

July 11, 2018

9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774

THE BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION:

PRESENT:

Thomas Graham, Chairman
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman
Eric Bowman, Commissioner
Ken Miles, Commissioner
ShaRon M. Grayson Kelsey, Commissioner
Benjamin Rupert, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Shepherd, Director
Kelly Markomanolakis, Administrative Assistant
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Nikole Bennett, Administrative Aide
Katrice James, Administrative Aide

Time: 7:08 p.m.

In the matter of a Special Entertainment Permit for **t/a Cambria Hotel at College Park**, Class B BH, Beer, Wine, and Liquor License, 8321 College Park Hotel ABC, LLC., 8321 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740 – Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.

Licensee is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Corporal Cicale stated that she is a Corporal with the Prince George's County Police Department; that she received the security plan and went over it with the chief of police in college park; they have no issues and no concerns; that the security plan is sufficient.

Adam Greenberg stated that he is a resident of Potomac; that the liquor license has been picked up; that they are working on stocking and training currently; that they understand the rules and regulations they would be subject to in applying for the permit; that he also has a banquet facility at the hotel; that he plans to have a two-piece jazz band playing seven nights a week for approximately three hours as an accommodation to dining; looking at possible hours being 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. but adjustments may need to be made to hours; that he wants music to take place at peak hours; that he is aware they must inform the board of changes to hours.

Michael J. Harris stated that he is a resident of Washington D.C., that he is the restaurant manager; that he plans to have the music playing from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. to start; that there will not be a cover charge, that IDs will not be checked at the door; that the purpose of the music is not to be the sole entertainment but for ambience.

Chairman Graham asked corporal Cicale if all was in order and if the information appears accurate.

Corporal Cicale agreed.

Mr. Camacho moved to approve the Special Entertainment Permit, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Ms. Kelsey, Mr. Bowman, and Mr. Graham.

In the matter of Jeffrey Rager, CFO/Secretary, Richard Lynch, CEO/President, Granite City Restaurant Operations, Inc., **t/a Cadillac Ranch All American Bar & Grill**, Class B, BLX Beer, Wine, and Liquor License, 186 Fleet Street, National Harbor, 20745, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of D Sections 26-1103, 26-1513, 26-2707, 26-2102 of the Alcoholic Beverage Article for the Annotated Code of Maryland and Rules 29 and 75 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County, to wit; That on Thursday, March 29, 2018 at approximately 12:41 a.m., two patrons, one male with a date of birth of September 10, 1996 and one female with a date of birth of July 16, 1998, were being escorted from the business for a dispute over the bar tab when the male patron produced a handgun and began shooting at the security guard; that the female patron was on the licensed premises with a Special Entertainment Permit under 21 years of age; that the operation of business is a threat to the peace and safety of the community.

Licensee is represented by Linda Carter, Esquire.

Corporal Cicale stated that she is a Corporal with the Prince George's County Police Department; that the incident did occur and that they responded to the scene; that their main concern was the underage person involved and the act of violence; that she met with the restaurant manager and the head of security; that the two patrons were staying at a local hotel; that it appeared to them that they entered the business and then the drinks were purchased by an older friend; that there was a discrepancy over the bill; that security asked for them to leave; that they attempted to go to a business across the street and was dismissed from there as well; that they then attempted to return and security refused them; that the male patron then shot at security and wounded two of them; that a new security plan was needed; that the area caters to these issues; that Cadillac Ranch worked with them on altering the security plan; they had fired the old security and put in place new security; that they now had civilian and sworn security.

Mr. Camacho asked how long between the patrons being removed from Cadillac Ranch and returning.

Corporal Cicale stated that it was approximately 20 minutes from when the patrons first left Cadillac Ranch and returned; that to her understanding two employees were fired for allowing underage in and to be served; that they had reevaluated and adjusted the identification check process.

Ms. Kelsey asked what was done to adjust the identification check process.

Corporal Cicale stated that they had retrained servers and retested; that they agreed to adding additional cameras and changed security companies.

Mr. Bowman asked how they will cater to both crowds.

Corporal Cicale stated that they would like to request that the special entertainment permit not go into effect until 10 p.m. to ensure that they have time for customers dining to leave and not lose customers; that they would be able to cater to both by pushing back the entertainment hours to 10:00, 10:30 or 11:00; that at that time anyone under 21 would be asked to leave; and that there have not been any further issues since the incident.

