

**November 1, 2023
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
Terence Sheppard, Director
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Johnny Toles, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Leonard Vauss, Administrative Assistant
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Alecia Hughes, Administrative Aide

Start Time: 7:02 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:

1. **t/a De Ranch Restaurant**, Paschal Agubuzo, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, De Revolution 2000, Inc., 3511 Maryland Avenue, Cheverly, Maryland 20785. – Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.

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

Mr. Eddie Pounds represents the town of Cheverly.

Director Sheppard read the report submitted by Corporal Hunt of the Prince George's County Police Department. The security plan is adequate.

Mr. Pounds states the town was recently made aware of this Special Entertainment Permit application; we're asking the Board to postpone this matter for two weeks so we can meet with Mr. Agubuzo.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to continue this case to the November 14, 2023, hearing, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. **t/a Balkonie**, Sil N. Mudsi, Member-Manager, Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor, Balkonie Restaurant Group, LLC, 6323 Greenbelt Road, Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740. – Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.

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

Director Sheppard read the report submitted by Corporal Hunt of the Prince George's County Police Department. The security plan is adequate.

The plans for Balkonie if granted a Special Entertainment Permit are to have karaoke, comedy, DJ, live bands, and line dancing.

Commissioner Camacho states the U&O doesn't allow for line dancing and Mr. Mudsi must have a dance hall permit for line dancing. There is no patron dancing.

There is no opposition present on the call.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to to grant the Special Entertainment Permit to Balkonie, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

3. **t/a Tempoo Restaurant**, Tajadeen Adubakar, Owner, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, Remi and Associates, LLC, 9424 Annapolis Road, Lanham, Maryland 20706. – Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.

Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

Director Sheppard read the report submitted by Corporal Hunt of the Prince George's County Police Department. The security plan is adequate.

Ms. Carter states my client is aware that under his current U&O he will not be able to have entertainment past midnight. We plan to get the U&O changed and come back to the Board for a change in hours to stay open longer. The establishment couldn't obtain a fire capacity certificate because the restaurant is on the smaller scale.

The plans for Tempoo Restaurant if granted a Special Entertainment Permit are to have a DJ, karaoke, small band playing predominately international Afro-beat music.

There is no opposition present on the call.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to grant the Special Entertainment Permit to Tempoo Restaurant, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board votes, the motion carries.

4. Valery Azeh, Member, Njukang Asong, Member, **t/a Spectrum Lounge**, 10601 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland 20705, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of RR #9, No licensee, his/her agent, or employee shall allow consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by patrons on the licensed premises during the hours when such sales or consumption is not allowed by law. To wit; on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at approximately 3:15 am, Inspector Tredway of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered Spectrum Lounge, located at 10601 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705. The establishment should have been closed at 3:00 am. While inside, Inspector Tredway noticed patrons consuming alcohol and alcohol on tables in front of patrons. 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 Tredway of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on September 9, 2023.

Mr. Azeh states there were no active liquor sales, patrons were waiting to leave in the inclement weather.

Inspector Tredway of the BOLC confirms there were no active liquor sales. However, alcohol had not been cleared out and there were still about fifteen people upstairs in the establishment.

Mr. Azeh states we do our best to comply, on that day there was heavy rain and we had to force our patrons out of the establishment. We broke the rule being open past hours, we apologize and ask for leniency.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Spectrum Lounge, in violation as charged with a fine of \$4,000, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

5. Martha Moscoso Managing-Member, **t/a El Rodeo Restaurant**, 6258 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737, Class D(R), Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of RR #9, No licensee, his/her agent, or employee shall allow consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by patrons on the licensed premises during the hours when such sales or consumption is not allowed by law. To wit; on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at approximately 2:55 am, Inspectors Price and Hamilton of the Prince

George's County Board of License Commissioners entered El Rodeo, located at 6258 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale, MD 20737. The establishment should have been closed at 2:00 am. While inside, Inspectors Price and Hamilton noticed patrons with beer bottles in their hands and on tables. All alcoholic beverages should have been removed from the possession of all patrons and tables by 2:00 am. 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.

