DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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IN THE MATTERS OF:

:

Kraken 3400, LLC,

t/a Kraken Axes : Contested 3400 Georgia Ave NW : Fact-Finding

Retailer CT - ANC 1A : Hearing

License No. #109296 : Case #18-CMP-00106/180 :

:

Field House, LLC t/a :
Field House DC :
151 T Street SW :
Retailer CX - ANC 6D :
License No. #110405 :
Case #18-CMP-00154/171 :
(Fitness for Licensure) :

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009, Chairperson Donovan W. Anderson, presiding.

PRESENT:

DONOVAN W. ANDERSON, Chairperson NICK ALBERTI, Member BOBBY CATO, JR., Member MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member JAMES SHORT, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

MARK BRASHEARS, DC ABRA Inspector
COUNTEE GILLIAM, DC ABRA Inspector
KEVIN PUENTE, DC ABRA Inspector
VANESSA PLEITEZ, DC ABRA Inspector
CORALIE FARLEE, ANC 6B
ANNA VALERO, Licensee
ANDREW KLINE, Licensee's Counsel
SIDON YOHANNES, Licensee's Counsel

T-A-B-L-E O-F C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S

Opening Statement by Licensee
Closing Statement by Licensee
Board Questions of Licensee
WITNESS STATEMENTS:
Coralie Farlee
Anna Valero
Countee Gilliam
Mark Bracheard 81

2:41 p.m.

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 2

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: We now then will call the last case on our calendar for the afternoon. This is a Contested Fact-Finding Hearing. It's Case No. 18-CMP-00106 and 18-CMP-00180, Kraken Axes, License No. 109296 and also Case No. 18-CMP-00154 and Case No. 18-CMP-00171, Field House DC, License No. 110405.

What I'll ask is if there is anyone here, and the Investigators included, I'll ask that you all come up and introduce yourself for the record, please.

So all the Investigators who are here for Kraken Axes and also Field House, I would like them to come up and identify themselves for the record.

So but we will start with the licensee to introduce themselves.

MR. KLINE: Yes, good afternoon.

Andrew Kline here on behalf of the applicant.

MS. YOHANNES: Sidon Yohannes here on

	benair of the applicant.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good afternoon.
3	MS. VALERO: Anna Valero, the
4	applicant.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good afternoon,
6	Mr. Kline, Ms. Yohannes and Ms. Valero. And I
7	think when I first started, Mr. Kline, I mean,
8	you brought almost the entire firm with you
9	today. I guess I need to be on my A-game today,
10	Mr. Kline.
11	MR. KLINE: Well, we are
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, I was
13	just recognizing, you know, I'm saying that
14	normally I don't see both of you at the same time
15	in front of me. I think probably in the earlier
16	time, I'm not sure if Ms. Yohannes was new to
17	your firm, so now that I see both attorneys, I
18	have to be on my best behavior.
19	MR. KLINE: We are concerned about
20	this. So thank you.
21	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, go ahead.
22	INVESTIGATOR PLEITEZ: Investigator

1	Vanessa Pleitez.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good afternoon.
3	INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Investigator
4	Brashears, ABRA.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Brashears.
6	INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Investigator
7	Kevin Puente, ABRA.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Puente.
9	INVESTIGATOR GILLIAM: Investigator
10	Countee Gilliam, ABRA.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Gilliam.
12	All right. Good afternoon, everyone. This
13	matter was the Board will now take up a
14	Qualification Hearing for the two applications
15	for licensure filed by Kraken 3400, LLC t/a
16	Kraken Axes and DC Field House, LLC also known as
17	DC Field House.
18	This Qualification Hearing was
19	initiated by the Board through the issuance of
20	Board Order No. 2018-479 issued on August 1,
21	2018.
22	The purpose of this hearing is to

address whether one or both applications should be denied or other remedies imposed based on alleged violations committed during the application process pursuant to 23 DCMR § 401.1 and DC Official Code § 25-104(e) and whether the applicant for both licenses, Anna Valero, is otherwise of good character and generally fit for the responsibilities of licensure under 25-301(a)(1).

The Board has apprised the applicant of its specific concerns as well as the factual and legal basis for these concerns in a Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law included in Board Order No. 2018-479.

Specifically in regard to Kraken Axes, the first issue of concern for the Board is information received by the Board that the applicant may have allegedly violated the requirement to have a Certificate of Occupancy and the Fire Code between September 2017 and April 13th in violation of DC Official Code § 25-823(a)(1).

The second issue is whether the applicant made misrepresentations regarding the hosting of an event on April 12, 2018 and the alleged illegal operations of a retailer on April 13, 2018 and June 27, 2018 in violation of DC Official Code § 25-823(a)(5).

In regard to DC Field House, the first issue of concern is that someone associated with Drink the District, LLC, a company partly owned by Ms. Valero, altered a license issued by ABRA and attempted to interfere with an investigation by presenting it to an Investigator as a valid license on June 18, 2018 in violation of DC Official Code § 25-835 and 25-823(a)(5).

The second issue of concern is that it appears that Ms. Valero's company, Drink the District, LLC, held illegal events in violation of DC Official Code § 25-102 and 23 DCMR § 213.2 on June 18, 2018 and June 21, 2018.

The last issue of concern is the specific fitness of Ms. Valero. In this case, the alleged violations, her propensity for

truthfulness in regard for public safety and ability to manage the business in accordance with the law are in doubt based on the allegations received by the Board.

Because of the serious consequences regarding the alleged violations that may result from the Board's determination of whether this applicant is fit for licensure, the Board is treating what would normally be a Fact-Finding Hearing as a Contested Hearing, such that witnesses will provide for testimony and will be subject to cross-examination.

We will begin with preliminary motions and opening statements by the applicant. The Board will also consider any settlement offers the applicant wishes to make. The applicant may then call its witnesses and present any evidence it wishes the Board to consider.

Once the applicant rests, the Board will decide whether to call any witnesses, which may include any of the Investigators or ABRA staff members identified in the Board's Order

exhibits. Once the Board concludes calling its own witnesses, the Board will permit the calling of rebuttal witnesses.

Finally, the applicant will also be entitled to make a closing statement.

So if we are ready to begin, we will begin with the applicant's preliminary motions and opening statements.

I do know that there has been some ongoing conversations regarding whether or not we can forego some type of Consent Order, but the Board has some concerns with and the Board is willing to consider.

So let's start with Kraken Axes.

MR. KLINE: Yes. Good afternoon again, Members of the Board. Thank you. I just want to say at the outset that we appreciate you giving us the opportunity this afternoon to present before you.

Ms. Valero and I have spent quite a bit of time together over the last few weeks and she certainly understands the concerns that the

Board has, the seriousness of the situation.

Entrusting one to sell alcohol is what you do.

And I think those of us that either live or work in the District appreciate the fact that you take that roll seriously. And when there are issues of concern, that they need to be examined and looked at.

Having said that, the District of

Columbia is also a place of second chances. I

think we all know many people that have gotten

second chances and we think Ms. Valero deserves

one here. And we appreciate the Board's counsel,

Ms. Jenkins and Mr. Berman, working with us to

try to fashion something that might be acceptable

to the Board.

We have done that. We can present that. I think the Board has seen it offline, but we will proceed in any way the Board wants. But I do, you know at the outset, want to stress that the settlement -- this is a recognition that there are issues that cannot be repeated and Ms. Valero is aware of that and understand what her

obligations will be if the Board decides that she 1 2 is fit to be licensed, which is what we would ask you to do today. 3 4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Ι 5 know that there is a settlement, that I -- I assume that you have a copy, at least a proposed 6 Consent Order that has gone back and forth that 7 8 we can start with. And I think for the most 9 part, the Board might be in favor of this agreement, but there is just some caveats that 10 11 I'll have the Board Members ask you to -- will 12 question you. 13 And so if we have any Board Member who 14 wants to ask questions regarding the draft that 15 they have in front of them, you are welcome to 16 ask questions. Any Board Members want to ask? 17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Can I just ask a few 18 questions? 19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes. 20 MEMBER ALBERTI: So just a matter of--21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Go ahead, Mr. Alberti. 22

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: So we just were 2 talking about how to proceed and who is going to raise what -- which topics, that's the whole --3 what that was about. 4 5 So I'm just going to ask questions about -- I don't know, do you have a marked-up 6 7 version of -- we have sort of a marked-up version 8 of the agreement. 9 MR. KLINE: Right. I believe --MEMBER ALBERTI: Which wasn't -- I'm 10 looking at what was Point 8 and now is Point 7. 11 12 I'm not sure what Martha has given you. 13 MR. KLINE: Okay. 14 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm looking at the one that says "Anna Valero, the applicant, agrees 15 16 not to have direct or indirect ownership interest 17 in District, Stihl, Foggy Bottom, LLC or any 18 other DC licensed off-premise retailer so long 19 as" etcetera, etcetera. 20 MR. KLINE: Um-hum, yes. 21 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. So that's the item I'm on. 22

MR. KLINE: Got it.

