

**February 10, 2021
9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774
Virtual Hearing**

Present:

Daphne Turpin-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: 7:06 p.m.

Commissioner Forbes: This is an open meeting for the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners. To ensure compliance with the law (Maryland Open Meetings Act) and our goal of transparency, to please identify yourself when speaking and speak audibly. As a professional courtesy, when not speaking, please mute your device. If someone from the public that is not providing testimony as a witness today, I will recognize you in the hearing and give you an opportunity for your voice to be heard. Everyone's voice matters at the BOLC. We understand that some of you may be passionate about what you have to say and that passion, in this regard, is permissible. What is not permissible is if truth, facts, and respect are not grounded in your voice. Thank you in advance for being truthful, respectful and honest during the entire proceeding.

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 for the BOLC. You may add information to the record long as it is information that has been discussed in this hearing.

1. **Monzurul Islam**, President, M & P Investment, Inc., **t/a Lee's Deli Mini Mart**, 5400 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, 20747, Class D, Beer and Wine, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Section 26-2102 of the Alcoholic Beverage Article of the Annotated Code and Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County, to wit; That on or about May 7, 2019 a transfer application for a Class D, Beer and Wine was filed, that on or about July 23, 2019 approval by the Board was

granted to the issuance of the license; the license has not been placed in operation after six months following approval being granted. The current license holder has an outstanding balance with the BOLC. Continued from December 9, 2020 & January 13, 2021. **Abraham Hurdle, Esquire** is representing. **Monzurul Islam** is sworn in. Mr. Hurdle: I would like to start by giving a moment to thank the Board for their patience and the perpetual assistance of the administrative staff. This matter was approved in Jul 2019, and due to the Covid-19 pandemic, was not heard by the Board until June of 2020. Since then, due to the pandemic, we have had issues getting in contact with the people responsible for some of the items necessary for effectuation. With me, I have a check from the current licensee for \$11,000, almost entirely what the licensees owe. The next \$500.00 will be sent right I have I overnight send this check to the Board. We have most of the effectuated documents but will still need more time to complete the effectuation.

Commissioner Camacho: When to you expect the transfer to take effect?

Mr. Hurdle: Because of the way things are, maybe 8 weeks. Due to the pandemic, we need appointments to get the documents we need.

Ms. Forbes: So, April of 2021? End of April?

Mr. Hurdle: Yes, we will do our best.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to take no action against the current licensee.

Commissioner Norman: Can we add the caveat that if the license is not effectuated by April, they will need to reappear before the Board.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to amend the motion to include the caveat that the licensee will appear before the Board if the license has not been effectuated by April 2021, seconded by **Commissioner Miles**. After Board vote, the motion carries.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to take no action with the caveat of reappearing before the if license is not effectuated by April 2021, seconded by **Commissioner Miles**. After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. **Malwinderpal Randhawa “Randy”**, President/Secretary/Treasurer, J & M Liquors, Inc., t/a **Chuck’s Liquors**, 3416 Rhode Island Avenue, Mt. Rainier, MD 20712, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor. Protest of the 2021 renewal of t/a Chuck’s Liquor.

Commissioner Forbes: The law requires this agency to hold a hearing when a protest is filed against a licensed location. A protest has been filed for t/a Chuck’s Liquors’ 2020-2021 Renewal of their Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor license. We will ensure that this is a fair and consistent hearing, presented as if we were accepting an application for a New Liquor License. Ms. Carter, a friend of this body, will present first, inclusive of licensee testimony, which is not time bound. We ask that you be as efficient as possible in presenting your case. This presentation will also include others from the public in support of the business. Each non-licensee will be allotted 2 minutes to provide their testimony. We will be strict to the 2-minute timer to ensure that everyone will be given an equal amount of time to testify. If someone offends the rules by not muting their device, they will be muted as a first warning. If

the disruption continues, they will be removed from the hearing. After Ms. Carter concludes, Mr. Kim, another friend of this body, will be given the opportunity to present his witnesses in opposition to the renewal of this business. Each of these witnesses will be given the same 2-minute time limit to provide their testimony under the same rules as previously mentioned. After Mr. Kim presents his case, Ms. Carter will have one minute to cross examine and witness testimony in opposition of the licensee. Upon conclusion of Ms. Carter's redirect, I will offer each council, Mr. Kim and Ms. Carter, 2-minutes for closing arguments. For the record, our Board attorney, Mr. DeLoach, is conflicted out of this hearing due to previously representing the opposition. He will recuse himself from this matter.

