

**June 12, 2024
9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774
Virtual Hearing**

Present:

Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, Chair
Armando Camacho, Vice Chair
Tammie Norman, Commissioner
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner
Dennis Smith, Commissioner
Jason DeLoach, Esquire, Counsel
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Leonard Vauss, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Alecia Hughes, Assistant to the Director

Start Time: 7:01 p.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.

REGULAR SESSION

Cases #7, 8, 9 and #11 were called first and together as they were show caused for the same violation.

7. Martha Moscoso, Managing-Member, **t/a El Rodeo Restaurant**, 6258 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737, Class D(R), Beer, is summonsed to show cause to wit: on September 26, 2023, the licensee was fined and ordered by the Board to attend or have an employee of the establishment attend Alcohol Awareness training, within ninety (90) days of the hearing for violation of Rule and Regulation #9. To date, proof of Alcohol Awareness Training has not been provided to the Board. Note: Even if proof of training is provided, the licensee must appear for this hearing. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.
8. Constance A. Ikechi, Managing Member/Authorized Person, **t/a Tropicana Grill & Food Market**, 3503-3505 Maryland Avenue, Cheverly, Maryland 20785, Class B, Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause to wit: on December 19, 2023, as part of your offer letter, the licensee agreed to attend or have an employee of the establishment attend Alcohol Awareness training, within ninety (90) days of the hearing for violation of Rule and Regulation #11. To date, proof of Alcohol Awareness Training has not been provided to the Board. Note: Even if proof of training is provided, the licensee must appear for this hearing. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.
9. Charles M. Garner, President, Kevin J. Kylus, Treasurer, James J. Seidleck, Secretary, Donny Restly, Vice President, **t/a Sacred Heart Council #2577**, 6111 Colombia Way, Bowie Maryland 20718, Class C, Fraternal, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause to wit: on January 10, 2024, as part of your offer letter, the licensee agreed to attend or have an employee of the establishment attend Alcohol Awareness training, within ninety (90) days of the hearing for violation of Rule and Regulation #11. To date, proof of Alcohol Awareness Training has not been provided to the Board. Note: Even if proof of training is provided, the licensee must appear for this hearing. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.
11. Rummana Choudhury, President, **t/a IHOP**, 3601 Bladensburg Road, Colmar Manor Maryland 20722, Class B, Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause to wit: on December 6, 2023, as part of your offer letter, the licensee agreed to attend or have an employee of the establishment attend Alcohol Awareness training, within ninety (90) days of the hearing for violation of Rule and Regulation #1. To date, proof of Alcohol Awareness Training has not

been provided to the Board. Note: Even if proof of training is provided, the licensee must appear for this hearing. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Chief Clark requested that the Board dismiss cases #7, 8, 9 and 11 as Alcohol Awareness requirements have been satisfied.

Commissioner Camacho moved to dismisses case #7, 8, 9 and 11 as well as all show cause orders, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

Cases #10 and #12 were called together as they effectuated transfers and the alcohol awareness mandate does not apply to the new licensees.

10. Imran Bhuiyan, President, Secretary, Treasurer, **t/a Parkway Market**, 5670 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg Maryland 20710, Class DW (Off), Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause to wit: on October 24, 2023, as part of your offer letter, the licensee agreed to attend or have an employee of the establishment attend Alcohol Awareness training, within ninety (90) days of the hearing for violation of Rule and Regulation #1. To date, proof of Alcohol Awareness Training has not been provided to the Board. Note: Even if proof of training is provided, the licensee must appear for this hearing. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

12. Aida A. Leon, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Venes B. Zebenay, Assistant Secretary, **t/a Sheriff Road Carry-Out and Beer & Wine**, 5301 Sheriff Road, Fairmont Heights Maryland 20743, Class DW (Off), Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause to wit: on December 19, 2023, as part of your offer letter, the licensee agreed to attend or have an employee of the establishment attend Alcohol Awareness training, within ninety (90) days of the hearing for violation of Rule and Regulation #35. To date, proof of Alcohol Awareness Training has not been provided to the Board. Note: Even if proof of training is provided, the licensee must appear for this hearing. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Chief Clark informs the Board that both Parkway Market and Sheriff Road Carry-Out and Beer & Wine have undergone a transfer in which the requirement for Alcohol Awareness training does not apply to.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to dismiss the show cause orders for Parkway Market and Sheriff Road Carry-Out and Beer & Wine, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