MEMBER ALBERTI: And I think that the last -- through discussions with both Ms.

Jenkins, you asked that a sentence be added that says "Nothing herein shall preclude or prohibit the payment of percentage rent required by any lease." That's a bit vague to me.

Can you elaborate on what that means explicitly?

MR. KLINE: Yes, of course. Many commercial leases have what are called percentage rent clauses. They are fairly common in the commercial realty industry related to retail or restaurants. And a percentage rent clause in a lease says that if you hit a certain breakpoint, in other words if your sales are over a certain number, then under those circumstances, you pay the landlord a percentage of your sales.

This lease, in fact, has such a provision and it is quite common in commercial leases and that's why we put it in there. There isn't any specific interest in the alcohol sales,

but there is a requirement in the lease that the 1 2 landlord receive a percentage of the gross sales. MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. That's what I 3 4 thought it meant. All right. Very good. 5 guess I have two concerns and one I'll express as a question. 6 Who is the landlord? And is the 7 8 building in any portion owned by someone who owns a DC licensed off-premise license? 9 10 MR. KLINE: Not that I'm aware of, no. 11 MS. YOHANNES: Not that I'm aware of. 12 MR. KLINE: So there is no connection 13 between, and we will just put it out there, either Ms. Valero or Mr. Martin with the 14 landlord, correct. There is no financial 15 16 relationship between those parties. 17 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's fine. The 18 landlord, the landlord, does the landlord have 19 any financial interest in a licensed -- off-20 premise licensed DC entity? 21 MR. KLINE: Not that we are aware of. 22 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Okay. You see

1	where I'm going with this? Let me just that
2	would sort of be the end round
3	MR. KLINE: Right. Understood.
4	MEMBER ALBERTI: on this. All
5	right. The second concern and I guess I'll have
6	to consult with
7	MS. YOHANNES: Do you want me to ask
8	him?
9	MR. KLINE: Yeah.
10	MS. YOHANNES: Does Zeke have any off-
11	premise
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, we don't
13	need to you can you don't need to.
14	MR. KLINE: We can satisfy you. The
15	answer is no, the landlord has no interest.
16	MEMBER ALBERTI: As far as you know
17	right now. All right. All right.
18	MR. KLINE: According to the landlord.
19	MEMBER ALBERTI: But I'll
20	MR. KLINE: Just for the record, is
21	seated behind me in the room.
22	MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. You

confirmed this, all right.

The other concern is, and I'm going to have to probably have a discussion with our General Counsel about this, that while I was aware that this arrangement happened with commercial establishments, I was not aware that it happened with ABC licensed establishments, because there is that -- I mean, you know as well as I do, there is this prohibition about sharing profits with people who aren't on the license.

MR. KLINE: Right.

MEMBER ALBERTI: Putting --

MR. KLINE: I understand. Right.

MEMBER ALBERTI: Right? And it seems odd that you get to share your profits, essentially, sharing your profits with the landlord who is not licensed.

MR. KLINE: Well, you don't.

MEMBER ALBERTI: He doesn't have a

20 license.

MR. KLINE: Because there isn't any presupposition that you are making any profits.

1	It's a measurement tool. So in other words
2	MEMBER ALBERTI: Not profit. I
3	misspoke. Proceeds.
4	MR. KLINE: I understand.
5	MEMBER ALBERTI: Proceeds in general.
6	MR. KLINE: Right. But basically what
7	you are doing is you the landlord is saying,
8	and again this is probably a conversation best
9	for another time, because your files are complete
10	with leases that have these provisions in them.
11	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. I wasn't aware
12	of them. All right.
13	MR. KLINE: But I think what, you
14	know, the discussion would be that the sales are
15	a mere measurement of success and the landlord's
16	a mere measurement of success and the landlord's position is gee, if you do great, then, you know,
16	position is gee, if you do great, then, you know,
16 17	position is gee, if you do great, then, you know, your rent should be higher. So it's not really a
16 17 18	position is gee, if you do great, then, you know, your rent should be higher. So it's not really a portion of the proceeds, it's a way to measure.
16 17 18 19	position is gee, if you do great, then, you know, your rent should be higher. So it's not really a portion of the proceeds, it's a way to measure. And we can certainly debate that, but

1	the lease here with us?
2	MR. KLINE: Um
3	MEMBER ALBERTI: I mean, has it been
4	submitted? I know this license has gone quite a
5	ways. Has it been submitted to us?
6	MR. KLINE: Yes, it has been
7	submitted.
8	MEMBER ALBERTI: So we do have a copy
9	in the files. Okay. Thank you.
10	MR. KLINE: I don't have a hard copy
11	with me. I have an electronic copy.
12	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Thank you.
13	That's I was making sure we understood that.
14	Thank you.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Kline, I
16	think one issue the Board has, and I think at
17	least for DC for the Kraken Axes, which I
18	don't think should be a major issue, it's my
19	understanding that this lease I'm sorry, this
20	application is probably 90, 95 percent completed.
21	MR. KLINE: The ABC licensing part of
22	it, yes.

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right. And so
2	one of the things that we would ask that there is
3	an amendment to number the new 6.
4	MEMBER ALBERTI: 6, yeah. No. 5 or
5	No. 5, yeah, No. 5.
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 5. Yeah,
7	number well, basically, No. 5 and the I
8	think there are the 3, 4, 5, 6, so I think it's 5
9	and 6.
10	MEMBER ALBERTI: It's the old 6. It's
11	"The applicant shall not allow or permit an event
12	where alcohol is served."
13	MR. KLINE: Right.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And so what we
15	would ask that until the license is approved,
16	because I think, in this particular case so it
17	says without the Certificate of Occupancy, but we
18	would also add that until the license has been
19	approved by the Agency.
20	As you're aware, I think as you are
21	aware
22	MR. KLINE: Well, we are just talking

about the LLC, correct? That wouldn't extend to 1 2 Ms. Valero personally. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 3 Right. And 4 so --5 MR. KLINE: We are talking about the premises. 6 7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- it would be 8 consistent. It would be consistent --9 MR. KLINE: Yes, that's fine. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- with this 10 11 application, because it was said the applicant --12 that the applicant would do that. I mean, I think -- and I don't know what the Board is going 13 14 to do if temporary applications are being applied by individuals, I mean --15 16 MR. KLINE: Understood. 17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- the record 18 is clear that temporary applications were filed. 19 The Board did deny some of the temporary and I was comfortable in doing that, because the 20 21 decisions were made based on presentations that were made to the Board. And so as one Member of 22

the Board and Chair, I was comfortable in denying it because I did have some significant concerns based on the presentations that were made by who appeared in front of me.

But in this particular case, then I mean, we would ask that that be added to that provision.

MR. KLINE: I understand. I now understand what you are saying and that's perfectly appropriate that we are not, obviously, going to be involved in operations until we have not only a Certificate of Occupancy, but an approved condition of ABC License. I think that's what you are asking me.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

MR. KLINE: From a drafting standpoint.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And I am going to get to the Investigators. I don't want the Investigators -- but I need -- before I say what I need to say regarding the Investigators, I need to kind of tie the strings up on this side and

then I will address the Investigators. I don't want the Investigators to sit there. There are-a lot of work was done in these cases and so I am going to address that. So don't feel that I'm ignoring you.

Would the applicant have a problem providing us with an architectural diagram of the premises?

MR. KLINE: No.

MS. YOHANNES: No.

MR. KLINE: We don't have any problem with that. And there was an issue that was raised offline and I might as well clarify it on the record in terms of what the premises is, whether there will be another premises, another licensee there and the answer is no.

So to the extent that there is concern about the erection of a demising wall between Ms.

Valero's premises and other premises there, no longer an issue. It -- she will occupy -- her business will occupy the entire premises and I have already confirmed with her that that is

consistent with the application that she initially filed. We won't increase the occupancy or do anything else that might be considered as substantial change.