Mr. DeLoach: I will be recusing myself because I have previously represented the opposition. I will not take any action or participate in the hearing. I am recusing myself for the record.

Linda Carter, Esquire is representing the licensee t/a Chuck's Liquor. **Robert Kim, Esquire** representing opposition.

Ms. Carter: I would like to start by asking Mr. Kim who exactly he is representing. I would like specific names.

Robert Kim: I could go through the list of 80 people if you'd like.

Ms. Carter: I would like to know who you are working for.

Robert Kim: That would be Ms. Ayelet Hines. She will be testifying.

Ms. Carter: Of the previously filed Exhibits submitted to the Board, I'd like to reference Exhibit 2. It is a letter than contains many names, addresses and emails. As required by section 4-406 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, these should not be considered valid a valid petition due to the lack of actual signatures.

Mr. Kim: I'm confused, they all have signatures.

Ms. Carter: This letter contains all typed information and no signatures. I would respectfully ask that Exhibits 1 and 2 be submitted into evidence.

Ms. Forbes: So, Ms. Carter, you are saying that of the 25 persons or so in opposition, the letter contains phone number and email, but no signatures and these should not be recognized as valid?

Ms. Carter: Yes.

Mr. Kim is given an opportunity to review.

Ms. Carter: I'd like to go through Exhibit 3 page by page to go over the petitions that contain signatures. The first page contains 6 signatures. Four are in Brentwood, 0.5-0.8 miles from the establishment. I would argue that they are not in the immediate vicinity. They must prove if they're citizens and they don't say that they comply. On the next page, all 6 signatures should not be considered because they do not list an address. The last 3 names do not indicate a municipality. If there is no municipality, no zip code listed, none should be considered.

Ms. Forbes: We are up to 6 valid signatures.

Ms. Carter: On the next page, someone has written in all addresses, but they were not written by those who signed. I would move that we do not accept these signatures. On the next page, there are no valid names, I would move that you do not accept these. On the next page, the first name does not list the address and the rest do not list

municipality. The petition fails to comply with the rules. They failed to produce 10 proper signatures. I would like to ask that Exhibit 3 be moved into evidence please.

Mr. Kim: no objections. I would argue the municipalities. Just because there is no municipality listed does not mean that it is any less valid. You can check an address. There is also no distance requirement or definition for the “immediate vicinity”. We do meet the requirements and they are valid.

Ms. Carter: Not one single page in Exhibit 3 proves that they have a proper address, there is no confirmed prove of residency or compliance with 4-406. I’d like to move to Exhibit 4 and 5, which include minutes from February 19,2019 and an article from Route 1 Reporter from January 27, 1920. The reason why the library across the street from Chuck’s Liquor was closed was due to the fact it was unsafe and needed renovation. In the petition, these people are under the impression that their library closed due to unhealthy behaviors caused by Chuck’s. Being that these people are under a false impression, these signatures should be stricken from the record. I’d also like for these Exhibits to be moved to evidence, please.

The licensee, **Malwinderpal Randhawa “Randy”** is sworn in.

Ms. Carter: Randy, together with Mr. Singh, you own 100% or the business, yes?

(Randy-yes.) And in 2007, you bought the business and building?

Randy: Yes, I spent 1.2 million dollars, my life savings and borrowed \$800,000 from the bank. We have made many renovations costing about \$100,000.

Ms. Carter: The store itself is 1800 square ft? **(Randy- yes.)** And in 2008 you bought a large portion of the 3400 block? **(Randy- Yes,** that was the \$800,000) So, it was totally run down and out of order before all these renovations took place?

(Randy- Yes, we renovated the whole block.) And the only businesses that are not owned by you are your tenants? **(Randy- Yes,** the tenants are a small Spanish grocery next door and a barber shop.) Does Exhibit 17 accurately represent your business?

(Randy- Yes.) I would kindly ask that Exhibit 17 be moved into evidence, please. I will now turn your attention to Exhibit 18. These are pictures of the interior of the store. Randy, you put in all new walk-in coolers and a new lighting system? **(Randy- Yes.)** I would ask these be moved to evidence. Now Exhibit #24: this is a picture of the wall outside of the building in which you allowed an artistic mural facing the parking lot to be painted? **(Randy- yes.)** I would like to move Exhibit #24 into evidence please. Exhibit #25: this is a map and aerial photograph of the business. I’d ask this be moved into evidence, please. Randy, what are your Hours of Operation? **(Randy- 6:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. Monday- Thursday. Pre-Covid-19, closing was 11:00 p.m. Weekends we are open until 12;00 a.m. We are not open on Sunday.)**

Ms. Carter: How many people do you see come in daily?

