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

> Wednesday, December 12, 2018

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 REMA WAHABZADAH, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

MICHAEL ALLAN WILLIAMS, Applicant CAMERON ROYSTER, ABRA Investigator

P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S 3:05 p.m.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. The
next case on our calendar, there is a Fact-
Finding Hearing on a Michael Allan Williams. Is
Mr. Williams in the room? All right. Mr.
Williams is not in the room.
Could the gentleman you can stay,
Mr. Royster. The gentleman, what case are you
here for?
MEMBER ALBERTI: For DC Eagle.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Can
you step out for a minute?
MEMBER ALBERTI: Actually, I don't
think they need to, because we are not
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: He is going to
go through
MEMBER ALBERTI: addressing any
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: but he is
going to go through his report.
MEMBER ALBERTI: But it's not
confidential information. This is public that

report is public. It's not like -- we are not 1 2 doing police clearance. We are going ABRA 3 report. Anyway, so --4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, just step 5 outside for -- please, sir, yeah. All right. Well, yeah, and it also has to do 6 7 with --8 MEMBER ALBERTI: It has nothing to do 9 with police. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. 10 All 11 right. Mr. Williams has applied for a Manager's 12 License. And can you introduce yourself for the 13 record, please, sir? 14 INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: Yes, ABRA 15 Investigator Cameron Royster. 16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Mr. Royster, can you -- are you familiar with this 17 18 application by Mr. Williams for a Manager's 19 License, sir? 20 INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: Yes, I am. 21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And can you 22 give us some background information? How is it

1 that you are familiar with Mr. Michael Allan
2 Williams?

INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: I am familiar 3 4 with him through an incident that occurred at an 5 establishment called The Big Hunt on September I visited the establishment with my 6 24th. supervisor, at the time Shawn Townsand, to 7 8 conduct a regulatory inspection. And when we 9 entered the establishment, we observed a single 10 male employee at the bar. 11 And for the record, I'm going to be referring to Mr. Williams as "the male employee," 12 13 because, at that time, I did not know he was --14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Royster, please, speak up. 15 16 INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: Okay. I did 17 not know he was Mr. Williams, at that time. 18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Go 19 ahead. 20 **INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER:** Sorry, okay. 21 So after approaching the male employee, I 22 identified myself as an ABRA Investigator and

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requested to speak to an ABC Manager. And asked the male employee if he was an ABC Manager to which he stated he was and he would go get his ABC Manager's License.

5 So I observed that male employee take 6 an ABC Manager's License out of the cash register 7 and provide it to me and it stated the name Mark 8 Bavai. And when I asked the male employee to 9 provide Government ID to verify that he was Mr. 10 Bavai, he stated that he did not have any 11 Government-issued ID with him.

So I proceeded to ask that male employee if he was -- or if he had a social media page to verify that he was Mark Bavai and he stated that he had never had a Facebook page of any sort or any type of social media.

17 So after that occurred, I believed 18 that that was procurement, so but we continued 19 the inspection, myself and my supervisor, Shawn 20 Townsand. During the inspection, I requested the 21 alcohol invoices and the male employee went to 22 the back of the establishment and during that

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period of time, Mr. -- I'm sorry, Investigator
 Townsand asked a female employee who we were
 conducting the regulatory inspection with and she
 said that that employee's name was a Mr. Michael
 and was not Mark Bavai.

And so when that male employee 6 7 returned, Investigator Townsand and myself, we 8 started to ask that male employee more questions 9 to ascertain if he was Mark Bavai. The first question we asked was if he was sure the ABC 10 11 Manager's License was his to which he stated the 12 ABC Manager's License was his and that he was Mr. 13 Bavai.

14 And so after stating that he was Mr. 15 Bavai, I asked the male -- or myself and Mr. --16 Investigator Townsand asked the male employee if -- what the address was on the license to which 17 18 he stated that there was not an address on the 19 license. And after being informed that there was 20 an address on that license, he stated that the 21 address was Takoma Park and that was his old 22 address, which is incorrect on that ABC License.

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1	As you can see on Exhibit No. 2, Mark
2	Bavai the address listed to a Silver Spring
3	address. And so when we was informed of this,
4	we, myself and Investigator Townsand, also
5	informed him that a female employee already had
6	informed us that his name was actually Michael
7	and was not Mark. And that's when that male
8	employee admitted that his name was Mr. Michael
9	Allan Williams and stated that this ABC Manager's
10	License was expired, at that time.
11	So I proceeded to still ask that male
12	employee to ascertain that he was Michael Allan
13	Williams and asked him for his Government ID and
14	he stated that he did not have a Government ID
15	and just provided his phone number and email
16	address.
17	And so after that, I informed him of
18	the violations; that there would be a no ABC
19	Manager violation and that also there would be
20	prohibited statements for providing misleading
21	statements to ABRA Investigators by initially
22	stating that he was Mark Bavai, to which he

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stated he understood.