So you know, you should all be fine with that. But to the extent that there are concerns about what the demising wall might look like or whatever, it is not an issue.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do we have any questions by any other Board Members? All right. No further questions by any of the Board Members? All right. I believe that the Board would be in favor of accepting the Kraken Axes' Consent Order with some of the additions that we just talked about, in the sense that:

The applicant would not apply for any temporary licenses until there is a full license;

That there would be -- that you will provide us -- if you have not already done so, that you will provide us with the architectural drawing of the property. And I think --

MR. KLINE: So just to clarify that

1 first point, we are talking about one days for 2 use at the premises, correct? CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 3 Yes, yeah. All right. And so we will add that to the order. 4 5 And I mean, of course, there will be -- to make sure that both sides, both our attorney and 6 yourself will agree to the language. 7 8 But with those changes, I make a 9 motion that we agree to -- that we accept a 10 Consent Order and approve the license. Is there 11 a second? 12 MEMBER CATO: Second. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Cato seconded the motion. 14 15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Can we take this 16 under advisement? 17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And I want the 18 Investigators to speak, they have certain things 19 to say, but I want to make sure that I don't say 20 what I want to say before we have made a decision 21 on the case. Okay. I just want the 22 Investigators to say that. I want the

Investigators to be aware of that. There is a lot I have -- I want to say, but I have to make sure that what I need to say it's not perceived in a certain way, in a certain time.

All right. So let's, okay, move on to Field House. And I think there is discussion. I guess we have always referred to this place as DC Field House, so the name of the LLC is Field House, LLC? And if they -- so if we need to amend the application to make sure that the correct name is in the application, because I get -- it appears that the name of the place is being -- was being referenced as an incorrect name.

So if -- to make sure that when we look at the application that the correct name is on the application, to make sure that at least the record moving forward is a correct document.

There is also a Consent Order that was provided that the parties have been looking at and I think for No. 7, we still have the same concern about nothing here and shall preclude or prohibit the payment of percentage rent increase

by a lease.

Is it the same explanation in this case and is it the same landlord or is it a different landlord for Field House? And can you explain whether or not it is the same -- explain this provision in this particular case.

MR. KLINE: Sure. It is a different landlord. The explanation is the same in that there is a percentage rent provision in the lease that requires the tenant to pay percentage rent in the event the gross sales exceed a certain figure. And that's why we wanted to clarify and make sure.

I don't think it's an interest in the profits, but I didn't want -- I mean, we worked hard to try to be transparent throughout this agreement and making sure that we were not duped in any way, so that's why we wanted that addition. We wanted to make sure that we were very clear as to what was being agreed to.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. The Board also has a -- this is a new license, a new

business and I think this -- if we were to approve it, we -- it has to go through the This is not -- unlike the first case, process. this has not gone through the placarding period as yet.

And I think the Board is also concerned regarding whether or not would the applicant agree to not having any temporary license until the license is approved?

And I'll say this, Mr. Kline, there are some serious violations on this and there are some very serious violations, alleged violations, which I know that your client is not agreeing and stating that yes, I did these violations. for settlement purposes, we are -- so I do understand that that is done.

And I know that in -- if we were to agree to this Consent Order, that the applicant is agreeing to, let's see is this the one that they are agreeing to, some suspension days. me see.

> In both of them actually. MR. KLINE:

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1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right, yeah,
2	but I'm trying to see if this is the one where
3	the applicant is also agreeing to primary tier
4	violations.
5	MEMBER ALBERTI: I think they both
6	are.
7	MR. KLINE: No, that's in the Kraken
8	Axes one.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Huh?
10	MR. KLINE: That's in the Kraken Axes.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So there are no
12	primary tier violations in this one, but the
13	but they are agreeing to that that we are going
14	to have some stayed days.
15	MEMBER ALBERTI: I think they both
16	have primary
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yeah, yeah.
18	MEMBER ALBERTI: Yeah, they are both
19	similar in the
20	MR. KLINE: Oh, yeah, we do. I stand
21	corrected.
22	MEMBER ALBERTI: Right.

	MR. KLINE: Yes.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right. So
3	there would be some agreement that the applicant
4	is agreeing to some primary tier violations, so I
5	don't I would hope that agreeing not to have
6	any temporary until you have, because you
7	wouldn't want to lose your license before getting
8	your license.
9	MEMBER ALBERTI: Can I just
LO	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Go ahead, Mr.
L1	Alberti.
L2	MEMBER ALBERTI: I would like it to
L3	be not any temporary or catered, so no alcohol,
L 4	no events at which alcohol is served, that's my
L5	recommendation to the Board.
L6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And
L7	MEMBER ALBERTI: Is that no events
L8	where alcohol is served until the license is
L9	issued for
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: For the
21	alcohol.
22	MEMBER ALBERTI: is application.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And that's where I'm going, because what I'm saying is that you have not had your license. So there has been -- you are already agreeing to some primary tier violations and I would hope that you don't want to rack up more violations and -- without having your license.

And so you -- it could be by the time you get your license, hope -- there could be a whole set of violations that would make issuing the license not even worth it.

MR. KLINE: The concern with this space is a little different than the other one and let me tell you why. There are a few reasons.

No. 1 is this is primarily outside space. It is in proximity to the soccer stadium. And there is a desire to take advantage of temporary licenses through the soccer season for a couple of reasons, one obviously -- I mean, I don't hide it, you know, it's a profit opportunity, but there is also very little down

in that area, at this point, as we develop that neighborhood.

So we would like the ability to use the space, plus she is a long way away, as you pointed out. And from the licensing process in terms of getting approved for a license, I think Ms. Valero is mindful of the risk that she is under with the two primary tiers that are there.

And I think that -- I would hope that if the Board is agreeing to license her, then she is going to be responsible. Because if the Board doesn't think she is, the Board shouldn't license her. But I think she will be.

And I think that, as I said, second chances are what we are about here in the District and I would hope that the Board would trust her to run her business, so that she does not run into any violations, which are going to jeopardize her ability to have a license at that location.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Unfortunately,
Mr. Kline, I mean, we have not even issued a

license for this establishment and, as you have stated, that this establishment is a long way towards getting a license. And if they are a long way from getting a license and if they are already agreeing to -- I don't want to -- primary tier violations already.

And as you stated, that they are a long way from getting a license. I don't really see the harm in this licensee, if they are serious, this applicant if they are serious, about getting a permanent license, and you already have -- you have started off rocky with this Board, that you are a new applicant to say you know what, let me make sure that all my ducks are in a row before I start doing events, because you could risk not even getting a permanent license.

Because if you are -- say for example, and I don't remember if in this particular case that you have already committed two primary tier violations, two more, it's a \$30,000 fine and/or revocation and you don't have a license. I mean,

it's outdoor. It's September now. I'm not quite sure how long the outdoor season will be before you can't really have events.

I don't know how long. I know that you are saying it's in proximity to the Audi Field. I -- so I'm not quite sure how, but I am -- maybe if we were in the fall, maybe if we were in the spring and you have a longer season, then I would be -- I would understand the argument.

But it's -- we are moving into fall, so I'm not really sure how many more days are left in the sense that you are going to have outdoor events. So I am just thinking aloud.

MR. KLINE: I'm reminded of one important fact that I forgot and overlooked.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, sir.

MR. KLINE: Which is that there is a C of O in existence for that plot. So I mean that should allay the Board's concerns with respect to the C of O, which I respect. So there is a C of O. And to the extent that an applicant otherwise qualifies for a one-day or temporary

license, we call them now, I'm still stuck on one-day, that was years ago, a temporary license at that location I would hope that they would have the ability to apply for use at that location, because, through no fault of the Board and only through missteps by this applicant, which we concede, she is a month behind and has rent obligations.

Again, not the Board's problem, but unless there is some compelling policy reason why the Board thinks that's important, we would respectfully request that the Board reconsider that. But again, we will defer to you. We appreciate the Board working with us on this.

And I'm not going to push so hard, but I'm going to explain as I have what we think our issues are and ask the Board to consider from a policy standpoint really whether that is really necessary.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I think and I'm not -- hoping I'm not speaking out of turn, but I guess based on the history of this case and the--

Investigators in bringing forth these reports, there are some serious violations regarding this establishment. If I remember correctly, maybe it's one of the -- this maybe is one of the -- if I remember correctly, this is an establishment that there was some issue with the C of O initially, whether or not there was a C of O.

