## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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Hope Lounge, LLC : t/a Peace Lounge : 2632 Georgia Ave., NW :

Retailer CT - ANC 1B : Show Cause License No. 106785 : Hearing

Case #19-CMP-00008

:

(Permitted Employees or : Agents to Engage in : Sexual Acts at the : Establishment, Substantial : Change in Operation : Without Board Approval, : Failed to Maintain Control : of the Establishment) :

Wednesday, September 11, 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 BOBBY CATO, JR., Member JAMES SHORT, Member RAFI CROCKETT, Member ALSO PRESENT:

SIDON YOHANNES, APPLICANT ATTORNEY
FERNANDO RIVERO, OAG

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	10:06 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. The
4	next case on our Show Cause Calendar is Case No.
5	19-CMP-00008, Peace Lounge, License No. 106785.
6	Would the parties, please, approach
7	and identify themselves for the record, please?
8	MR. RIVERO: Good morning, Board
9	Members. Fernando Rivero for the District of
10	Columbia.
11	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
12	Mr. Rivero.
13	MS. YOHANNES: Good morning. Sidon
14	Yohannes on behalf of the licensee.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
16	Ms. Yohannes.
17	Are there any preliminary matters in
18	this case?
19	MR. RIVERO: Yes. The parties have an
20	Offer in Compromise to present to the Board
21	today.
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what is

that, please?

MR. RIVERO: That offer consists of for Charge 1 dismissal of the charge. For Charge 2 a fine of \$4,500 payable in 120 days. For Charge 3 a fine of \$4,500 payable in 120 days. For a total fine of \$9,000 payable in 120 days. And if that fine is not paid, the license will be suspended until payment is received. That is the Offer in Compromise.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

Thank you. Ms. Yohannes, it's my understanding that there is an Offer in Compromise. The Offer in Compromise is that Charge 1 will be dismissed. Charge 2 there is a fine of \$4,500 payable in 120 days. Charge 3 there is a fine of \$4,500 payable in 120 days for a total fine of \$9,000 payable in 120 days. Is this your understanding of the Offer in Compromise?

MS. YOHANNES: Yes, it is.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is your client aware that by accepting an Offer in Compromise, that they are giving up their right to a hearing?

1	MS. YOHANNES: Yes.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Is your client
3	also aware that by accepting an Offer in
4	Compromise, that they are giving up their right
5	to appeal this matter?
6	MS. YOHANNES: Yes.
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
8	With that said, I make a motion that the Offer in
9	Compromise that Charge 1 will be dismissed.
10	Charge 2 there is a fine of \$4,500 payable in 120
11	days. Charge 3 a fine of \$4,500 payable in 120
12	days for a total fine of \$9,000 payable in 120
13	days be accepted. Is there a second?
14	MEMBER CROCKETT: Second.
15	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Ms. Crockett
16	has seconded the motion.
17	All those in favor say aye.
18	MEMBER CROCKETT: Aye.
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Aye.
20	MEMBER CATO: Aye.
21	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?
22	MEMBER SHORT: Opposed.

1	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The matter
2	passes 3-1-0 with Mr. Short in opposition.
3	The Board will be issuing a Board
4	Order in this matter.
5	MEMBER SHORT: Can I make a comment,
6	Mr. Chair?
7	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, Mr. Short?
8	MEMBER SHORT: Ms. Yohannes?
9	MS. YOHANNES: Yes?
10	MEMBER SHORT: Some of the charges
11	that have been brought against Peace Lounge are
12	just reprehensible for nightclubs and nightlife
13	in Washington, D.C.
14	Are they doing anything to address
15	these issues?
16	MS. YOHANNES: The clients understand
17	the severity of the charges and they are working
18	to be in compliance of all regulations and
19	working with their me and their attorneys.
20	MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Well, please,
21	convey to them that I voted against them today
22	and that their conduct is not going to be, at

1	least by this one Board Member, I only have one
2	vote, considered to be anything other than just
3	total disrespect for the Board and nightlife in
4	Washington, D.C.
5	I wish that they would change their
6	conduct. That's all I have, Mr. Chair. Thank
7	you.
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you, Mr.
9	Short.
10	All right. I want to thank the
11	parties.
12	MR. RIVERO: Thank you. Thank you,
13	Board Members.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.
15	(Whereupon, the Show Cause Hearing was
16	concluded at 10:09 a.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: ABRA Hearing

Before: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Date: 09-11-19

Place: Washington, D.C.

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Court Reporter

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