1. **t/a Laurel Lakes Liquors**, Manila Kapur, President, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, Mahalakshmi, Inc, 14132 Baltimore Avenue, Laurel, 20707. – Request for a Delivery Permit. Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

Ms. Carter states Ms. Kapur agrees to abide by the Rules and Regulations #76 in connection with Delivery Permits and #23 in connection with prohibition against deliveries to student housing.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Delivery Permit for t/a Laurel Lakes Liquors, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. **t/a Liquor King**, Sumit Khaneja, Managing Member/Authorized Person, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, SK Stores, LLC, 7053 Martin Luther King Highway, Landover, 20785. – Request for a Delivery Permit. Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

Ms. Carter states Mr. Khaneja agrees to abide by the Rules and Regulations #76 in connection with Delivery Permits and #23 in connection with prohibition against deliveries to student housing.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Delivery Permit for t/a Liquor King, seconded by Commissioner Norman.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

3. James Pham, President, Vu Phi Hoang, Vice President, **t/a C Crab**, 4823 Allentown Road, Suitland Maryland 20746, Class B (BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and R.R. #1 Sales to a minor and R.R. #32-Inspections: All license holders, their agents and employees must cooperate with representatives of the Board of License Commissioners. To wit: On Monday, April 15, 2024, at approximately 8:05 pm Inspector Farmer-Johnson observed two females that appeared to be underage, sitting at a table with alcoholic beverages, in front of them. The two females were found to be 19 and 20 years-old and were observed drinking the alcoholic beverages. Further, the manager failed to cooperate by initially not removing the alcoholic beverages from the possession of two (2) underage patrons, he also did not identify truly who he was and left the front of the restaurant and never returned to assist the inspector. The manager also, refused to sign the Underage Sales Prevention Report, which was eventually signed by the bartender (Ms. Jones). The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing. Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

Chief Clark asks the Board to have the Charge for R.R. #32 Inspections: All license holders, their agents and employees must cooperate with representatives of the Board of License Commissioners amended.

Inspector Farmer-Johnson of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on April 15, 2024.

Ms. Carter stated that the license holders had the opportunity to review the cameras at the time of the violation. The camera shows a young woman presenting a vertical I.D. and the second young woman pulling an identification card out of her wallet and not her phone. It is

believed that the reason she told Inspector Farmer-Johnson that she used her phone for I.D. is because the I.D. she had in her wallet was counterfeit or fake.

Ms. Carter revealed Ms. Jones was the actual manager of C Crab and all three employees at the front of the house are Alcohol Awareness certified.

Ms. Carter has sent an exhibit book to the Board. She states that the server was terminated due to this violation. The licensees have created a sign in sheet in which employees have to acknowledge that if they are found in violation of the restaurants policies, they will be terminated. The restaurants policies include always verifying identification if someone looks less than the age of 35, no acceptance of vertical or electronic versions of identification, always cooperating with any official authority and reporting to a manager immediately during an incident. Ms. Carter also states that a copy of payroll sheets has also been included in the exhibit book verifying that Ms. Jones is the appointed manager.

Commissioner Norman requests to know Ms. Jones's status of employment.

Ms. Carter states that she is still the manager at C Crab.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensees for t/a C Crab, in violation, as charged, with a fine of \$1,500 and mandatory Alcohol Awareness training within 90 days, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

4. Darnell Dinkins, Authorized Person, **t/a House of Comedy and Jazz**, 9430 Annapolis Road, Lanham, Maryland 20706, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of 26-1903 A licensed holder may not provide entertainment unless authorized to do so, of the Alcoholic Beverage Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and R.R. #37 (E) Change in mode of operation (Having entertainment without a permit), of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Saturday, March 23, 2024, at approximately 9:15 PM, Inspector Clinkscale, entered House of Comedy and Jazz located at, 9430 Annapolis Road, Lanham, MD 20706. While conducting an Entertainment Inspection, Inspector Clinkscale noticed a DJ playing music after 9:00 PM, this location doesn't have a Special Entertainment Permit. Having Entertainment after 9:00 PM without a permit is a violation of changing the mode of operation without the Board's permission. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Licensee does not have an attorney, acknowledge his right to an attorney and agree to move forward without an attorney.

Inspector Farmer-Johnson of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on March 23, 2024.

