

November 4, 2020
9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774

Present:

Daphne Forbes, Board Chair
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman
Tammie Norman, Commissioner
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner
Kenneth Miles, Commissioner
Terence Sheppard, Director
Jason DeLoach, Esquire, Council
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Johnny Toles, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Leonard Vauss, Administrative Assistant
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Jamie Schaefer, Administrative Aide

Start Time: 7:08 p.m.

1. In the matter of **t/a Hyatt Place National Harbor, Lee Cohen**, Regional Sales Director/Licensee, Class B(BH), Beer, Wine and Liquor, 123 Waterfront Street, Oxon Hill, 20745, presents to request a Special Entertainment Permit. Licensee was represented by **Leanne Schrecengost, Esquire**, however due to Ms. Schrecengost's absence, Mr. Cohen agrees to move forward without representation. **Mr. Cohen** states that the hotel would only use this permit for small venues such as rented rooms for a band, DJ, or entertainment for a small wedding. **Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant **t/a Hyatt Place National Harbor** a Special Entertainment Permit for their Class B(BH) liquor license, seconded by **Commissioner Miles**. After Board voting, the motion carries.
2. In the matter of **t/a Thirsty's Wine and Spirits, Ekta Arora**, President/Owner, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 6191 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, 20745 presents to request for a Delivery Permit. Licensee is represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**. **Mr. Kim** states that the licensee has been sent and has reviewed all rules and regulations for a Delivery Permit as well as a Delivery Process Checklist. **Mr. Kim** also confirms Ms. Arora's knowledge of the permit requiring annual renewal as well as her knowledge of accepted forms of identification, as to sell alcohol and age to purchase alcohol. **Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the Delivery Permit for **t/a Thirsty's Wine & Spirits**, seconded by **Commissioner Miles**. After Board voting, the motion carries.

3. In the matter of **t/a El Puente De Oro Restaurant, Circo Castro**, President, **Cesar Castro**, Vice President, Juan P. Castro, Secretary, Castro Corp., Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Section 26-208 of the Alcoholic Beverage Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and R.R. No. 10(2) failure to comply with all State laws, R.R. No. 26(B)(4) failure to comply with all State laws, of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County, to wit; That on or about Saturday, August 15, 2020 at approximately 10:18 p.m., **Inspectors Bowden and Brockington** of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered **El Puente De Oro Restaurant**, located at 1401 University Blvd. #G-5&G-6, Hyattsville, MD 20783 and observed a DJ playing music. Having entertainment was not permitted under the County Executive's Order. The manager **Ciro Castro** was notified on the scene. Licensee is represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**. **Inspector Bowden** begins by giving a description of what she and Mr. Brockington witnessed at the establishment, including loud music audible from the parking lot and a DJ. She also draws to attention that there was outdoor seating available although the establishment does not have a permit approving them to do so. **Mr. Kim** contests the Board's authority to suspend, fine, or revoke a liquor license for a business based on an executive order in which enforcement is the responsibility of the Health Department along with assistance from the Police Department. He argues that the executive order stating no entertainment is permissible was expired as of July 9, 2020, before the August 15, 2020 violation occurred in **t/a El Puente De Oro**. He asks Inspector Bowden what other orders were in place for his client to follow. **Inspector Bowden** refers to letters written by director **Terrance Sheppard**, written June 12, 2020 and June 25, 2020 which were sent to all licensees stating that there was to be no entertainment at any establishment with a liquor license from the BOLC. She also refers to a poster from Prince George's County Government executive order to make the public aware of the county Covid-19 restrictions for businesses. **Mr. Kim** requests a copy of this poster as part of the 10-day rule to submit extra evidence to the Board. Board ruled that the 10-day rule will determine the results of this case at the next BOLC hearing.
4. In the matter of **t/a Martini's Restaurant & Lounge, Jedaka Hayes**, Authorized Person, Up At Night, LLC, Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Section 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 26 (B) 4 any violation by the licensee, his/her agents or employees of a reasonable order issued to the licensee by the Board of License Commissioners or any other public authority which, in the judgment of the Board, was intended to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the public 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; That on Saturday, July 18, 2020 at approximately 10:45 p.m. **Inspector North** entered **Martini's Restaurant & Lounge** located at 725 Cady Drive, Fort Washington, MD 20744 and observed a DJ making announcements and controlling the music. This establishment currently has no Special

Entertainment Permit. Additionally, at that time no Entertainment was permitted in Prince George's County by order of the County Executive and advisement by the Director of the Board of License Commissioners. Licensee and authorized person, **Mr. Mundy**, agree to move forward without representation. **Inspector North** gives his statement for observing a person going into the booth to manipulate music for as long as he was present in the establishment as well as video evidence of entertainment that evening. **Mr. Mundy** explains that the person that was witnessed going into the booth to change the music was the manager of the establishment changing a song on the phone/iPad used for playing music on their overhead sound system. He states that having an employee changing a song a few times or having a customer get on the microphone alone to say, for example, "Happy Birthday" should not be defined as a DJ. He states that there was no sound board or DJ present in the establishment and will not be until they are cleared to do so. **Mr. Mundy** would prefer if he and **Ms. Hayes** received a copy of the evidence video by email. **Ronald Collins**, Operations Manager for **t/a Martini's Restaurant & Lounge**, swears in and states that he has wired the overhead system in the establishment to where music can be manipulated by wireless connection so that anyone could change the music remotely. **Commissioner Forbes** states that the 10-day rule is in place for additional documents to be submitted and that the results will be discussed and voted upon on the November 17, 2020 hearing. Case dismissed.

Adjourned: 8:35 p.m.