

**December 19, 2023
9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774
Virtual Hearing**

Present:

Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, Chair
Armando Camacho, Vice Chair
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner
Dennis Smith, Commissioner
Todd Pounds, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Sheppard, Director
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Alecia Hughes, Administrative Aide

Start Time: 9:59 a.m.

Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms: At the Board of License Commissioners, we endeavor to be as efficient as possible in our virtual environment. Thank you for your patience. This is a public meeting subject to the Maryland Open Meetings Act so a truthful, transparent, open, and honest dialogue and record is required. As such, there are some formalities that will take place that may appear redundant but nonetheless are important and required to ensure compliance with the law.

Director Sheppard: During a typical hearing, there would be an exchange between the Board and the attorneys to exchange information as exhibits. Because this hearing is now virtual, we have implemented a 10-day rule to give those individuals here today, 10-days from today's date to add to the official record. I would ask that you email myself or the administrative staff of the BOLC. You may add information to the record long as it is information that has been discussed in this hearing.

PRELIMINARY MATTERS:

1. Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Bonefish Grill**, Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor, 15910 Crain Highway, Brandywine, 20613, Nicole K. Novella to serve as President/Secretary/Treasurer instead of Matthew D. Behler, President/Secretary/Treasurer.
Represented by **Nicholas J. Kallis, Esquire**.
Ms. Novella is the Secretary and Treasurer for this entity. Recently, she was added on to two additional alcoholic beverage licenses in Montgomery and Anne Arundel County. There will be no changes to the mode of operation.
Mr. Kallis asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the Substitution of Corporate Officers Application. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.
Ms. Novella was previously Alcohol Awareness certified; she'll be enrolling in the course within the next thirty days.
Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the SCO for t/a Bonefish Grill, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.
After Board vote, the motion carries.
2. Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Red Robin Gourmet Burgers & Brews**, Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor, 15650 Excelsior Drive, Bowie, 20716, Sarah Mussetter to serve as Vice President/Secretary and Todd J. Wilson to serve as President/Treasurer instead of Michael Kaplan, Vice President/Secretary and Lynn Schweinfurth, President/Treasurer.
Represented by **Leanne Schrecengost, Esquire**.
Mr. Wilson is the President and Treasurer of Red Robin International, Inc. he serves as the Chief Financial Officer of the publicly traded parent of the entity.
Ms. Mussetter was excused by the Board from this hearing.
Ms. Schrecengost states that Ms. Mussetter is the Vice President and Secretary of Red Robin International, Inc. she serves as the Chief Legal Officer, and oversees the licensing department.
There will be no changes to the mode of operation.
Ms. Schrecengost asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the Substitution of Corporate Officers Application. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Mr. Wilson was able to answer each question.
Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the SCO for t/a Red Robin Gourmet Burgers & Brews, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.
After Board vote, the motion carries.
3. Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Old Bowie Town Grille**, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 8604 Chestnut Avenue, Bowie, 20715, Jack R. Murphy, Jr. to serve as Member instead of Mary T. Murphy, Member.
Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge his right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Mr. Murphy states I'm the personal representative for the estate of Mary T. Murphy, since my mother had ownership in Old Bowie Town Grille, we were informed it was necessary that a person responsible for the estate be added to the liquor license.

Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the Substitution of Corporate Officers Application. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the SCO for t/a Old Bowie Town Grille, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

REGULAR SESSION:

TRANSFER OF LOCATION

1. Ajay K. Gosain, Managing Member/Authorized Person, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of SDAS, LLC, **t/a North South Liquor**, 8849 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, 20770, transfer from SDAS, LLC, t/a North South Liquor, 8861 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, 20770, Ajay K. Gosain.

Represented by **Benjamin Carter, Esquire**.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mr. Carter states Mr. Gosain purchased his store back in 2018, he has been given the opportunity by his landlord to move into a larger space within the same shopping center. Mr. Gosain will be investing a significant amount of money in terms of building out the store and a substantially increased inventory.

Mr. Carter asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

There is no opposition present for this case.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the transfer of location for t/a North South Liquor, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. Myrna Alvarado, Managing Member, Carlos Alvarado, Managing Member, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of M & C Kitchen, LLC, **t/a Cocineros**, 3513 East West Highway, Hyattsville, 20782, transfer from M & Amalia's Kitchen, LLC, t/a Taqueria Habanero, 8145 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740, Isael Ramirez, Co-Managing Member, William Martinez, Co-Managing Member.

Represented by **Wesley Japp, Esquire**.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mr. Japp states the applicants are very experienced restaurateurs in the DC Metropolitan area, we're applying for this transfer so they can serve alcoholic beverages at their new location. Together they own quite a few restaurants in the area, I think they'll be a great addition to the community.

Mr. Japp asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

There is no opposition present for this case.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the transfer of location for t/a Cocineros, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

TRANSFER:

1. Dao Zheng Lin, Managing Member, Johnny Lin, Authorized Person, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of East L. Food, LLC, **t/a Eastmoon Asian Bistro**, 6107 High Bridge Road, Bowie, 20720, transfer from East Moon Ming, LLC, t/a East Moon Asian Bistro, 6105-6107 Highbridge Road, Bowie, 20715, Sandra Short, Secretary, Mingwei Cai, Managing Member.

Represented by **Michael W. Lu, Esquire**.

Both applicants are Alcohol Awareness certified.

Mr. Lu asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

Mr. Dao Zheng Lin is the owner of East L. Food, LLC and works full time in the restaurant.

