

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
+ + + + +  
MEETING

IN THE MATTER OF: :  
:  
Letena Ethiopian :  
Restaurant, LLC :  
t/a Letena :  
3100 14th Street NW : Show Cause  
Retailer CR - ANC 1A : Hearing  
License No. 104754 :  
Case #18-CMP-00169 :  
:  
(Failed to have a :  
Sidewalk Café Endorsement:  
[Two Counts]) :

Wednesday,  
April 3, 2019

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
- REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

- YAMROI EZINEH, APPLICANT
- AMY SCHMIDT, DC OAG

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

2 10:23 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Our  
4 next case is Case No. 18-CMP-00169, Letena,  
5 License No. 104754.

6 Would the parties, please, approach  
7 and identify themselves for the record?

8 MS. SCHMIDT: Good morning. Amy  
9 Schmidt, Assistant Attorney General, on behalf of  
10 the District of Columbia.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,  
12 Ms. Schmidt, again.

13 MS. EZINEH: Yamroi Ezineh, Letena.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry, your  
15 last name, ma'am?

16 MS. EZINEH: Yamroi Ezineh.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yamroi Ezineh?

18 MS. EZINEH: Ezineh.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ezineh. All  
20 right. Good morning.

21 Are there any preliminary matters for  
22 this case?

1 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes, there is a  
2 preliminary matter. In this case, the Government  
3 -- the parties are asking that a written warning  
4 be issued in this case. This is because unlike  
5 recent Board cases, there was no evidence that  
6 any alcohol was consumed and the licensee did  
7 have a DDOT permit.

8 And she said she made a good faith  
9 effort to try to see what she needed. And even  
10 though she didn't get the endorsement, she has  
11 not had her chairs out there. She has not  
12 operated the cafe since -- once she got this  
13 warning. She said she got this a week later  
14 after she had gone to see ABRA.

15 Therefore, we are asking for a written  
16 warning and the condition that no chairs be  
17 allowed outside and nothing served outside until  
18 the administrative process is completed with  
19 ABRA.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is that a part  
21 of the OIC?

22 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes.

1                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. All  
2 right. It's my understanding, ma'am, there is an  
3 Offer in Compromise. The Offer in Compromise is  
4 that a written warning will be issued. And that  
5 you will not -- basically, I'm sorry, I just want  
6 to be clear again.

7                   MS. SCHMIDT: No chairs and tables  
8 outside, not serve anything outside, especially  
9 alcohol.

10                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That there will  
11 be no chairs, no tables and alcohol will not be  
12 served on this sidewalk cafe until you have been  
13 approved by this Agency to do that.

14                   Is that your understanding of the  
15 Offer in Compromise?

16                   MS. EZINEH: Right, yes.

17                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you aware  
18 that by accepting an Offer in Compromise, that  
19 you are giving up your right to a hearing?

20                   MS. EZINEH: (No audible answer.)

21                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you also  
22 aware that by accepting an Offer in Compromise,

1 that you are giving up your right to appeal this  
2 matter?

3 MS. EZINEH: (No audible answer.)

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You have to say  
5 yes.

6 MS. EZINEH: Yes, I do.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

8 With that said, I then make a motion that the  
9 Offer in Compromise, that a written warning will  
10 be issued and that the -- it's clear to the  
11 licensee that the sidewalk cafe cannot be --  
12 there will be no chairs or tables on the sidewalk  
13 cafe until she has -- the licensee has been  
14 approved by this Agency to operate. Basically,  
15 until they receive the endorsement. Is there a  
16 second?

17 MEMBER SHORT: Second.

18 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Second.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short and  
20 Mr. Silverstein have seconded the motion.

21 All those in favor say aye.

22 ALL: Aye.

1                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?  
2                   The matter passes 6-0-0.

3                   Thank you. You can sign-off. Hold  
4                   on, ma'am. You can sign-off on this paperwork  
5                   and then the matter -- all right.

6                   All right. Then the Board is in  
7                   recess until our 1:30 hearing. All right. Thank  
8                   you.

9                   (Whereupon, the Show Cause Hearing was  
10                  concluded at 10:26 a.m.)

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<b>A</b>	<b>Control</b> 1:2,13,13 <b>Counts</b> 1:10 <b>CR</b> 1:7	<b>Member</b> 1:17,18,18,19 1:19 5:17,18 <b>met</b> 1:13 <b>MIKE</b> 1:18 <b>morning</b> 2:8,11,20 <b>motion</b> 5:8,20	<b>Show</b> 1:6 6:9 <b>sidewalk</b> 1:9 4:12 5:11 5:12 <b>sign-off</b> 6:3,4 <b>Silverstein</b> 1:18 5:18,20 <b>sorry</b> 2:14 4:5 <b>Street</b> 1:6,14 <b>Suite</b> 1:14
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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: Letena Ethiopian Restaurant

Before: DCABRA

Date: 04-03-19

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.



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Court Reporter

**NEAL R. GROSS**

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