

**THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD**

In the Matter of:)	
)	
)	
Press Release Ventures, LLC)	Case No.: 25-ULC-00004
t/a Kush Bar)	License No.: N/A
)	Order No.: 2025-125
Summary Closure)	
)	
at premises)	
1219 11th Street, N.W.)	
Washington, D.C. 20001)	

BEFORE: Donovan Anderson, Chairperson
Silas Grant, Jr., Member
Teri Janine Quinn, Member
Ryan Jones, Member
David Meadows, Member

PARTIES: Press Release Ventures, LLC, t/a Kush Bar, Respondent

Joseph Scrofano, Counsel, on behalf of Respondent

Sophia Mietus, Assistant Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia

ORDER APPROVING THE OFFER-IN-COMPROMISE

The above-mentioned parties have petitioned the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board (Board) to approve an offer-in-compromise (OIC) to settle one or more violations of Title 7 of the D.C. Official Code (Title 7) and Title 22-C of the D.C. Municipal Regulations (Title 22-C) in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 2-509(a).

ORDER

Therefore, on this 12th day of March 2025, the Board **APPROVES** the OIC appended to this Order. The terms of the OIC are as follows:

1. The Respondent admits to violations of the statutes or regulations listed in the OIC attached to the Order.
2. The Respondent shall follow and abide by the terms and conditions of the attached OIC in accordance with D.C. Official Code §§ 2-509(a), and 22-C DCMR § 6213.
3. The Respondent waives all rights to notice or appearance before the Board.
4. The Respondent waives the right to a hearing, call witnesses, present evidence, and otherwise contest the charges as provided in Title 7 and Title 22-C.
5. The Respondent waives the right to judicial review or appeal of this Order. The Respondents further agree not to collaterally attack the disposition imposed by this Order.
6. The parties agree that the attached OIC constitutes the entire agreement of the parties.

The Summary Closure Hearing in this matter is cancelled. The Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABCA) shall deliver copies of this Order to the Government and the Respondent.

District of Columbia
Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board

eSigned via BeamlessDocs.com
Donovan Anderson
Key: ac43cb0bc9d5f09e4b730069d1dccc8

Donovan Anderson, Chairperson



Silas Grant, Jr., Member

Teri Janine Quinn

Teri Janine Quinn, Member



Ryan Jones, Member



David Meadows, Member

Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 25-433(d)(1) (applicable to alcohol matters) or 22-C DCMR § 9720 (applicable to medical cannabis matters), 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 and Cannabis Administration, 899 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 4200-B, Washington, DC 20002.

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 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 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).

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS ADMINISTRATION
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS BOARD**



IN THE MATTER OF: PRESS RELEASE VENTURES LLC T/A KUSH BAR, Respondent.	Case No. 25-ULC-00004
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OFFER IN COMPROMISE FOR BOARD APPROVAL

The District of Columbia, jointly with the unlicensed cannabis retailer (Respondent), submits this Offer in Compromise (OIC) to the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board (Board), as authorized by 22-C DCMR § 6213, for approval by the Board.

The Parties understand that if the Board approves the OIC, the case will conclude. Respondent will be obligated to abide by the terms of the OIC shown below. If the Board does not approve the OIC, litigation of this summary closure will continue.

Respondent has been advised that there is no obligation to accept the OIC. Respondent has been advised, through service of the Notice of Summary Closure, that at any Summary Closure Hearing, or other proceedings, Respondent may be represented by legal counsel, have subpoenas issued to require the production of witnesses and evidence, produce witnesses and evidence, cross-examine witnesses and apply to the Board for a qualified interpreter.

The OIC terms are as follows:

- (1) Products not to be Offered, Exchanged, or Sold: Respondent confirms that it has ceased selling cannabis or cannabis products, and agrees to not offer, exchange, or sell either in

the store or online the following products: (1) flavored tobacco, (2) cannabis or cannabis products, including hemp and CBD, (3) Kratom, and (4) any Schedule I substances, including psychedelic mushrooms and Dimethyltryptamine (DMT).

(2) Remediation: To remediate the unlicensed sale of cannabis and cannabis products that occurred at the business, Respondent will change its business model to a legitimate non-cannabis business operation until such time as a Medical Cannabis Retail License is issued by the ABC Board. Respondent shall provide documentation to the ABC Board that:

- a. The non-cannabis business will operate under a different trade name;
- b. The website, www.kushbar.co, no longer offers or displays cannabis products for sale and states that Kush Bar is no longer an active business in the District of Columbia; and
- c. Respondent received a basic business license from DLCP and a certificate of occupancy from DOB for the non-cannabis business.

(3) Inspection: Respondent agrees to allow ABCA investigators to inspect the entire premises of the business during those hours that it is open to the public to verify that the business is not selling those products listed in paragraph 1 until such time as a Medical Cannabis Retail License is issued by the ABC Board.

(4) Licensing: Notwithstanding paragraph 1, nothing in this OIC precludes Respondent from applying for a Medical Cannabis Retail License.

(5) Lifting of the Summary Closure: The current summary closure shall remain in effect until the Board is satisfied that the requirements of paragraphs 1 and 2 have been satisfied.

Dated: March 7, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN L. SCHWALB
Attorney General for the District of Columbia

CHAD COPELAND
Deputy Attorney General
Civil Litigation Division

/s/ Kimberly M. Johnson
KIMBERLY M. JOHNSON [435163]
Chief, Civil Enforcement Section

/s/ Kerslyn D. Featherstone
KERSLYN D. FEATHERSTONE [478758]
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ATTORNEYS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CONSENT OF RESPONDENT

By this Offer in Compromise, I agree to accept and perform its terms. I acknowledge the validity of the OIC and waive a hearing to which I would have a right under D.C. Code § 7-1671.08(h). I also recognize that I am waiving any right to appeal an adverse ruling of the Board that might have followed any such hearing. By this settlement, I waive all such rights. I sign this OIC without reservation, and I fully understand its meaning and my rights.



Press Release Ventures LLC
Respondent

03 / 07 / 2025

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On March 10, 2025 the foregoing Offer in Compromise for Board Approval was served by electronic mail to:

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Counsel for Respondent

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Counsel for ABC Board

/s/ Sophia Mietus
Sophia Mietus
Assistant Attorney General