

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

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

PARTIES: Deanwood TG, Inc., Sheriff Market, Respondent
Negassie Lemlem, Owner, 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 Chapter 16B of Title 7 of the D.C. Official Code or Title 22-C of the D.C. Municipal Regulations in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 2-509(a). The Parties filed an offer-in-compromise with the Board, which concluded this matter.

ORDER

Therefore, the Board, on this 31st day of December 2025, **APPROVES** the OIC appended to this Order.

1. The parties agree that the attached OIC constitutes the entire agreement of the parties;
2. The Respondent agrees to the conditions, terms, penalties, and violations described in the OIC; and
3. The Respondent agrees that it understands the charges filed against it and the basis for those charges. The Respondent waives the right to contest liability, the right to a hearing, the right to present evidence and argument, the right to confront witnesses and evidence, and the right to appeal and have judicial review related to this matter. The Respondent understands that his or her decision to enter into this OIC permanently waives these rights in this matter.

ABCA shall deliver copies of this Order to the Government and the Respondent.

District of Columbia
Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board



Donovan Anderson, Chairperson



Silas Grant, Jr., Member



Teri Janine Quinn, Member



Ryan Jones, Member



David Meadows, Member

Any party adversely affected may file a Motion for Reconsideration of this decision or other motion permitted by law within ten days of service of this Order. If a motion is filed, the opposing party may file a response within seven days. If a response is filed, the movant may file a reply within three days. All filings should be served on all parties to the matter and delivered to the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration, 899 North Capitol Street, N.E., Suite 4200-A, Washington, D.C. 20002, or sent by email to abca.legal@dc.gov. Parties are further advised that the failure to properly serve the other parties or to present all matters of record that have allegedly been erroneously decided in a motion for reconsideration may result in the waiver of those matters being considered by the Board. The Board also reserves the right to summarily deny or not consider multiple and repetitive motions.

In addition to filing a Motion for Reconsideration, pursuant to § 11 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, a party that is adversely affected may have the right to appeal this Order by filing a petition for review, within 30 days of the date of service of this Order, with the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, located at 430 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. Parties are advised that 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).

Parties are also advised that the Superior Court of the District of Columbia may have jurisdiction to hear appeals in non-contested cases or in matters where that court is specifically provided jurisdiction by law. Finally, advisory neighborhood commissions (ANCs) are advised that their right to appeal or challenge a decision of the Board may be limited by the laws governing ANCs. See e.g., D.C. Code § 1-309

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



IN THE MATTER OF:	
DEANWOOD TG, INC t/a SHERIFF MARKET	Case No. 25-CC-00032 Alcohol License No. 130680 Class A
Respondent.	

OFFER IN COMPROMISE FOR BOARD APPROVAL

The District of Columbia, jointly with the licensee (Respondent), submits this Offer in Compromise (OIC) to the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board (Board), as authorized by 22-C DCMR § 6213 and by 23 DCMR § 1611.5, 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 and revocation 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 and Summary Revocation, that at any Summary 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) cannabis or cannabis-derived products, including all cannabinoids, hemp, and CBD; (2) Kratom; and (3) any Schedule I substances, including psychedelic mushrooms and Dimethyltryptamine (DMT).

2. Fine: Respondent agrees that this matter constitutes a violation under D.C. Code § 25-823(a)(2). The violation will be assessed as the first primary tier violation for the establishment. Respondent agrees to pay a fine of \$2,000 within 30 days of the Board's approval of this OIC. If the fine is not paid in that time, Respondent's alcoholic beverage license will be suspended indefinitely until the fine is paid.
3. Notice: Respondent agrees that this matter constitutes a violation of D.C. Code § 7-1671.08(f) and that a subsequent violation of D.C. Code § 7-1671.08(f) may be grounds for the Board to issue Respondent a fine up to \$20,000 under D.C. Code § 7-1671.08(f)(2)(A).
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 be lifted upon the Board's approval of this Offer in Compromise. ABCA shall make the keys to the Premises available to Respondent for pickup at its offices, or at another mutually agreed upon date, time and location.

Dated: December 29, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

BRIAN L. SCHWALB
Attorney General for the District of Columbia

CHAD COPELAND
Deputy Attorney General
Civil Litigation Division

/s/ Collin C. Cenci obo Kimberly M. Johnson _____

KIMBERLY M. JOHNSON [435163]

Chief, Civil Enforcement Section

/s/ Collin C. Cenci obo Kerslyn D. Featherstone _____

KERSLYN D. FEATHERSTONE [478758]

Assistant Chief, Civil Enforcement Section

/s/ Sophia Mietus _____

SOPHIA MIETUS [90010617]

Assistant Attorney General

400 Sixth Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

(202) 735-7569

Email: Sophia.Mietus@dc.gov

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) and 25-826(c). 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.



12/29/2025

Respondent

Negassie Lemlem, Owner
Deanwood TG, Inc. t/a Sheriff Market
4748 Sheriff Road, NE
Washington, DC 20019

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On December 29, 2025 the foregoing Offer in Compromise for Board Approval was served by electronic mail to:

Harry Rothstein
Law Offices of Herbert S. Rosenblum, PC
526 King Street, Suite 211
Alexandria, VA 22314
hrothstein@hsrlawpc.com

Counsel for Respondent

Jonathan Berman
General Counsel, ABCA
899 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 4200-B
Washington, DC 20002
Jonathan.Berman@dc.gov

Counsel for ABC Board

/s/ Sophia Mietus _____

Sophia Mietus
Assistant Attorney General