart;
 - iv. Warning: Drinking alcoholic beverages during pregnancy can cause birth defects; and
 - v. The establishment requests that customers do not contribute to panhandlers.
- i. Applicant shall make every effort to prohibit and prevent criminal activity on or in front of the establishment premises, to include:
 - i. Calling appropriate emergency services if illegal activity is observed;
 - ii. Keeping a written record of dates and times (a "call log") when emergency services are called for assistance; and
 - iii. Applicant will maintain a detailed incident log. An incident is defined as any activity by patrons of the establishment inside or immediately outside the establishment that could lead to an ABRA investigation. Each incident will contain the date, time, and location of each incident with a concise summary. Guests and staff involved or witnesses of the incident will be identified and listed. If there is a medical or police response, that information will also be noted.
- j. Upon request of the Board, Applicant's call log and incident log shall be provided to the Board.
- k. Applicant will utilize and maintain high-intensity floodlights on the exterior of its premises so as to fully light any abutting alleyway from dusk until dawn, consistent with District of Columbia light

pollution regulations, 12-K DCMR § 409.

- l. Applicant shall provide valet parking services only with valet parking companies as defined, licensed, and in compliance with D.C. Municipal Regulations Title 24 Chapter 16. Applicant will not engage in valet parking that results in vehicles parked in residential parking spaces.

3. **Music / Dancing / Entertainment.**

- a. Applicant agrees to ensure that sounds originating from within the establishment are mitigated by installing adequate soundproofing.
- b. No sound, noise, music, or voices emanating from the licensed establishment shall be of such intensity that it may be heard in any premises other than the licensed establishment. This restriction does not apply to: (1) sound, noise, music, or voices heard in any premises which are located within a C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, C-M, or M zone, as defined in the zoning regulations for the District, and (2) sound, noise, music, or voices occasioned by the normal opening of entrance and exit doors for the purpose of ingress and egress.
- c. In order to mitigate noise on a sidewalk café or summer garden the following steps will be taken:
 - i. Applicant shall not offer any type of entertainment on the summer garden and/or sidewalk café; pre-recorded music may only be played until 10:00 pm (at a volume no greater than 60 decibels), unless the applicant has completed an enclosure of the sidewalk café (substantially meeting the specifications of Attachment A) such that the noise level from the sidewalk café and/or summer garden is consistent with Section 3(b);
 - ii. A fence with plastic or other similar barrier will enclose the entire perimeter;
 - iii. No fewer than two signs will be clearly posted to remind guests to keep their voices at normal speaking volume;
 - iv. Staff will monitor the outdoor area to make sure guests do not raise their voices above normal speaking tones; and
 - v. Potted plants, trees, fountains, or other types of noise mitigation techniques will be incorporated into the decor.
- d. The ANC will establish a three-month trial of noise levels from the sidewalk café and/or summer garden with limited hours until 11:00 pm Sunday through Thursday evenings and 12:00 am on Friday and Saturday evenings. If noise levels do not create a repeated disturbance to the neighborhood during this time period and the licensee has a record of good conduct during this time period, the hours for service on the patio may be extended to be consistent with Section 3(e). The three-month time period for this applicant will be the first three months of the applicant's operations.
- e. After the trial period described in Section 3(d), the hours of operation for a sidewalk café and/or summer garden are limited until 12:00 am Sunday through Thursday evenings and 2:00 am on Friday and Saturday evenings, as well as evenings before federal holidays, unless the applicant has completed an enclosure of the sidewalk café (substantially meeting the specifications of Attachment A) such that the noise level from the sidewalk café and/or summer garden is consistent with Section 3(b).
 - i. However, if the licensed establishment incurs three valid noise complaints during any calendar year, the ANC may, upon a vote at a regular and properly-noticed meeting, elect to restrict the hours of the sidewalk café (or any other outdoor space) to a closing time of 11:00 pm Sunday through Thursday evenings and 12:00 am on Friday and Saturday evenings, as well as evenings before federal holidays. Such restriction shall remain in place for six months and will automatically revert to the hours listed in Section 3(e) above after those six months have elapsed, provided there have been no further valid noise complaints during that six month period. Applicant agrees that it shall not challenge such restriction provided that the ANC has identified a sufficient number of valid noise complaints during the calendar year.
 - ii. For purposes of this Section, "valid noise complaint" means (1) A complaint made to ABRA where an ABRA inspector has investigated the complaint and confirmed that the Applicant is in violation of any DC noise ordinance and/or Section 3(b) of this Settlement Agreement; or

