

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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ROLL CALL HEARING

+ + + + +

IN THE MATTER OF: :

:

English Standard, LLC :

t/a The Imperial :

2001 19th Street, N.W. :

License #ABRA-109169 :

Retailer A - Transfer to :

a New Location (from 2321:

18th Street NW to 2001 :

19th Street NW) :

Case #18-PRO-00047 :

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018

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The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
met in Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room,
Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street N.W.,
Washington, D.C., Ms. LaVerne Fletcher, Agent,
presiding.

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

2 10:05 a.m.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: Would the parties in
4 the matter of the Imperial please come forward?
5 The parties in the matter of the imperial. This
6 is Case number 18-PRO-00047 English Standard, LC,
7 2001 19th Street NW, License number ABRA-109169.

8 This is the Retailer Class A,
9 transferred to a new location from 2321 18th
10 Street NW to 2001 19th Street NW. The protest
11 issues are adverse impacts on peace, order, and
12 quiet, and residential parking, and vehicular and
13 pedestrian safety.

14 My name is LaVerne Fletcher. I'm
15 conducting the Roll Call Hearing as the Board's
16 Agent. Introductions, beginning with the
17 applicant, please.

18 MR. THOMAS: Yes. Just, all of the
19 addresses and stuff that you were mentioning were
20 all wrong.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Would you correct
22 them for the record, please.

1 MR. THOMAS: Yes. The location is
2 2001 18th Street.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: That's the location
4 that you're going from or to.

5 MR. THOMAS: To.

6 AGENT FLETCHER: And what's, which one
7 are you going to?

8 MR. THOMAS: 2001 18th Street NW,
9 Washington, DC.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay.

11 MR. THOMAS: 20009.

12 AGENT FLETCHER: All right.

13 MR. THOMAS: And transferring from
14 2321 18th Street NW, Washington, DC.

15 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. So, from is
16 2321 18th Street NW?

17 MR. THOMAS: Correct.

18 AGENT FLETCHER: To is, to should have
19 been 18th Street instead of 19th.

20 MR. THOMAS: 2001, yes. Correct.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Could you state your
22 name and spell it for the record?

1 MR. THOMAS: Sure. My name is William
2 Thomas, W-I-L-L-I-A-M, T-H-O-M-A-S.

3 AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr.
4 Thomas. You're the owner?

5 MR. THOMAS: Correct.

6 AGENT FLETCHER: And present of the
7 Kalorama Citizens Association?

8 MR. JAMES: Good morning. Denis
9 James. It's Denis with one N, J-A-M-E-S.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. --

11 MR. JAMES: There was one other issue
12 with what you initially read out. It's not an A
13 license. It's a CT.

14 AGENT FLETCHER: It's a CT? Thank
15 you. Thank you very much, Mr. James. You are
16 correct. It is a CT, Class CT license. Thank
17 you. It has been corrected.

18 MR. THOMAS: Can we make it a CTA?

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Hmm?

20 MR. THOMAS: Can we make it a CTA?

21 (Laughter)

22 AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

1 And Mr. James, James is J-A-M-E-S? J-A-M-E-S,
2 Mr. James?

3 MR. JAMES: Yes.

4 AGENT FLETCHER: And your name, sir?

5 MR. IRANI: Present on behalf of ANC
6 1C, Amir Irani, A-M-I-R, I-R-A-N-I.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: Mr. Irani, ANC 1B
8 filed the protest?

9 MR. IRANI: ANC 1C.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: 1C. I'm sorry. ANC
11 1C filed the protest?

12 MR. IRANI: That's correct.

13 AGENT FLETCHER: I actually don't see
14 a copy of the protest in the protest file. Do
15 you by any chance have a copy of it with you
16 today?

17 MR. IRANI: I could search my email.
18 I don't have a physical copy with me.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. If you have a
20 copy of it and you can, in your phone, if you can
21 give me the date of it? And just read to me that
22 the meeting was held, quorum present, et cetera.

1 I don't have a copy of it in the folder right
2 now. Did you receive a Roll Call Hearing notice
3 to appear today?

4 MR. IRANI: Yes.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. So, if you can
6 just tell me a little bit more about your protest
7 letter?

8 MR. IRANI: So, at the, what I did
9 was, I pulled up the minutes from our ANC
10 meeting. And the Commission recommended a
11 protest.

12 And the Commission protested the
13 application for a transfer of license on the
14 basis of adverse impact on peace, order, and
15 quiet, and on residential parking needs, and
16 vehicular and pedestrian safety.

17 And that any Commissioner be
18 authorized to appear on behalf of the Commission.
19 The resolution was passed by a vote of six to
20 zero. This was May 2nd.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: That was on May, what
22 day, May?

1 MR. IRANI: May 2nd.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: May 2nd. So, what
3 I'm going to do is this. I'm going to grant ANC
4 1C conditional standing today. And you can
5 provide us with the actual protest letter that
6 you filed, and we'll do it that way.

7 So, ANC 1C is granted conditional
8 standing today, conditional upon receipt of the
9 actual protest letter that you filed, Mr. Irani.
10 For some reason it's not in the protest file.

11 The KCA, the Kalorama Citizens
12 Association, does have standing as a protester.
13 And Mr. Irani, could you submit that letter
14 within this week?