2	So after completing that inspection,
3	I returned to the office and conducted a search
4	of ABRA records to try and search for a Mr.
5	Michael Williams, since he stated that his ABC
6	Manager's License was expired.
7	And the only Michael Williams that was
8	in the system did not resemble the same look in
9	the face to his Government-issued ID as the male
10	employee at The Big Hunt that night.
11	So I proceeded to contact the phone
12	number and email address listed that he provided
13	me the night of the inspection. And for about
14	two weeks, I did not receive any correspondence
15	back from the phone number or email address
16	provided. So I decided to return to The Big Hunt
17	to at least inform at least someone in management
18	of the violations observed that night.
19	And that's when I entered the
20	establishment and there was another ABC Manager,
21	a Matthew Seema, and when I informed him of the
22	incident, he said that was the first time Mr.

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Seema stated it was the first time he became 1 2 aware of the incident and stated that he would inform the owners and provided contact 3 4 information for a Kyle Remissong, who is the Vice 5 President of The Big Hunt. And the next day it was on Monday, 6 October 15th, at approximately 1:45, I spoke with 7 8 Mr. Remissong who stated he had just became aware 9 of that incident and had called Mr. Williams who said -- he said the employee's name was Mr. 10 11 Michael Allan Williams and that when he was 12 initially hired, Mr. Williams had told him that 13 he had had his ABC Manager's License and so he 14 just believed that he had it. And he since that time, since it was 15 16 October 15th, since that period since September 17 24th, Mr. Williams had told Mr. Remissong that he 18 has gotten the issue resolved, but Mr. Remissong 19 told me that he will contact Mr. Williams again 20 in a little bit to verify how he got that 21 incident resolved. 22 So during that time, after we spoke on

the phone, I proceeded to look at ABRA records to 1 2 verify what he meant by the issue was resolved and I observed that Mr. Michael Allan Williams 3 4 received a 90-day temporary license on October 5 2nd. And so I received a call back from Mr. Remissong at 2:40 and he stated that he was with 6 7 Mr. Michael Allan Williams and he stated that he 8 had the issued resolved by speaking with Mr. 9 Townsand about the issue and had gotten his ABC Manager's License, that's how. 10 11 And so I was speaking -- after that 12 incident, he stated that -- sorry about that. He stated that he had the issue resolved through 13 14 Investigator Townsand and I confirmed with Investigator Townsand later that day that he had 15 16 no -- he did not speak to Mr. Williams at all 17 that day. 18 So throughout my account of --19 throughout my interactions with Mr. Williams, he lied to me on various occasions and he also lied 20 21 to his employer as well by stating that he 22 initially had an ABC Manager's License, but he

actually never had any ABC Manager's License
until October 2, 2018.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. And
this hearing was scheduled for today at 2:30 and
Mr. Williams, Mr. Michael Allan Williams was
invited to attend this hearing and he is not here
and neither did he ask the Board to reschedule
this hearing.
So based on the testimony of Mr.
Royster, I then make a recommendation to the
Board that the application for a Manager's
License that was submitted to ABRA on October 18,
2018, that we I'm sorry, that in October, I
can't make out the exact date what it was.
MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, he was issued
a temporary license in October.
CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, but I'm
saying that he the application for the
Manager's License was submitted, I think, on
October
MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, he was given
this I think the application before us, that

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we had before us is actually the application for 1 2 a temporary license, which he was issued. And it is my understanding that this has not -- Mr. 3 4 Royster, do you know? 5 INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: Has not? He has not yet --6 7 MEMBER ALBERTI: He has not yet applied for a permanent license? 8 9 INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: Not to my 10 knowledge. I'm not sure. 11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So the issue 12 is he has a temporary license. It expires soon. INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: 13 Yes, he 14 obtained it, yeah, October 2nd. It's 90 days. 15 MEMBER ALBERTI: 16 INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER: But I'm not 17 sure if he applied for a permanent. 18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, I thought the 19 purpose of this hearing was to decide whether we would ever consider him for a license in the 20 21 future, even though he hasn't applied. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: We will take 22

1 this matter under advisement. Thank you, Mr. 2 Royster. **INVESTIGATOR ROYSTER:** 3 Thank you. 4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. A11 5 right. All right. (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter 6 7 went off the record at 3:15 p.m. and resumed at 8 4:22 p.m.) 9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. We 10 had a Fact-Finding Hearing. 11 MEMBER ALBERTI: I thought you signed 12 it. 13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, but the 14 other people didn't sign it. 15 Yes, they did. MEMBER ALBERTI: 16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. **All** 17 right. I just wanted to -- so I just wanted to 18 put on the record for Michael Allan Williams, for 19 the application for a Manager's License, I make a 20 motion that we deny the request for a Manager's 21 License. Is there a second? 22 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Second.

CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Silverstein has seconded the motion. All those in favor say aye. ALL: Aye. CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed? The matter passes 5-0-0. (Whereupon, the Fact-Finding Hearing was concluded at 4:22 p.m.) 

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## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Michael Williams

Before: DCABRA

Date: 12-12-18

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.

near Lans &

Court Reporter

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