If I remember correctly, we got a document that there was no end date, so we weren't sure whether or not that someone who -- someone, an Investigator, went there, the Investigator -- we were supposed to get a copy of the C of O. By the time it showed up to us through the copy machine, the copier cut off the end date.

There was, if I remember correctly for this place, a temporary license application that was filed and someone's name mysteriously disappeared from the document. So it's -- I believe that based on the history that is provided, it would behoove the applicant to say--

and I'll say this for the record, I was comfortable denying temporary applications in previous cases because this information was presented to me at a hearing.

MR. KLINE: Understood.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And so I felt comfortable denying it because it was -- I had testimony in front of me and I was uncomfortable with what was being presented. So I believe that again, this applicant, as a new applicant, we are -- we probably would be approving two businesses and I -- if I -- I don't recall that this applicant has been in the business of running these type of establishments.

I don't -- I believe this is -- the presentation that I think was made that this application has said, you know, I'm trying to do something new and I would hope that if you are trying to do something new, you have made some missteps that you make sure in order not to -- you have already started off with the 8-Ball, because you already start -- you have some stayed

days holding over your head for at least a year.

You also have some primary tier violations over your head, that if you are truly serious about opening this business, you need to make sure that you get the license in your hand before you start operating.

I mean, we have given -- the Board has given you a running start to operate the business and, frankly, based on what is in the case reports here, you have failed. So I'm not sure what is your -- what are you providing to the Board to give the Board assurances that in this period before a license is -- if you go through the placarding process and whether or not -- I don't know if I see Dr. Farlee, and I'll state for the record Dr. Farlee is here, and if I state correctly, she is the ABC Chair for the ABC -
MR. KLINE: She is. For the record, she is.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- for the ABC
Chair for the ANC in this matter. So she is
already here, so I don't know whether or not the

ANC -- whether or not they are going to protest.

I don't know what they are going to do, but I'm

just saying the ANC is here trying to get the

Board know that they are interested in what is

going on here.

And I guess I'm familiar with the area and I'm familiar with the fact that we are trying to have development in the area, but we need to make sure that we have proper and appropriate development in that area.

MEMBER SHORT: Can I --

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So and this applicant --

MR. KLINE: You posed a question, so if I might, I would like to --

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Sure go ahead.

MR. KLINE: -- go ahead and answer it.

Which was what is it? You know, why should we be comfortable in terms of moving forward until the final license is issued? And what I would say to you is there are things in these agreements which, as you said, are hanging over the

applicant's head. And she is at risk

financially. And she has got to get it right,

because I don't want to come back before you on

behalf of Ms. Valero again and she doesn't want

to be here either.

So she has every incentive in the world to do it right. I think in the past she may not have gotten the best advice, but guess what, the buck stops with her and that doesn't matter. Which is why we were so anxious to work with you and with the Board's Counsel in terms of getting this resolved, because she bears responsibility, we recognize that, Ms. Valero recognizes that, at this point.

And she will, if approved for licenses, whether it be the permanent licenses that are before you or if she is a representative or involved in a company that would be involved in temporaries, she is going to do what she needs to do to comply with the law, that's her pledge to you here today. And she will say it herself if need be, I mean, and that's the point.

1	She needs to comply with the law and
2	I think she will.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short?
4	MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Kline
5	MR. KLINE: Yes, sir.
6	MEMBER SHORT: you mentioned second
7	chances and it looks like Ms. Valero may get
8	that.
9	MR. KLINE: We would appreciate that.
10	MEMBER SHORT: And it sounds though
11	that you are not in agreement with not having any
12	alcohol there until you get a license. I mean,
13	can you meet us? I mean, because basically I, as
14	a Board Member, take some convincing.
15	And so now to hear you say you think
16	she should have alcohol there before we issue the
17	license
18	MR. KLINE: No. There needs to be a
19	license. If there is no license, absolutely not.
20	MEMBER SHORT: No alcohol, okay. All
21	right.
22	MR. KLINE: The only circumstances

1	well, what we are talking about now
2	MEMBER SHORT: We're talking about
3	temporary.
4	MR. KLINE: is the temporary.
5	MEMBER SHORT: Well
6	MR. KLINE: And I mean, if she doesn't
7	have a temporary, no, she can't have alcohol
8	there.
9	MEMBER SHORT: Okay. I thought the
10	issue came up that there would be no temporaries
11	issued until the
12	MR. KLINE: Well, that's what we are
13	talking about right now.
14	MEMBER SHORT: Yeah, that's what I'm
15	saying. So you don't want and you can't see
16	meeting us that way?
17	MR. KLINE: I
18	MEMBER SHORT: It's not
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: He
20	MR. KLINE: am here to work with
21	you.
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: is not going

to agree, so I'll say that. I think in explaining his -- in defending his client, he is going to say no. So therefore, I don't -- I think that I would think I would not respect Mr. Kline as much as I do or as little as I do if he just rolls over and says sure, I'll take that. Okay.

MR. KLINE: I appreciate that.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'll take that.

So I understand his argument, but I think,

counsel, you are aware of the concerns that the

Board has.

MR. KLINE: Absolutely.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And so the
Board is concerned and the Board is -- if the
Board was to agree to this, this might be
something that the Board will strongly consider
doing. I don't know what it is that -- maybe in
our deliberation, maybe some Board Members are
stronger than others. I don't know. But I'm
just saying this is a concern that the Board has.

MR. KLINE: Understood. And I would

1	ask the Board to consider it based upon, you
2	know, the statements that I made and the
3	arguments that we have made, as I know the Board
4	will do, and that's all I can ask, I mean.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I see Dr.
6	Farlee, can you introduce yourself for the
7	record, please? And you can come forward and
8	introduce yourself for the record.
9	DR. FARLEE: Coralie Farlee, Chair of
10	the ABC Committee, ANC-6D.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on. Hold
12	on one minute, please.
13	DR. FARLEE: Sure.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Dr. Farlee, I
15	think the recorder fell.
16	DR. FARLEE: It did?
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yeah, hold on
18	one minute. Hold on one minute.
19	DR. FARLEE: I want to apologize for
20	being late. I thought this was announced for
21	3:30.
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: We are our

1	1:30 case was
2	DR. FARLEE: Okay.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: so we kind
4	of moved it, but you are not late. You are on
5	time for the hearing.
6	DR. FARLEE: Thank you.
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you have
8	something? You motioned to me that you wanted to
9	say something.
10	DR. FARLEE: Two or three comments.
11	I have a question about what address is being
12	used that is on the ABRA announcement it's 151 T
13	Street, but I have seen also advertisements for
14	Field House Beer Garden, 1901 1st Street, S.W.,
15	so is that the same organization? The same
16	company or whatever?
17	And secondly, Board Member
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Alberti.
19	DR. FARLEE: Alberti proposed no
20	event where alcohol is served, but they have
21	sidewalk sandwich announcements in the
22	neighborhood that say they have food and alcohol

and they may have a contractor or some kind of 1 2 other person that has an alcohol license that is 3 serving. So I would think the language could be 4 5 more specific than no alcohol is served at all, 6 that is by this applicant or by this company, 7 that is -- it's not -- I hope you are saying it's 8 not acceptable if they bring in a contractor to 9 serve alcohol. So that's two questions. 10 MEMBER ALBERTI: Do you want to address that? 11 12 MR. KLINE: Yes. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I know the 13 14 issues that we were talking about was that they 15 don't apply for a temporary, because --16 DR. FARLEE: No, not -- temporary 17 under this --18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, yes, we 19 haven't gotten to caterer. I'm just --20 DR. FARLEE: Caterer, yes. 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- saying at 22 least one of the things that was going on we were

1	they were requesting temporary
2	DR. FARLEE: Yes.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: several
4	temporary applications were filed.
5	DR. FARLEE: I don't understand that.
6	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And the Board
7	denied, I think, most of them. There were I
8	think if I remember correctly, there were
9	temporary applications filed by
10	DR. FARLEE: But I think the sandwich
11	boards that we have whenever there is a soccer
12	game or other events there and this field house
13	is open say alcohol and food. So I don't know
14	who is providing the alcohol.
15	MR. KLINE: They have been using a
16	caterer.
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
18	DR. FARLEE: All right. So that what
19	is your proposal?
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, I'm
21	DR. FARLEE: No alcohol at all or
22	caterers are okay?