Mr. Johnny Lin is the full-time manager of the restaurant.

There is no opposition present for this case.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B license for t/a Eastmoon Asian Bistro, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. Lawrence H. Chen, Member-Manager, for a Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Ace Restaurant Holding, LLC, **t/a MeatUp**, 8503 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740, transfer from Kangnam BBQ, LLC, t/a Kangnam BBQ, 8503 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740, Seongmuk Sim, Managing Member.

Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

Mr. Robert Ryan (Public Services Director for the City of College Park) states he has been authorized by the Mayor and Council to testify in favor of this application.

Mr. Kim asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

Mr. Chen was found guilty of a traffic offense, DUI, in the state of California back in 2016.

Mr. Chen is the Sole Member and Managing Member of Ace Restaurant Holding, LLC. A copy of Mr. Chen and one of the managers Alcohol Awareness certificates have been submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B(BLX) license for t/a MeatUp, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS D (NH), BEER AND WINE:

1. Rashon Eric Robinson Sr., Owner, for a Class D(NH), Beer and Wine for the use of Sip & Develop, LLC, **t/a Sip & Develop**, 136 Waterfront Street, Oxon Hill, 20745.
Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge his right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.
Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.
Mr. Robinson states he is the CEO and one hundred percent owner of Sip & Develop. He's responsible for the financial management and daily operations of the company.
Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.
Mr. Robinson states Sip & Develop is a film development studio where we teach our customers how to develop old school thirty-five-millimeter film. Customers can either rent a camera from us and go take their own pictures or have their pictures taken by our professional photographers. We'll sit them down in a classroom environment and teach them how to develop the film as they sip on their beverage of choice. The next step is to go into the dark room, put that picture in chemicals, and watch it appear before their eyes. The customer will leave with their own black and white photo.
There is no opposition present for this case.
Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Class D(NH) license for t/a Sip & Develop, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.
After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS D (ON & OFF), BEER AND WINE:

1. Antoni Akaras, President, Viraj Patel, Vice President, Faisal Hashmi, Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the Akaras, Inc., **t/a D 3 Social**, 7215 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740.
Represented by **Benjamin Carter, Esquire**.
Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.
Mr. Robert Ryan (Public Services Director for the City of College Park) states the applicant has met with City Council and entered a Property Use Agreement. I've been authorized by the Mayor and Council to testify in favor of this application.
Mr. Carter states D 3 Social has been a project in the works for almost a decade. In 2015, the Maryland General Assembly passed special legislation allowing the issuance of a Class D on and off sale license in this vicinity. Mr. Akaras was the proprietor for Plato's Diner for twenty years, and on a license issued by this Board. During his tenure as a license holder, he's never had a violation. The Property Use Agreement our client has entered is very restrictive in terms of how alcoholic beverages can be sold off sale. Only nine hundred square feet of the property will be used for off sale purposes. The Property Use Agreement contains restrictions on what items can be sold. The on-sale portion of the property will be to fill a void for dining in the College Park area.
Mr. Carter asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. All applicants were able to answer each question.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Class D (On & Off) license for t/a D 3 Social, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.
After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS D, BEER AND WINE:

1. Kevyn Scott, CEO, Candice Scott, COO, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the use of GOME Restaurant Group, LLC, **t/a Blaze Pizza**, 15431 Excelsior Drive, Bowie, 20716. Applicants do not have an attorney, acknowledge their right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mrs. Scott states we are the franchise owners of the Blaze Pizza restaurant, located four doors down from our other franchise establishment Charley's Cheesesteaks. We have three franchise locations. Blaze Pizza is a fast casual upscale dining experience for our customers. Customers can come in and get a great quality pizza, salad, dessert, soft beverages, and alcoholic beverages.

Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Class D license for t/a Blaze Pizza, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.
After Board vote, the motion carries.
2. Ramoun Peterkin, Managing Member, Shanique Smythe-Peterkin, Managing Member, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the use of Ramoun's Kitchen, LLC, **t/a Ramoun's Kitchen**, 15485 Annapolis Road, Suite 205, Bowie, 20715. Applicants do not have an attorney, acknowledge their right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mrs. Smythe-Peterkin states Ramoun's Kitchen was established in 2020 initially providing catering services. We are a restaurant serving a mixture of Jamaican fusion cuisine and American dishes.

Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Class D license for t/a Ramoun's Kitchen, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.
After Board vote, the motion carries.
3. James Babin, Managing Member, Stacey D. Price, Member, Gregory M. Engert, Member, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the use of Shop Made in MD, LLC, **t/a Shop Made in MD**, 7401 Baltimore Avenue, College Park, 20740. Applicants do not have an attorney, acknowledge their right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Mr. Robert Ryan (Public Services Director for the City of College Park) states the applicant has met with City Council and entered a Property Use Agreement. I've been authorized by the Mayor and Council to testify in favor of this application.

Ms. Price states this is our tenth location, the first location is a store and café in Maryland. We have one hundred and twenty small batch producers represented in the store. We opened this location in partnership with the University of Maryland's development company. The space sells art, apparel, and stationary home goods. The addition of the café allows us to sell coffee, tea, beer, wine, and cider.

Commissioner Bridgwaters-Simms asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. All applicants were able to answer each question.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Class D license for t/a Shop Made in MD, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, motion carries.

Adjourned: 11:44 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alecia L. Hughes
Administrative Aide BOLC