The licensee for El Rodeo Restaurant did not appear, this case will be continued to the next available hearing.

6. Jorge A. Vasquez, President, Secretary, Treasurer, t/a **Emily's Restaurant**, 2065 D&E University BLVD, Hyattsville, Maryland 2078, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of RR #9, No licensee, his/her agent, or employee shall allow consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by patrons on the licensed premises during the hours when such sales or consumption is not allowed by law. To wit; on or about Sunday, September 10, 2023, at approximately 3:10 a.m., Inspectors Clinkscale and Johnson of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered Emily's Restaurant located at 2065 University Blvd., Hyattsville, MD. 20783. The establishment should have been closed at 3:00 am. While inside, Inspectors Clinkscale and Johnson noticed patrons with alcoholic beverages on tables in front of them and a waitress serving beers to patrons at a table. 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 Clinkscale of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on September 10, 2023.

Ms. Vasquez (daughter of licensee) translates for Mr. Vasquez she states, we were in the process of closing, it takes a while to get patrons out because their waiting for their rides. There were two new waitresses, one has now undergone training and the other one no longer works with us. We were going through a personal matter that day as well, we take full responsibility.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Emily's Restaurant in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

7. Wilson E. Ceron-Jacome, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Luvia A. Ceron, Vice President, t/a **Rancho Rio Bravo**, 2031-C University Blvd., Hyattsville, Maryland 20783, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of RR #9, No licensee, his/her agent, or employee shall allow consumption or possession of alcoholic

beverages by patrons on the licensed premises during the hours when such sales or consumption is not allowed by law. To wit; on or about Saturday, September 10, 2023, at approximately 2:45a. m., Inspectors Clinkscale and Johnson of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered Rancho Rio Bravo located at 2031-C University Blvd., Hyattsville, MD. 20783. The establishment should have been closed at 2:00 am. While inside, Inspectors Clinkscale and Johnson noticed patrons consuming alcohol and alcohol on tables in front of patrons. 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 **Robert Kim, Esquire.**

Inspector Clinkscale of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on September 10, 2023.

Mr. Kim states we have no factual disputes, my clients were cooperative. Rancho Rio had a Special Entertainment Permit, there was an issue with the U&O we had wasn't satisfactory. We've been trying to get the U&O updated for months. The manager made a mistake, she thought the closing time was 3:00 a.m. We're hoping to refile the Special Entertainment request.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Rancho Rio Bravo in violation as charged with a fine of \$4,000, seconded by **Commissioner Norman.**

After Board vote, the motion carries.

8. Meral Kantar, Member, Selim Kantar, Managing Member, **t/a Remington's Restaurant of Beltsville**, 11500 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland 20705, Class BL(R), Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of RR #9, No licensee, his/her agent, or employee shall allow consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by patrons on the licensed premises during the hours when such sales or consumption is not allowed by law. To wit; on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at approximately 2:25 am, Inspector Tredway of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered Remington's Restaurant of Beltsville, located at 11500 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705. The establishment should have been closed at 2:00 am. While inside, Inspector Tredway noticed patrons consuming alcohol, which was after the permitted time. 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 Tredway of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on September 9, 2023.

Mr. Kantar states we previously had a Special Entertainment Permit prior to the pandemic, we didn't read the rule and regulation correctly and thought we could stay open until 3:00 a.m.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Remington's Restaurant of Beltsville in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500 and training, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

9. Andrew Wiley, President, **t/a Baden Grocery**, 16709 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, Maryland 20613, Class DW(R), Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of R.R. NO. 6 – Drinking or Possession of Alcoholic Beverages not Authorized Under License. To wit; on Thursday, August 24, 2023, at approximately 3:30PM, Inspector Pascual entered Baden Grocery located at 16709 Brandywine Road, Brandywine MD 20613, and observed 5 bottles of wine containing 16% of alcohol which for this license is only authorized to sell 15.5% or lower. Additionally, no invoices were provided as evidence of any purchase for the alcohol. 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 **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

Inspector Pascual of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on August 24, 2023.

