DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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Cornerstone Bar Group, :
LLC, :
t/a The Pub and the :
People :
1648 North Capitol Street:

NW : Protest

Retailer CT - ANC 5E : Hearing (Status)

License No. 94089 :
Case #19-PRO-00095 :
(Substantial Change :
[Expansion to the :

Expansion to the :
Basement Space and :
Requesting an Increase in:
Occupancy]) :

Wednesday September 25, 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 RAFI ALIYA CROCKETT, Member BOBBY CATO, JR., Member JAMES SHORT, Member ALSO PRESENT:

SUKHMOHINBER MUDNEJA, PROTESTANT

KARLA LEWIS, ANC 5E

ROD POWELL, PROTESTANT

MATTHEW MURPHY, APPLICANT

BRITTANY RYAN, APPLICANT

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	10:09 a.m.
3	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: The next case
4	on our protest hearing status calendar is Case
5	No. 19-PRO-00095, the Pub and the People, License
6	No. 94089. Will the parties please approach and
7	identify themselves for the record, please?
8	Let's start with the licensee, please.
9	MR. MURPHY: My name is Matthew Murphy
10	for Cornerstone Bar Group and the Pub and the
11	People.
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
13	Mr. Murphy.
14	MS. RYAN: I'm Brittany Ryan, partner,
15	Cornerstone Bar Group and the Pub and the People.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
17	Ms. Ryan.
18	MS. LEWIS: My name is Karla M. Lewis,
19	ANC 5E. The establishment is in my single-member
20	district, 5E06.
21	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
22	Ms. Lewis.

1	MR. POWELL: Good morning, Rod Powell.
2	I'm a resident near the pub and one of the
3	protestants.
4	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
5	Mr. Powell.
6	MR. MUDNEJA: My name is Sukhmohinber
7	Mudneja. I'm the building property owner at 4 R
8	Street, Northwest.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I did not get
10	your last name, sir.
11	MR. MUDNEJA: Mudneja.
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Rud
13	MR. MUDNEJA: Neja.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Neja?
15	MR. MUDNEJA: Yes.
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning,
17	Mr. Neja. There are three protestants in the
18	case. It's a group of five or more at ANC and
19	the abutting property owner. Just as an FYI, I
20	just want to inform the you, Mr. Powell, if
21	there's a settlement agreement between the ANC
22	and the licensee, your protest falls because the

law says that as a group of five or more, if there's a settlement agreement with the ANC, and if you're not a part of it, then you no longer have standing to move forward with the hearing. I just want to let you know that, as an FYI. You can sign on a settlement agreement. The Board cannot tell the parties that -- at least we can't tell the ANC that if there's a settlement agreement, you have to be part of it. Just an FYI, I just want you to know that, okay? For Mr. Mudneja, because you're an abutted property owner, even if there's a settlement agreement with the ANC, and if you do not agree with that, we'll still move forward with a protest hearing because you have your own standing.

That will not fall, irrespective of the fact if there's a settlement agreement by the ANC, if you're not a part of it. I want both parties to know that's how the law operates, okay? I just want you to know that. This matter is scheduled for a protest hearing on November 6th, at 1:30.

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	Do I need to repeat the instructions
2	about a protest hearing that so seven days
3	before the hearing, you need to provide documents
4	and witnesses to each side and to the Board.
5	Secondly, and most importantly, if you do not
6	understand this process, please contact our
7	assistant general counsel, Ms. April Randall.
8	Her phone number is 202-442-4353. She's here to
9	help both sides. She's here to talk to the
10	licensee about the process and the protestants
11	about the process. Any questions you have,
12	please reach out to our office and we'll work
13	with you. If this matter, then, is not settled,
14	then the Board will see you on November 6th at
15	1:30. Yes, Mr. Powell.
16	MR. POWELL: Priority today was to
17	confirm his status. Has that been done by his
18	presence?
19	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry; what
20	status?
21	MR. POWELL: He was not here for the
22	original.