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I think Mr.
2	Alberti is going to address that, but as and I
3	know that the ANC has not made a position or made
4	but since you are here, what is it that
5	what suggestions are you making to the Board
6	regarding this no alcohol?
7	DR. FARLEE: I think no alcohol at
8	all, given the track record so far.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Alberti,
10	you said you had a question you wanted to ask?
11	MEMBER ALBERTI: No, but I'll just
12	make it clear, I mean, since my name was
13	mentioned. My position would be no alcohol
14	served at events, at any events on this.
15	DR. FARLEE: By anybody?
16	MEMBER ALBERTI: Similar to what the
17	stipulation we made for Kraken Axes. Well, but
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'll give you
19	a chance, Mr. Kline.
20	MEMBER ALBERTI: Can I ask Mr I'll
21	allow Mr. Kline to speak, but I would like to
22	ask, I have some questions for Mr. Kline.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You can go ahead and ask.

MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. So and this isn't fair to you, Mr. Kline, because you know my position. We have heard from Mr. Short that he had to even be convinced that to even consider this --

MR. KLINE: Understood.

MEMBER ALBERTI: -- OIC. But I want to give you a chance to sort of defend your position, because so my question is how long -- where are you in the licensing process? And why do you think it is going to take you so long to get a license?

I know it can take weeks and you are going to miss a part of the season and I'm not so sure that is going to sway me, but when you say it's going to take a long time, what do you mean and why?

Because it's conceivable that you could have everything in and have this placarded in a couple of weeks, that's conceivable. Right?

This could be placarded in a couple weeks, in theory, right?

MR. KLINE: Okay.

MEMBER ALBERTI: And in the interim, you could apply for a stipulated license with agreement from the ANC. So I am just -- these are all possibilities and I'm -- so I'm not -- I would like to hear why -- what you think is a long time and why it is going to take that much time.

MR. KLINE: Okay. So we tell anyone who calls our office that wants to know how long this process takes that is filing an ABC application that it is 10 to 12 weeks on the front end. That's an absolute minimum, unless you get a stipulated approval.

This application is filed, as I understand it, but we are basically at the beginning of that 10 to 12 week period, because of the lag time for the notice to the DC Register. And then you have the mandatory 60 day period.

So you know, in the normal course of events, we think we are at least 10 to 12 weeks away, which in business terms and paying rent terms is a long time. That's number one.

Number two, this process was started many months ago. And again, I don't -- I mean, I want to be perfectly clear, the applicant takes responsibility. We are not looking at the Board and saying oh, my God, this took, you know, so long. We are not doing that. And I want to be perfectly clear that nobody misunderstands what I'm saying.

But the reality is she has been in the process for many months through her own making, but, at this point, this is where we are and we are at least 10 to 12 weeks away, assuming that the first -- we think the first time we get before a full ANC is probably October at the earliest, at this point.

And you know the process, Mr. Alberti.

You have been an ANC Commissioner before you were
here. You dealt with these issues. So yeah, I

mean, that's reality.

And again, not the Board's problem, but the licensee and the applicant as part of this Offer in Compromise is paying money, is taking responsibility, is accepting violations, none of which we asked the Board to apologize for. I mean, it's the applicant's fault. It's not the Board's fault, but that is all happening and we think it is enough.

And if the premises otherwise meets
the requirements for sale and service of alcohol
and the Board deems to approve either one-days or
there is a caterer that is licensed and there is
a catering contract, as is required and
everything else, then we don't -- this just seems
like an extra punishment without any regulatory
purpose.

And it's the Board's decision, but I don't see this as having -- and when I was first asked about it and understood it this way, that was my immediate reaction, what's the policy purpose? Why?

So that's what I'm puzzled by. If it's just punishment, then so be it. I mean, we think that the \$12,000 and the agreement to tiered violations on the record and the other things that are provided in the agreement, are enough punishment.

But the Board can certainly disagree, but that's what our position is, that's why we take the position we did.

The other thing I must tell the Board and I will tell the Board is that there are events scheduled with a reputable recognized caterer. There are contracts in place and that is going to be a problem. I mean, that's going to be a protocol. It's not the Board's problem, it's the licensee's problem.

MEMBER ALBERTI: So --

MR. KLINE: Yes.

MEMBER ALBERTI: -- with respect to caterers -- all right. In general, it wasn't just punishment. It's trust issues. Okay? And I am not going to go into why. I mean, you have

to understand because of what we have seen, there 1 2 is trust issues. And so when I think about 3 Okay. 4 caterers, you all getting caterers to run events 5 there, the trust issues really come to the forefront, because you know if something goes 6 7 wrong, it's not Ms. Valero's license, it's the 8 caterer's license. And really sometimes I wonder 9 who assumes responsibility before things go wrong 10 when you have a catered event. Well, what I think --11 MR. KLINE: 12 MEMBER ALBERTI: So --13 MR. KLINE: -- that supports the 14 position, because the caterer is responsible, that's who you have licensed. 15 16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yeah, yeah. 17 MR. KLINE: If they shouldn't be 18 licensed, then they shouldn't be licensed. 19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yeah, I get it. And 20 sometime when you have a caterer, there is this 21 pointing in both directions. For the record, I'm saying the caterer 22

1	points at the lessee of the property and the
2	lessee points at the caterer.
3	MR. KLINE: Well, but the point is the
4	Board has jurisdiction over the licensed caterer.
5	MEMBER ALBERTI: I got it. I got it.
6	I got it.
7	MR. KLINE: And I think we have put
8	safeguards into these agreements
9	MEMBER ALBERTI: So
LO	MR. KLINE: with respect to
L1	catering operations
L2	MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: So, Mr. Kline,
L3	how
L 4	MR. KLINE: that I hope will
L5	satisfy the Board.
L6	MEMBER ALBERTI: are you if you
L 7	were allowed to have alcohol, how would this
L8	property be intended to be used? Would it be
L9	intended let me clarify this question.
20	Would it be intended to be just for
21	game days or you want to have it for to use
22	this field outside of events at the stadium?

MR. KLINE: It would only be --1 2 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's my question. -- for special events. 3 MR. KLINE: Ιt 4 would not be an open -- you know, it wouldn't be 5 open to the public. MEMBER ALBERTI: Special events 6 7 meaning? MR. KLINE: Ms. Valero, do you want to 8 9 explain? Sure. One of the things 10 MS. VALERO: that we have scheduled -- so a few things. 11 12 it's, you know, a large outdoor space and so 13 anyone who wants to have more than say 300 people 14 gather, so they incorporate team-building 15 activities or corporate fall harvest type events. 16 So honestly just think about like corporate 17 picnics, those are events that would be in the 18 space. 19 And the other is, you know, the 20 landlord has a huge interest in people getting 21 familiar with Buzzard Point as an area and so we

partnered with a non-profit that brings in social

sports. And so they do one-for-one, so social sports come down and they are going to play kickball on asphalt and young professionals are going to come two days a week for kickball or cornhole or insert social games for eight weeks and so one night a week or two nights a week for eight weeks.

And then what they do is they partner with Greenleaf Rec, which is right nearby, and the same social sports league then provides free leagues for kids in the neighborhood.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay.

MEMBER ALBERTI: All right.

MS. VALERO: And so this would be for young professionals on Wednesdays and Thursdays for an eight week period through November.

MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So just to let everybody know where I'm coming from, I'm talking to you and my fellow Board Members here, I'm not sure whether I want to compromise. I know you want a compromise here and I'm not sure where I'm at. All right.

1 So my questions are to is there a 2 compromise I can live with? And I don't know about the rest of my Board Members, but I can 3 4 only ask for myself now. All right. 5 So how many people? Like what's the 6 biggest event any time? If you get your license, 7 what's the biggest event you can conceive of? 8 How many people? 9 MS. VALERO: My C of O is for 399. So 400 people. 10 MEMBER ALBERTI: 11 How big are the events that you are envisioning that you just described to me? 12 13 MS. VALERO: A couple hundred people 14 rolling through between their leagues, so it's 15 not like everyone comes at one time and leaves at 16 one time. They sort of roll through on the hour. 17 And so I would anticipate 200 people at any 18 point. 19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. 20 MS. VALERO: I can give you a better 21 number looking at the registration numbers that

they might have. I don't know off the top of my

1	head.
2	MEMBER ALBERTI: And you know where
3	they are and you can provide lists. You know
4	ahead of time who these people are and well in
5	advance? Okay.
6	(Simultaneous speaking)
7	I'll need to talk at some point with
8	others, but I
9	MR. KLINE: Well, we want the Board to
10	be comfortable. I mean, I
11	MEMBER ALBERTI: I don't know where I
12	stand. I'll just be honest with you, but I just
13	wanted to be fair and get all of this
14	information, so that
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short?
16	MR. KLINE: I'm with
17	MEMBER ALBERTI: if the Board is
18	discussing it, we are not discussing it without
19	all the information.
20	MR. KLINE: Right. And we want to
21	give you all the information.
22	MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. I know.