15 MR. IRANI: Absolutely.

16 AGENT FLETCHER: And you can email it
17 to me. And then I'll send it on to our general
18 counsel. We need to set a date for a mediation,
19 a status hearing, and a protest hearing.

20 I'll give you a date for the status
21 and protest hearing first. The status hearing is
22 set for July 18 at 9:30 a.m. July 18 and 9:30

1 a.m. for the status hearing.

2 MR. THOMAS: So, July 18th at 9:30
3 a.m. for the status hearing?

4 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

5 MR. THOMAS: What exactly does that
6 entail?

7 AGENT FLETCHER: What does that
8 entail?

9 MR. THOMAS: Yes.

10 AGENT FLETCHER: The status hearing?

11 MR. THOMAS: The status hearing.

12 AGENT FLETCHER: At the status hearing
13 you appear before the full Board. That's where
14 you let the Board know that mediation was held,
15 and the result of mediation. They just want to
16 know just the status --

17 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

18 AGENT FLETCHER: -- of the case at
19 that point. And they'll ask you whether or not
20 you've entered into a settlement agreement during
21 mediation, or not.

22 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

1 AGENT FLETCHER: And if you did not,
2 then they'll just restate the date of the protest
3 hearing that I'm about to give you right now.

4 MR. THOMAS: Right.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: The protest hearing
6 is scheduled for September the 19th at 1:30 p.m.
7 September 19th.

8 MR. THOMAS: At what time?

9 AGENT FLETCHER: 1:30 p.m. on
10 September 19.

11 MR. THOMAS: Pardon me. Is that
12 because, I guess you, is there an off in August?
13 Is it closed in August, the --

14 AGENT FLETCHER: The reason for the
15 date of the protest hearing?

16 MR. THOMAS: Right.

17 AGENT FLETCHER: I actually don't
18 know. I don't set those dates. That date is
19 actually given to me based on the Board's
20 calendar. But the Board is in recess in some of
21 August.

22 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

1 AGENT FLETCHER: So, I'm sure that was
2 taken into consideration. You're commenting on
3 the length of time?

4 MR. THOMAS: The length of time. I
5 mean, there's a good chance that we were trying
6 to open before then, which obviously, I'm sure,
7 will be used against me in terms of negotiation.
8 So, I just was wondering if it could be moved up.
9 But --

10 AGENT FLETCHER: Well, at the time
11 that this date was provided, this was the next
12 available day on the Board's calendar.

13 MR. THOMAS: Oh, I believe, yes --

14 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

15 MR. THOMAS: I understand, totally
16 understand. I'd be willing to waive status, and
17 move right to protest if we could switch that.

18 AGENT FLETCHER: We've got to have the
19 status.

20 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

21 AGENT FLETCHER: Because the Board
22 wants to know that status of, they want to hear

1 from you regarding the status. If the matter can
2 somehow be resolved before the status, or before
3 the 19th, then the protest hearing will be
4 cancelled.

5 MR. THOMAS: I'm hoping they'll change
6 their minds, yes.

7 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

8 MR. THOMAS: There's always a miracle.

9 AGENT FLETCHER: Anything's possible.

10 MR. THOMAS: If not, the Board I
11 trust.

12 AGENT FLETCHER: Yes. I'll give you
13 the next available date for mediation. The next
14 available day for mediation is Tuesday, June 26.
15 That's Tuesday June 26, at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
16 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

17 MR. THOMAS: Nine --

18 MR. IRANI: The 26th is open for me.
19 So, it doesn't matter.

20 MR. THOMAS: I can make it work. The
21 earlier the better, 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

22 AGENT FLETCHER: Mr. James, do you

1 have a preference?

2 MR. JAMES: I would prefer as late as
3 possible.

4 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay.

5 MR. JAMES: Or another day.

6 AGENT FLETCHER: How about --

7 MR. JAMES: Do you have another day to
8 offer? If, I mean --

9 MR. THOMAS: I'm out, I start out of
10 town on the 27th.

11 MR. IRANI: So, why don't we do, just
12 split it and say 10:00?

13 MR. THOMAS: Sure, 10:00 a.m..

14 AGENT FLETCHER: Do what?

15 MR. IRANI: 10:00 a.m. on the 26th?

16 AGENT FLETCHER: That work for you,
17 Mr. James?

18 MR. JAMES: Okay.

19 AGENT FLETCHER: 10:00 a.m. on June
20 25th.

21 MR. THOMAS: 26th.

22 MR. IRANI: 26th, right?

1 MR. THOMAS: 26th.

2 AGENT FLETCHER: Oh, yes. I said
3 26th, right.

4 MR. THOMAS: 25th works though.

5 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. So, that's 10
6 o'clock on June 26th. Okay. Any questions at
7 all? Mr. Thomas, any other questions?

8 MR. THOMAS: No. Unfortunately.

9 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Well, if you
10 think of anything, my card's on the table.

11 MR. THOMAS: Yes. Thank you.

12 AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Well, thank
13 you for coming.

14 MR. THOMAS: All right.

15 MR. IRANI: Thank you, Ms. Fletcher.

16 AGENT FLETCHER: You're welcome.

17 MR. THOMAS: Have a good day.

18 AGENT FLETCHER: You too. The Roll
19 Call Hearing is concluded.

20 (Whereupon, the Roll Call Hearing was
21 concluded at 10:16 a.m.)

22

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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: The Imperial

Before: DCABRA

Date: 06-11-18

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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