1	MS. LEWIS: For the roll call hearing.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I was not told
3	there were any preliminary matters. I assumed
4	that he had gotten standing at the roll call.
5	But because he's here today at the show cause
6	hearing status, then the Board then then I
7	will make a motion that the Board grant I'm
8	sorry, just let me ask just some preliminary
9	issues because I was not aware of that. Where do
10	you live, sir?
11	MR. MUDNEJA: I don't live at 4 R
12	Street, exactly, now, but I live in Fairfax.
13	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry, do
14	you own the property do you currently own the
15	property?
16	MR. MUDNEJA: I do own the property.
17	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What property
18	do you own?
19	MR. MUDNEJA: 4 R Street, Northwest.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry?
21	MR. MUDNEJA: 4 R Street, Northwest.
22	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You're the

1	owner of 4 R Street, Northwest. Where is the
2	establishment located?
3	MR. MURPHY: Address is 1648 North
4	Capitol.
5	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 1648 North
6	Capitol. Is 4 R Street, Northwest, is that an
7	abutting property to your property?
8	MR. MURPHY: Yes.
9	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: There's an
10	agreement that he owns the property that abuts
11	your property, is that correct?
12	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: With that said,
13	I then make a motion just hold on a minute, as
14	far as I need to get some clarification. You
15	were not at the roll call hearing, sir?
16	MR. MUDNEJA: I was not there.
17	MR. POWELL: He was granted
18	conditional standing.
19	MS. LEWIS: Yes.
20	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: How can he be
21	granted conditional standing if he wasn't there?
22	MR. POWELL: Because I was his

_	representative.
2	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You were
3	MR. POWELL: Yes.
4	MR. MURPHY: I was just going to say
5	I don't know if it is relevant, but we haven't
6	had a chance to meet, see, or communicate with
7	this protestant
8	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Mr.
9	Powell, you're confusing me. You have to be
10	clear. I was not at the roll call hearing. When
11	I look at my notes here, it says that Mr. Mudneja
12	I'm bad with names.
13	MR. MUDNEJA: You can call me Singh.
14	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Singh?
15	MR. MUDNEJA: Yes. Is that good?
16	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You were his
17	it does say that you were his designated
18	representative. It does say that you were his
19	designated representative at the roll call
20	hearing, so he was told that he had to be here
21	today.
22	MR. POWELL: Yes.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: He's here 1 2 today, so, therefore, what I will do, I will then make a motion that we provide the abutting 3 4 property owner -- we confirm standing on the 5 abutting property owner, Mr. Mudneja. Is there a second? 6 7 MR. SHORT: Second. 8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Short has 9 seconded the motion. All those in favor say aye. 10 (Chorus of aye.) 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed? 12 The matter passes 4-0-0. Okay, fine. 13 Standing, then, is provided to the ANC, the group 14 of five or more, and the abutting property 15 owners. 16 MR. POWELL: I just wanted to 17 formalize that today. 18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you for 19 clarifying the record, sir, because I was not aware of that. That information was not passed 20 21 along to me. Then it became confusing because I

wasn't -- it wasn't clear to me that you had made

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representation at the roll call hearing that you 1 2 were his designated representative. I appreciate the clarity that you brought today. 3 Thank you 4 for that. 5 I will suggest that the parties -- I don't know if there's mediation, but the agency 6 7 will work toward facilitating the process for 8 mediation and facilitating the process for you to 9 have conversations. 10 MS. LEWIS: We've already met. 11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, all right. 12 I see the licensee said that he had not met with 13 someone. 14 (Simultaneous speaking.) 15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, with the 16 abutting property owner. I would ask that 17 occurs, that you find some way to continue

As I said to all cases, I do support having settlement agreements because this is your

we'll have a protest hearing on November 6th, at

talking. If the matter is not settled, then

1:30.

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1	neighborhood. You can set the terms and
2	conditions of the operation of the business in
3	your neighborhood, rather than leave the six of
4	us, when we're here, to make the decision. But
5	if not, we'll make a decision. Good luck in your
6	negotiations, and if not, we'll see you on
7	November 6th, at 1:30.
8	MR. POWELL: Thank you.
9	MR. MURPHY: Thank you.
10	CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Have a great
11	day. Thank you.
12	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
13	went off the record at 10:18 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: The Pub and the People

Before: DCABRA

Date: 09-25-19

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.

Court Reporter

Mac Nous &