1	I know you do. I know you do. All right. Thank
2	you.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has
4	a question and then I'll come to you. Go ahead,
5	Mr. Short.
6	MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Kline, again, we
7	talked about second chances and I'm a person who
8	really believes in that. Also, we are not
9	talking about punishment. We are just talking
10	about justifying us being able to tell our
11	community.
12	Is it true that on April the 12th and
13	13th of this year that the applicant was selling
14	alcohol without a license?
15	MR. KLINE: I don't want to litigate
16	the facts.
17	MEMBER SHORT: Okay. I know,
18	but okay, let's say this.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: There is an
20	allegation.
21	MEMBER SHORT: The allegation
22	MEMBER ALBERTI: That was the
22	
-	

1 allegation. 2 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Okay. MR. KLINE: There are serious 3 allegations here. 4 5 MEMBER SHORT: Very serious 6 allegations. 7 MR. KLINE: We agree with that. 8 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. 9 MR. KLINE: I've said that throughout this hearing. 10 11 MEMBER SHORT: Now here is what 12 happens with second chances and I would think 13 this happens in most courtrooms. 14 There is always a consequence and then 15 normally a person who has run afoul, they get the 16 second chance, says okay, yes, I did do it and 17 please, forgive me or it's like they never came 18 into the courtroom in the first place if they can 19 just go and do what everybody else does after they have committed something against the law, 20 21 something against this Board. 22 So again, I'll just ask and Mr.

Alberti eloquently said compromise. 1 So what's 2 the compromise if a person can go out and sell alcohol without a license and get caught and then 3 4 turn right around and say well, give me a license because I really didn't do anything? 5 Either you did something or you didn't 6 7 if you get a second chance. 8 MR. KLINE: Right. 9 MEMBER SHORT: So what is it? I think that given what 10 MR. KLINE: the applicant has agreed to do, I think it's 11 12 pretty clear that the applicant understands that 13 she is culpable and that she has made mistakes, 14 which is why the applicant is agreeing to pay \$12,000. If we didn't think the applicant did 15 16 anything wrong, we would be swearing witnesses 17 and we would be going through a hearing. I mean, 18 so that's a given, that's number one. 19 Number two, we understand the Board's 20 concerns about the temporary, the temporaries. 21 MEMBER SHORT: And the catering?

MR. KLINE: Well, but let's -- I want

to be clear. I want to make a distinction.

MEMBER SHORT: Yeah.

MR. KLINE: Because the caterer is licensed. So we are not saying -- you know, we are not asking you to approve her to sell licenses there or her to sell alcohol there, excuse me --

MEMBER SHORT: Um-hum.

MR. KLINE: -- before her license is issued. But if there is a licensed caterer who this Board looks to to be responsible and exercise privileges under the law, then all we are asking is that she be allowed to do that just like anyone else would be allowed to do that.

MEMBER SHORT: Well, no, not like anyone else. Because most people who get caught selling alcohol without a license pay some type of -- just not only \$12,000, because a lot of times they can make that up in another week or two, make it in two days or three days, but the bottom line is I, as a Board Member, just have a situation with people who blatantly break the

District of Columbia Laws, get caught, pay a little money. They know somebody or they have a good lawyer and go right back to doing what they were not supposed to be doing in the first place.

How do we tell the ANC and all the other people, okay, well, yeah, the Board realizes and everybody knows someone broke the law. Someone violated the community's trust. Someone is now going to go right back to doing what they were doing, this time legally without any --

MR. KLINE: Well --

MEMBER SHORT: -- okay, okay. Well,
I understand that, but please, make me know if
you can, sir, please, bring me over because what
I think I, as a Board Member, am saying that
pretty much I agree that they need a second
chance. I'm not -- that's not the dispute with
me, as a Board Member.

And Mr. Alberti asked a very interesting question. It's not going to take long to get a license. So why do we need one-

days or caterers? Just get the license.

MR. KLINE: And that's what Ms. Valero intends to do. I will say this to you. The staff members that were involved at this location no longer work for Ms. Valero.

MEMBER SHORT: Okay.

MR. KLINE: They are gone. Ms. Valero has gotten an education in terms of what is required. She was sloppy. She admits it. I mean there isn't any question about that. And there are a number of instances that are completely unacceptable and we get that. We understand that.

Fortunately, when given the breadth of cases that this Board sees, it doesn't excuse it, but, you know, no one was hurt. There was nobody shot. There was nobody killed. It needs to be corrected. The law needs to be complied with.

But I would ask that the Board keep it in perspective.

Ms. Valero has a financial stake here.

And that along with an obligation to follow the

1 law is another reason for her to follow the law, 2 because if she doesn't comply with the law, you are going to take her license and you should. 3 She needs to comply with the law. 4 That's what we 5 are here to tell you today, that she needs to 6 comply with the law and she will comply with the 7 law. 8 And to the extent we -- and we 9 understand. We think the compromise is all right, disqualify her for what -- a temporary 10 11 license. 12 MEMBER SHORT: Just real quick. 13 MR. KLINE: Yes, sir. 14 MEMBER SHORT: Didn't she know this on 15 April 18th that -- what the law was and that you 16 can't sell alcohol until you get a license? 17 MR. KLINE: Um --18 MEMBER SHORT: Did she know that then? 19 MR. KLINE: -- she did, but --20 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. MR. KLINE: -- she didn't understand 21 the rules as well as she does now. 22

1	MEMBER SHORT: Oh, okay. All right.
2	I thought I had
3	MR. KLINE: There is no excuse.
4	MEMBER SHORT: Okay.
5	MR. KLINE: I mean, I don't
6	MEMBER SHORT: That's all I have.
7	Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you.
8	MR. KLINE: proffer that as an
9	excuse. I proffer it as an explanation.
10	MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Well, thank you
11	very much.
12	MR. KLINE: Thank you.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Brashears,
14	you had a question?
15	INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Yes, just a
16	clarification question. When Ms. Valero was
17	speaking about what would be going on at DC Field
18	House, my last trip to the Kraken Axes facility
19	on Georgia Avenue, N.W., the building was in a
20	state of repair and none of the Kraken Axes
21	equipment was there.
22	But when I visited the DC Field House

location, the axe-throwing setup and all those 1 2 things were at DC Field House. And my question would be is that still 3 4 current and is that going to go on at DC Field 5 House? It's only going to go on 6 MR. KLINE: with alcoholic beverages to the extent that there 7 8 is either a permanent license in place, a 9 temporary license in place or there is an 10 arrangement for an event with a catering company 11 to provide food and alcoholic beverages. 12 those are the only circumstances under which it 13 will go on. 14 Can I just -- so --MEMBER ALBERTI: 15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Alberti? 16 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- Ms. Valero, is 17 what Mr. Kline -- he acknowledged that the Kraken 18 Axes' activities would be -- if you were allowed 19 to serve alcohol, would be, basically, commenced 20 at Field House. 21 MS. VALERO: So Kraken has an outpost at Field House. At Kraken there is no alcoholic 22

beverages served, unless there is a cater happening. So do people learn how to throw axes? If they pre-book reservation Thursday through Sunday, yes.

Is Field House as an alcohol-serving facility open? No.

MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So and maybe

I'm being too -- I don't know -- I'm going to

choose my words carefully here. Maybe I'm being

too suspicious or maybe I'm being too hard and

too critical here. I don't know.

But when I asked you what was going to be going on, you talked about community sports leagues and community things and you never mentioned Kraken Axes' activities. And that kind of sends a red flag to me.

So help me out here. I'm trying to work with you. I'm trying to figure out can I compromise and then all of a sudden I'm getting slammed off the side by this red flag. What am I misunderstanding?

MS. VALERO: Sorry. I misunderstood.