William Mock stated that he is a resident of Woodbridge, Virginia; that he has been the general manager for two years and one month; that he started out serving in restaurants at 18 and moved his way up; that the business does 8 million a year in sales; 66% food and 44% alcohol; that they average 4500 people per week; that 35% of their business is families; that they are open from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. and last call is at 1:30 a.m.; that they have two menus, their regular menu and also a happy hour menu; that the regular menu is available up until last call; that they have an extensive children's menu; that they have 110-120 employees at any time; that 65 of them are front of house employees; that a condition of employment is that they go through ServSafe training; that managers and chefs go through training as well; that eight of the management team are also qualified to proctor the exams;

that it's a 2-2 ½ hour course that includes information on how to serve responsibly; that if they are promoted from within to a serving position that they must go through the exam to move up; that they want to begin checking identification at 9:00 p.m. and push back the start of the entertainment to have enough time to ensure that everyone in the building is 21 before beginning entertainment; that they want to avoid alienating anyone and give everyone a chance to finish dining that came for dinner rather than entertainment; that they will begin at 9:00 p.m. with checking the identification of everyone still in the building and tell them that the entertainment is beginning shortly and all still in the building must be 21 at the time it begins or they will have to leave prior to it beginning; that the DJ or whatever entertainment is planned for that evening will have to verify with management that everyone still in the building is at least 21 prior to beginning; that they have entertainment Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday until 1:30 a.m.; that they intend to wait until everyone under 21 is finished dining and has left to start entertainment even if that results in only having entertainment for a couple hours; they now have multiple managers on each shift; that they have not been having entertainment currently; that every drink served must have identification and person attached to it; that they check the identification at the door and at the bar; that they bought 9 identification scanners; that they have these scanners at the door, all three bars, end of the bars, and two in the back as back up; once the incident happened they called the police department first to help create a new security plan; that they fired the previous security company; that they wanted someone with more experience to ensure the safety of the guests and have less opportunity for underage admittance; that they reevaluated their video cameras; that they added more cameras and some with audio.

Mr. Camacho asked what broke down.

William Mock stated the ID process at the door broke down; that he wasn't there that evening; that the male subject left after the dispute over the tab; that the underage possibly entered more than once uncarded; that after the incident they immediately stopped entertainment; they put the entertainment back into place once the police department agreed that the revised security plan was sufficient; that they once again suspended entertainment with the circus being in town to give families more time to enjoy their evening out.

Mr. Graham asked what impact revoking the special entertainment permit would have

William Mock stated that it would be detrimental to their business; that the missing entertainment and the event have already effected them negatively; that people come in for their nightlife and DJ.

Mr. Graham asked what that impact revoking the license entirely would be.

William Mock stated that they would lose a lot of business; that it would affect a lot of people's money in their pocket, including employees; that they would probably close at 8:00 p.m. for lack of business past that time; that they aren't 100% family oriented, only 35%; that their late night business helps employees make more money and adds to the nightlife at the harbor; that he has never had employees say they feel unsafe to work there before the incident; that the staff is still happy; that the staff wants the entertainment back; that there are 36 businesses owned by Granite city nationwide and that the National Harbor is the #1 store.

Corporal Cicale stated that they have no concern to peace and safety that most businesses are in a similar position; that the only difference is the size of Cadillac Ranch and that it is up to the restaurant to distinguish between the underage and over 21.

Mr. Camacho moved to find the licensee in violation of having a person under the age of 21 in an establishment under the special entertainment permit and to impose a fine of \$1,500, seconded by Mr. Miles and made unanimous by Mr. Bowman, Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Graham.

Mr. Camacho moved to find the operation of the business as not being a danger to the peace and safety of the community, seconded by Mr. Miles and was carried by Ms. Kelsey and Mr. Bowman. Mr. Graham votes no.

In the matter of De Yue Chen, President/Secretary, San Long Tse, Assistant Secretary, Jophy Inc., t/a **House of Lee Restaurant**, Class DW(R), Beer and Light Wine License, 6401 Maxwell Drive, Camp Springs, 20735, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Section 6-311 of the Alcoholic Beverage Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and Rule 11 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County, to wit; That on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at approximately 7:20 p.m., Inspectors Warren Bagby and Jerry Glenn of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners, observed two boxes of MD 20/20, one box of Arbor Mist and one box of Andre California Champagne that were labeled for Capitol Grocery Wholesalers, that the business purchased from other than a wholesaler and further that the licensee kept or allowed to be kept alcoholic beverage on the licensed premises that had been purchased at a retail dealer. And further that the license was found in violation of sale to a minor on June 28, 2016.

Licensee is represented by Robert Kim, Esquire.

Jerry Glenn stated that he is an inspector with the Prince George's Board of License Commissioners; that this was a focus inspection on the labels; read his report into the record; he stated that the licensee cooperated; that he is not sure if Capitol Grocery Wholesalers is a licensed wholesaler in D.C.

Robert Kim provided a copy of Capitol Grocery Wholesalers wholesaler license for D.C.

De Yue Chen stated that he is a resident of Owings; that he has been in business for 1 year; that he typically purchases from National Republic in Maryland; the alcohol purchased was on a wholesale lot; he asked his friend to get it for him; he agrees he should buy from Maryland; that the friend bought it and he got it from the friend; that his friend lives in DC; not sure where the friend works; friend is not a wholesaler in Maryland or anywhere else; that he actually went with the friend; that he went to D.C. to purchase it; paid for it with a bank card at the store; that he has owned the business since October of 2017 and that the sale to a minor was the previous owner.

Mr. Camacho moved to fine the licensee \$1,500.00 for purchasing from other than a wholesaler, seconded by Mr. Miles, made unanimous by Mr. Graham, Ms. Kelsey, and Mr. Bowman.

Adjourned 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nikole Bennett
Administrative Assistant