Mr. Kim argued that his clients ordered wine from an authorized wholesaler, and the alcohol in question was delivered. I submitted a copy of the invoice; this was the first order placed with this wholesaler. The invoices don't provide the percentage of alcohol for each item purchased. It shouldn't be the responsibility of the licensee to check behind an authorized wholesaler.

Our Agency Attorney and **Chief Liquor Inspector Clark** argued that it's the responsibility of the licensee to know what products are on their shelves and the products they're selling to patrons.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Baden Grocery in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500 and training, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

Mr. Kim asked the Board to provide findings of fact and conclusion of law for appeal.

10. Tao Li, President, **t/a Latao-Sushi Cuisine**, 8700 Baltimore Avenue, Suite A & B College Park, Maryland 20740, Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation R.R. No. 11 Purchases by authorized retailer: No license holder shall purchase any alcoholic beverages except from a duly licensed manufacturer or wholesaler and RR#35 Trade Name: The Board of License Commissioners shall approve the trade name of the licensed premises. To wit; on or about Sunday, September 21, 2023, at approximately 1:30 p.m., Inspector Golato of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners conducted a Routine Inspection at the licensed premises, located at 8700 Baltimore Avenue, Suite A & B, College Park, MD 20740. Inspector Golato noticed the sign located on the outside of the establishment was different from the name on the license. Additionally, while

inside the establishment Inspector Golato noticed 10 open alcohol bottles sitting on a countertop. The manager Mr. Zheng, admitted he purchased them from LAX Wine, Spirits and Bistro. 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.

The licensee for Latao-Sushi Cuisine did not appear, this case will be continued to the next available hearing.

11. Moises Juan Ramirez, President, **t/a Mexico Lindo Restaurant of Maryland**, 5652 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, Maryland 20720, Class B(R), Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of RR #9, No licensee, his/her agent, or employee shall allow consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages by patrons on the licensed premises during the hours when such sales or consumption is not allowed by law and RR #32 Inspections: (Uncooperative) All license holders, their agents and employees, must cooperate with representatives of the Board of License Commissioners of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Saturday, August 26, 2023, at approximately 3:23am, Inspector Pascual, entered Mexico Lindo Restaurant of Maryland located at, 5651 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg MD 20710. While conducting Entertainment Inspections, he noticed 20 people inside drinking alcoholic beverages. The establishment should have closed at 3:00am and no patrons should have been drinking alcoholic beverages. Inspector Pascual asked the manager his name and to sign the violation report. The manager refused to sign the report and also, he refused to provide his name. 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. Continued hearing from October 11, 2023.

Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire.**

Mr. Kim asked the Board for a continuance so he can properly prepare for this case. No objections to continue this case.

12. Samuel Umanzor, President, Secretary, Treasurer, **t/a Pollo Sabroso**, 4400 Rhode Island Avenue N. Brentwood, Maryland 20722, Class B(AE), 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. No 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 Friday, August 4, 2023, at approximately 11:24pm, Inspectors Farmer-Johnson and Clinkscale, entered Pollo Sabroso, located at, 4400 Rhode Island Avenue, N. Brentwood MD 20722. While conducting Entertainment Inspections, they noticed two DJs at a DJ table playing music, which is considered changing the mode of operation because the establishment does not have an Entertainment Permit. 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. Continued hearing from October 11, 2023.

Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire.**

Inspector Johnson of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on August 4, 2023.

Ms. Carter states the DJ was an employee of the restaurant playing music from a preapproved playlist. We're working on requesting our Special Entertainment Permit, we apologize for not abiding by the Board's interpretation of the rule and regulation.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Pollo Sabroso in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500 and training, seconded by **Commissioner Norman.** **After Board vote, the motion carries.**

Adjourned: 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alecia L. Hughes
Administrative Aide BOLC