1	I thought when you had originally asked the
2	question it was what were the activities that
3	were going to be related to alcohol where you
4	would want a catering license or we would want
5	one-day licenses.
6	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.
7	DR. FARLEE: Whoops. All right. Wait
8	a minute.
9	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So fine. So
10	you
11	MS. VALERO: I thought that's what
12	MEMBER ALBERTI: don't want alcohol
13	for the Kraken activities, right?
14	MS. VALERO: Correct. Kraken has been
15	Kraken has just been functioning.
16	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So if the
17	Board said to you when alcohol is served you
18	can't have the Kraken activities, that wouldn't
19	be a problem for you?
20	MS. VALERO: Say that one more time.
21	MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, until you get
22	your license, whatever the license is that's a

whole different story when you get your license.

MR. KLINE: Right.

MEMBER ALBERTI: You can apply for a permanent or whatever you want. All right. And Mr. Kline understands that.

We are talking about this interim time until you get your license. And what you are telling me is okay, you know, if alcohol -- if Kraken activities are going on, I really don't need to serve alcohol and that would be fine for me if the Board said well, you know, for those events where I've got a sports league coming in, I can serve alcohol. You can serve alcohol.

But you know, if you just want to open and have this sort of Kraken -- you know, the events that -- the activities that go along with teaching people how to throw axes, the Kraken Axes' activities, you couldn't serve alcohol. If we put that restriction, would that be a problem on you? I mean, maybe you -- do you understand what I'm talking, Mr. Kline?

MR. KLINE: Yeah, I understand, that's

1	not a problem.
2	MS. VALERO: Just so that I am clear,
3	so
4	MR. KLINE: So you would not sell or
5	serve alcohol during Kraken Axes' events unless
6	and until you had a permanent license.
7	MEMBER SHORT: Isn't that
8	MR. KLINE: Did I state that properly?
9	MEMBER SHORT: This is at Field House.
10	MEMBER ALBERTI: This is at Field
11	House.
12	MR. KLINE: At Field House, we're
13	talking about.
14	MS. VALERO: At Field House.
15	MEMBER ALBERTI: Yeah.
16	MS. VALERO: Just so that I'm clear,
17	so the people who are there for Kraken Axes'
18	bookings could not purchase or consume alcohol?
19	MR. KLINE: Right.
20	MS. VALERO: But if we had a one-day
21	license for the social sports leagues and such,
22	the social sports leagues on those days could

1	still partake?
2	MR. KLINE: Potentially.
3	(Simultaneous speaking)
4	MEMBER ALBERTI: Well
5	MR. KLINE: If the one-day were there.
6	MEMBER ALBERTI: alcohol
7	MR. KLINE: That's what we are talking
8	about.
9	MS. VALERO: Yes.
10	MEMBER ALBERTI: They couldn't be
11	dealing they couldn't have the Kraken Axes'
12	instructions and using that equipment.
13	MR. KLINE: Right. The question is
14	MEMBER ALBERTI: There would be a
15	MR. KLINE: Right. I want to be
16	MEMBER ALBERTI: a wall.
17	MR. KLINE: I want to be very clear
18	for the record.
19	MS. VALERO: And their own clubs.
20	MEMBER ALBERTI: But there would be a
21	divide between those two activities?

1	MEMBER ALBERTI: I mean, we can spell
2	it out.
3	MR. KLINE: Yes.
4	MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm not committing to
5	anything. I'm just trying to figure out what is
6	possible.
7	MR. KLINE: The applicant finds that
8	agreeable.
9	MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. Thank
10	you. All right.
11	DR. FARLEE: But
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Dr. Farlee?
13	MEMBER ALBERTI: And Investigator
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, hold on,
15	hold on.
16	MEMBER ALBERTI: I just want to thank
17	the Investigators for their work. And I thank
18	you for those comments. This is helpful. Thank
19	you.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Dr. Farlee?
21	DR. FARLEE: Two or three other
22	things. When you were first asked what events

1	would happen in the Field House, you included
2	partnering with Greenleaf Rec Center young people
3	for eight weeks. But they are under the age of
4	drinking alcohol, the young people who are sports
5	at Greenleaf. So is that a correction or
6	clarification?
7	MR. KLINE: No, they are not there.
8	The point is they do these activities and some of
9	the revenue that is thrown off is used to sponsor
10	events there. They are not at the facility.
11	It's just that it's part of
12	DR. FARLEE: Oh, I thought it was
13	MR. KLINE: these activities or
14	revenues
15	DR. FARLEE: that was a part.
16	Sorry.
17	MR. KLINE: That's part of the giving
18	back to the community.
19	DR. FARLEE: I'm sorry, it was part of
20	I thought it was a part of getting familiar
21	with Buzzard Point. And that including
22	partnering with Greenleaf Rec Center.

1	MR. KLINE: No, not in terms of having
2	kids from Greenleaf.
3	DR. FARLEE: Events that they can
4	consume alcohol at?
5	MR. KLINE: Yes.
6	DR. FARLEE: Okay. Two other things.
7	I see Antwan Martin signed the application.
8	There is a James Martin connected with Drink the
9	District. Is that the same connection? Is this
10	is Antwan Martin connected with Drink the
11	District?
12	MR. KLINE: I don't know who Antwan
13	Martin is.
14	DR. FARLEE: Because there was a one-
15	day license that was denied recently
16	MR. KLINE: Stuart Martin maybe.
17	DR. FARLEE: for 1901 1st Street.
18	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I think the
19	license if I remember correctly, we had one-
20	day from Martin Galegas.
21	DR. FARLEE: James Martin.
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: James Martin,

1	Anna Valero.
2	DR. FARLEE: Um-hum.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And Galegas.
4	I might be
5	DR. FARLEE: Uh-huh.
6	MS. VALERO: Galegas.
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those are the
8	three folks that had applied for temporary
9	license application at the Field House location.
10	And the Board had disposed of those. But I am
11	not aware of any other applications for that
12	location.
13	DR. FARLEE: Okay. A couple of other
14	things. On the application you talk about
15	entertain it's for a multi-purpose facility
16	and talk about entertainment and dancing. What's
17	that? What is involved there?
18	MR. KLINE: Well, we are going to, and
19	this is for another day, amend that to a CT.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well
21	DR. FARLEE: DT?
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: CT.

1	MR. KLINE: CT.
2	DR. FARLEE: CT.
3	MR. KLINE: CT.
4	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, where we
5	are Miss, Dr. Farlee, is that I think if the
6	Board was to if we were to agree to this
7	Consent Order, then the matter would be placarded
8	and we would decide what type of license they
9	would apply for. And then we would send it
10	would be placarded and so then the ANC, of
11	course, would have an opportunity to weigh in
12	what
13	DR. FARLEE: Okay.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: the next
15	steps are, but
16	DR. FARLEE: And would any of this be
17	coordinated with Carter Witt, the DC United guy,
18	who has an alcohol license, alcohol and food
19	license. No?
20	MR. KLINE: No.
21	DR. FARLEE: So your events wouldn't
22	be coordinated with him or alcohol sales?

1	MR. KLINE: No.
2	DR. FARLEE: Okay.
3	MR. KLINE: We don't know who that is.
4	DR. FARLEE: Okay.
5	MR. KLINE: But if it moves forward,
6	we will certainly be working with you as we do on
7	addressing whatever concerns you might have.
8	DR. FARLEE: All right.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No? All right.
10	All right. Do we have any other questions by any
11	Board Members? Hearing none, I know there is a
12	bunch of Investigators and I'm going to make a
13	statement. Does any of the Investigators want to
14	say anything? No? All right. Mr. Gilliam?
15	INVESTIGATOR GILLIAM: I've just got
16	one question. It was said that the people that
17	was employed at DC Field House, they no longer
18	work for the applicant. Who are those people?
19	MR. KLINE: Do you want to state who
20	is gone?
21	MS. VALERO: Sure. John Gleotis.
22	MR. KLINE: John Gleotis.

1	MS. VALERO: He is no longer in
2	Northeast.
3	INVESTIGATOR GILLIAM: All right.
4	What about Catherine Martin? Is she still
5	associated with the applicant?
6	MS. VALERO: She was never employed.
7	INVESTIGATOR GILLIAM: Okay. That's
8	the only questions I have.
9	MEMBER ALBERTI: Is she associated in
10	any way?
11	MS. VALERO: No.
12	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.
13	MR. KLINE: They are friends.
14	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. All right.
15	And Stuart Martin, is he associated?
16	MR. KLINE: No.
17	MS. VALERO: No.
18	MR. KLINE: I mean, they own two other
19	companies together, but he is not associated with
20	these businesses.
21	MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. I mean, you
22	understand, this has all got very cloudy to me.