- (2) A written citation issued by the DC Metropolitan Police Department for a violation of any DC noise ordinance.
- iii. The sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages must end at the time specified in this Section 3 and the patio must be cleared of all patrons and staff.
- f. Applicant may offer facilities for dancing for patrons only with an entertainment endorsement and may have recorded and background music without an entertainment endorsement. "Entertainment" means live music or any other live performance by an actual person, including live bands, karaoke, comedy shows, poetry readings, and disc jockeys. The term "entertainment" shall not include the operation of a jukebox, a television, a radio, or other prerecorded music.
- g. All CT license holders with an entertainment endorsement must have an ABRA-accepted security plan in place.
- h. The kitchens for all CR license holders shall remain open and operational up until at least one hour prior to closing.
4. **Cooperation with ANC 6A.** Applicant is encouraged to work with ANC 6A, the Single Member District (SMD) ANC Commissioner within whose boundaries the establishment is located, the Chair of the ABL Committee, and other Commissioners whose SMDs are adjacent to the location of the establishment to address concerns arising from violations of this agreement.
5. **Modifications.** This Agreement may be modified and such modification implemented by Applicant only by mutual agreement of the parties in writing and the subsequent approval of the modification by the ABC Board pursuant to DC Official Code§ 25-446 or as required by District law.
6. **Miscellaneous.**
- a. Applicant shall retain a copy of this Settlement Agreement in the establishment and have it available for review upon request.
 - b. Applicant will operate in compliance with all applicable DC laws and regulations. Any reference to specific laws and regulations in this Settlement Agreement is meant for informational purposes only. ANC 6A does not intend for a violation of any DC law or regulation to also be considered a violation of this Settlement Agreement.
 - c. Applicant is encouraged to participate in a Business Improvement District if one exists.
 - d. If any provision of this agreement, or any portion thereof, is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of the agreement shall nevertheless remain in full force and effect.
7. **Enforcement.**
- a. If any party hereto believes in good faith that the applicant is in violation of this agreement, written notice specifying the alleged violation shall be delivered to the applicant. The applicant shall have ten (10) days after receipt of such written notice to come into compliance with this agreement or respond to said alleged notice of default. In cases where the defaulting Party reasonably requires more than ten (10) days to come into compliance, the defaulting Party shall, within ten (10) days, make substantial efforts toward compliance and pursue those efforts until the default is corrected.
 - b. Applicant and the ANC 6A Commission agree to enter into this agreement. If the applicant should breach the conditions of this agreement and fail to come into compliance or make substantial efforts toward compliance as provided by Section 7(a) of this agreement, it is understood by all parties that the ANC 6A and/or its committees, or others may immediately petition the Alcohol Beverage Regulatory Administration (ABRA) to investigate violations of this agreement and take appropriate actions per 23 D.C.M.R.
 - c. This Settlement Agreement is binding on the applicant and its successors and will continue in force for any and all subsequent license holders at this location.


In Witness Whereof

Settlement Agreement between Hakuna Matata DC LLC, t/a Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar and ANC6A

The parties have affixed hereto their hands and seals.

Applicant:

By: Justine Mwebaza Date: 6/3/2022

Signature: 

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A Representative:

By: Mona Hatoun, co-chair ABL Date: 6/3/22

Signature: 

ATTACHMENT A

(ANC 6A and Hakuna Matata Kitchen and Bar Settlement Agreement)