Mr. Dinkins testified that there was no DJ present. It was an employee standing in the booth monitoring music on Bluetooth connection. He stated two inspectors had seen his booth set up in the past and had no issues with it. Mr. Dinkins moved up his comedy shows to finish at 8:45 PM to stay within compliance of the Board's Rules and Regulations on entertainment.

Commissioner Camacho asks Mr. Dinkins what software on his computer is used to play the music?

Mr. Dinkins stated that he runs music through Bluetooth software on his computer that connect to his speakers and are used and monitored by someone within the comedy club.

Commissioner Sparkman asked Mr. Dinkins whether he assigns someone specific to monitor the music or not.

Mr. Dinkins reveals that he usually monitors it himself or asks one of his employees to. He also takes requests from the patrons and manipulates the music.

Inspector Clinkscale, Mr. Smith and Ms. Sparkman clarified the meaning of a D.J. to Mr. Dinkins and informed him that taking requests from guests and changing the songs is manipulating the music and considered having a D.J. by the Board.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a House of Comedy and Jazz, in violation, as charged, with a fine of \$1,500, payable in \$500 increments over 90 days, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

5. Daniel J. Halpern, Authorized Person, Valerie R. Jackson, Member, Brooke J. Edmond, Member, **t/a T.G.I. Friday's (Greenbelt)**, 6460 Capitol Drive, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, Class B (BLX), Beer, Wine, and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County R.R. #1 Sales to Or Possession by Underage Persons. To wit; on Friday, April 19, 2024, at approximately 6:55 pm, a seventeen (17) year old female underage operative from the Prince George's County Police Explorer Program and Wilma Koslowski (lead advisor for Explorer Program), entered TGI Fridays located at 6460 Capitol Drive, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. The underage operative sat down at a table and ordered a Dragon fruit Margarita alcoholic beverage, which was served to the minor by server Alpha Yaya. The server requested and checked the Explorer's identification, however prepared the drink and served it to the minor. The furnishing of the alcoholic beverage to the minor at the table, witnessed by Wilma Koslowski, was in direct violation of Section 6-304 and 26-2707 of the Alcoholic Beverage Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and Rule and Regulation #1: Sale to or Possession of Underage Person - A licensee or any of his/her employees or agents, may not sell, serve or furnish or allow the consumption or possession of any alcoholic beverages at any time to any person under the age of 21. The licensee has no previous violation in the past two years. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing. Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

Inspector Tredway of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on April 19, 2024.

Ms. Carter stated that there is an I.D. every guest and no tolerance policy at T.G.I. Friday's (Greenbelt). Any employee who is found in violation of the restaurants policies is terminated immediately. Every employee is also required to take an Alcohol Awareness training yearly. The licensees have taken it upon themselves to take the Alcohol Awareness training from the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis commission with all the managers and shift trainers of the restaurant.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensees for t/a T.G.I. Friday (Greenbelt) in violation, as charged, with a fine of \$1,500 seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

6. Susan Kash, Secretary, Amy Drew, Treasurer, **t/a Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket**, 121 Centerway, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, Class DW(R), Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and R.R. #1 Sales to a Minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Friday, April 19, 2024, at approximately 7:35 pm one (1) underage female operative (17 yr. old) of the Prince George's County Explorer Program and one (1) the lead advisor for the Explorer Program from the Prince George's County Police Department (District 2) entered Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket located at 121 Centerway, Greenbelt, MD 20770. The operative purchased a 6pk of 12oz bottles of Samuel Adams Boston Lager and the server checked for ID and made the sale. This is a violation of RR#1, a licensee or any of his/her employees or agents, may not sell, serve, or furnish or allow the consumption or possession of any alcoholic beverages at any time to any person under the age of 21. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Licenses do not have an attorney, acknowledge their right to an attorney and agree to move forward without an attorney.

Inspector Tredway of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on April 19, 2024.

Ms. Kash acknowledged all information on the report to be true. She states that steps have been taken to ensure the violation does not occur again. The entire staff has been retrained and a new POS system has been installed to scan the I.D. of anyone who appears under the age of 30.

Dan Gillotte, General Manager, testified that cashiers are not TIPS trained, only managers.

Commissioner Norman asks Ms. Kash to state the six valid forms of identification.

Ms. Kash names five and Ms. Drew helps identify the sixth.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensees for t/a Greenbelt Co-Op Supermarket in violation, as charged, with a fine of \$1,500 and mandatory Alcohol Awareness training seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

Adjourned: 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Posada-Mejia
Administrative Aide BOLC