MR. KLINE: No, and I understand and 1 2 I appreciate the questions, because I want the Board to have clarity. 3 4 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yeah. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. 5 Bring in miss -- you have some -- any comments, 6 7 Mr. Brashears? 8 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: So we weren't 9 going to go through the case reports? CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No. 10 11 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: Okay. Then 12 the only statement I would have, sir, is 13 obviously, you know, as Investigators, we, you 14 know, found some alleged violations. We have had 15 some issues. 16 And from my perspective looking at a 17 lot of these things, it has been kind of -- some 18 things have been omitted. There has been what 19 appears to be some possibly false statements and 20 things. And of course as Mr. Kline, you know, 21 basically, acknowledges that his, you know, 22

client takes full responsibility for that.

What I would like to just point out is that in addition to one-days, on numerous occasions when these violations and things occurred, caterers were being utilized and yet, things still went awry. And I just thought that was worth mentioning.

MR. KLINE: Right. And as the Board will note from the reports, there were certainly issues in terms of the bona fides of those arrangements and we have put safeguards in these agreements, so that it is transparent in terms of the arrangement who the caterers are and require that there be a contract and put things in place.

I mean, we reviewed these reports and the Board's proposed order very carefully to try to address all of the issues that were there. I hope we did. To the extent that we didn't, we remain willing to do so, but that was our intent.

And we know that that was an issue, which is why we, in our initial draft, put language in that said yeah, we are going to use

catering licenses. This is the way it has got to 1 2 be done. 3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Do you want to 4 be any -- do you want to be specific, Mr. 5 Brashears? INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: As far as? 6 7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, I'll --8 INVESTIGATOR BRASHEARS: No, sir. 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- yeah, I 10 won't. Any final comments that you want to make, 11 Mr. Kline, on behalf of your client? 12 MR. KLINE: Yes. Again, I thank the 13 Board for taking the time and asking the 14 questions that have been asked today. absolutely want disclosure and transparency. 15 16 want the Board to be comfortable. We hope the 17 Board is comfortable. 18 Ms. Valero has been involved in what 19 has really been the successful event company for 20 a number of years. This is her first venture to 21 a brick and mortar, two potential brick and mortars. And she has unquestionably made 22

mistakes. She has gotten bad advice. She has made some serious missteps.

And we are here today to tell you that that will not continue. We appreciate the Board considering giving her a chance to show that she can do what needs to be done as a licensee in the District of Columbia. And we respectfully request that you approve the two Consent Orders or let us know what difficulties the Board might have and see if we might adjust them. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

Thank you, Mr. Kline, for your presentation on behalf of your client.

Now, I'm going to say this before bringing the case to a close. I know that the Investigators wrote some reports and we are not going through the reports today.

However, I'll say this regarding

Kraken Axes. Kraken Axes was an application that
was, I think, almost 95 percent approved. And it
was sailing along and everything was okay. But
based on the work that was done by the

Investigators, they brought to this Board some serious incidents that were occurring at Kraken Axes.

And but not for the work, we would have approved the license under due course as we do for all licenses. So I want to thank you for the work that you did.

To also assure you of the work that you do, if the Board agrees to the Consent Order that is proposed to us, your investigation is a part of that consent, because this licensee would be agreeing to some major and some significant violations; although they do not have a license. So I don't want you to feel that we went, we did the work and the Board did not consider the work that was done by the Investigators.

And I also thought that the licensee, maybe the licensee had entered having these two establishments without -- I'm not saying that she did, but I think more thought was given into the operation of these two businesses, based on the information provided by all the Investigators.

So on behalf of the Board, I want to thank you for bringing this to our attention.

And we try to -- if someone is opening new businesses in D.C. and it's a different tax base, we are hoping that your -- we are generating more income, so I'm not -- I, as Chair, am not necessarily in favor of like shutting down business.

If they can prove to us that they deserve a chance, I'm in favor of saying you are opening a new business, you are trying to expand the tax base in D.C., so I would be in favor if they can prove to us that they are -- they are doing what is done. So I just wanted to say that although you guys and young women and gentlemen and men, gentlemen and women, yeah, I don't want to say you guys, I want to recognize the fact that there is -- there are women who also work, so that's why I want to -- I'm saying it that way.

So I know you have done a lot of work.

In these days and time, I'm trying to recognize

and be inclusive that a lot of work was done in this work, in bringing this to the attention of the Board. And I do hope that the licensee, if the Board approves these Consent Orders, that you look at these reports to make sure that we don't see you again.

And I have said this to -- normally,
I guess I'll only see you when there are
problems. And I'm seeing this potential licensee
too many times and you don't -- and so that's one
of the reasons why if we are going to give you a
chance to open up an establishment, we need to
make sure that we are not making the right
decision, because yes, as counsel stated, we have
seen a lot of cases and there has been violence.

We have not seen violence. So that's a plus. But we have seen a lot of sloppiness in this case. And I want you to know that, and I'm not saying you are doing this, but just to be aware, the Investigators, they are going out there and they are making sure that games are not being played.

And I'm not saying you are doing this.

I just want to say that, but there was just -- I

want you, as a licensee, to know that we have,

based on the work that is done by our

Investigators, our eyes on the operation of

businesses there to make sure that you are

operating the business within the confines of the

law. Okay?

All right. So with that said, as
Chairperson of the Alcoholic Beverage Control
Board for the District of Columbia and in
accordance with Section 405 of the Open Meetings
Amendment Act of 2010, I move that the ABC Board
hold a closed meeting for the purpose of seeking
legal advice from our counsel on Case Nos. 18CMP-00106 and 18-CMP-00108, Kraken Axes, and Case
Nos. 18-CMP-00154 and 18-CMP-00171, Field House,
per Section 405(b)(4) of the Open Meetings
Amendment Act of 2010, and deliberating upon Case
Nos. 18-CMP-00106 and 18-CMP-00108, Kraken Axes,
and Case Nos. 18-CMP-00154 and 18-CMP-00171,
Field House, for the reasons cited in Section

	il
1	405(b)(13) of the Open Meetings Amendment Act of
2	2010.
3	Is there a second?
4	MEMBER SHORT: Second.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has
6	seconded the motion. I will now take a roll call
7	vote on the motion before us now that it has been
8	seconded.
9	Mr. Silverstein?
10	MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: I agree.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short?
12	MEMBER SHORT: I agree.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Alberti?
14	MEMBER ALBERTI: I agree.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Cato?
16	MEMBER CATO: I agree.
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Anderson?
18	I agree.
19	As it appears that the motion has
20	passed, I hereby give notice that the ABC Board
21	will recess these proceedings and we will issue
22	an order within 90 days.
	.i

Thank you very much. And before you breakup, I need to close the record, so let me close the record right now.

As Chairperson of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for the District of Columbia and in accordance with DC Official Code Section 2-574(b), closed meetings, and Section 2-574, Notice of Meetings, of the Open Meetings Act, I move that the ABC Board hold a closed meeting on September 19, 2018 for the purpose of discussing and hearing reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations of alleged criminal or civil misconduct or violations of law or regulations and seeking legal advice from our counsel on the Board's Investigative, Legal and Licensing Agenda for September 21, 2018 as published in the DC Register on September 14, 2018.

Is there a second?

MEMBER SHORT: Second.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has seconded the motion. I will take a roll call

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vote on the motion before us now that it has been 1 2 seconded. Mr. Silverstein? 3 4 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: I agree. 5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short? 6 MEMBER SHORT: I agree. 7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Alberti? 8 MEMBER ALBERTI: I agree. 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Cato? 10 MEMBER CATO: I agree. 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Anderson? 12 I agree. 13 As it appears that the motion has 14 passed, I hereby give notice that the ABC Board 15 will hold this aforementioned closed meeting 16 pursuant to the Open Meetings Act. Notice will 17 also be posted on the ABC Board hearing room 18 bulletin board, placed on the electronic calendar 19 on ABRA's website and published in the DC 20 Register in as timely a manner as practicable. 21 It is 4:09 p.m. and we are adjourned for the day. 22 Thank you very much.

1	MS. YOHANNES: Okay. Thank you.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
3	(Whereupon, the Contested Fact-Finding
4	Hearings were concluded at 4:07 p.m.)
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<u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Kraken 3400, LLC

Before: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Date: 09-12-18

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

Mac Nous &