Randy: Approximately 400-500 people.

Ms. Carter: And what services do you provide?

Randy: We provide check cashing and we have a valid license to do so. We charge 1% of the total.

Ms. Carter: Are there any banks near you? **(Randy- No,** none in Mt. Rainier.) What other services do you offer?

Randy: We do wires and pay and kind of bills.

Ms. Carter: And that starts at what time?

Randy: 6:00 a.m. everyday, always provide those services until we close.

Ms. Carter: I'd like to bring the Board's attention to Exhibit #19- we reserve the right (within the 10-day rule) to submit 80+ more signatures, Randy has well over 1,000. These signatures are all in support of Chuck's Liquor and they are all customers of the establishment.

Randy: We are shocked by the opposition. What did we do wrong? Why do they hate us? We will answer any questions.

Ms. Carter: I request Exhibits #9 and #19 be moved to evidence, please. We would also like to supplement our Google Reviews to the Board as evidence. Randy, how many employees do you have? (**Randy-** 6 or 7.) And what is your work schedule? (**Randy-** I work full days, 10-12 hours per day, 6 days a week. This is my only job and business.) How many employees in Mt. Rainier?

Randy: We have 4 that live in Mt. Rainier. Mr. Casey worked for us for 29 years. He can no longer work in these conditions due to Covid-19.

Ms. Carter: Are you Alcohol Awareness certified? (**Randy-** yes.) We request to move Exhibit #21 to evidence. Randy, do you have an atm? (**Randy-** yes.) Is there a surcharge? (**Randy-** \$1.50.) Do a lot of customers come to you for financial services? *Pause by Director Shepard to confirm Mr. Kim has no objections.

Mr. Kim: No objections to the evidence provided; however, I only have up to Exhibit #17. I requested further evidence from director Shepard via email.

Ms. Carter: To recap, all financial services are available from open to closing. The business has had 1 violation in the last 2 years for sales to a minor.

Randy: We have been very careful to check all I.D.s.

Ms. Carter: We also have not received and evidence at all from Mr. Kim. We would like their letters sent to us to review in the 10-days following the hearing.

Ms. Carter: In February and March of 2020, Randy helped local police by providing them with 4,500 masks to help protect them and others from Covid-19 while resources are scarce.

Randy: We have written checks for \$2,000 to help, whatever they need.

Ms. Carter: We would like to move Exhibits #6, 7, and 8 into evidence, please. In addition to recent donations, you (to Randy) are also a member of Indian Liquor Associates. Now Randy, there was an allegation that your business had armed guards, is this true?

Randy: We have never had that and never have needed that kind of security. We gave half a million dollars back to the community. This is such a safe place. We have 16 cameras surrounding the entire business.

Ms. Carter: I would like to turn the Board's attention to Exhibit #23. This shows what all the cameras cover and is a true and accurate display.

Mr. Kim: Objection of being unable to review this evidence.

Ms. Carter: We request to move this into evidence for review. Randy, do you share your camera footage with the police? (**Randy-** Yes, we always cooperate with the police to help where we can.) And you pay a real property tax of \$10,422 to the state? (**Randy-** Yes.) And the property came with 2 lots just north of Chuck's Liquors?

Randy: Yes, we are working with the city on a big project that everyone loves: 33 Apartment units.

Ms. Carter: What is the construction cost estimated to be?

Randy: \$6-8 Million and going up.

Ms. Carter: Without your income from Chuck's Liquors, could you improve on this land? (**Randy-** No.) Last year, a renewal protest was held on March 5th (2020), did you attend? (**Randy-** Yes.) I'd like to ask that the minutes from the city council hearing, Exhibit #12 into evidence.

No questions from the Commissioners. Ready to introduce witnesses. **Mr. Singh's** information remains true and correct.

Mr. Kim begins cross-examination.

Mr. Kim: You purchased this liquor store in 2007 and have 1 violation in the past 2 years.

Ms. Carter: Objection, nothing over 2 years is relevant.

Ms. Forbes: Sustained.

Mr. Kim: On the application, you answered "No" to the question, have you held a license for the sale of alcoholic beverages? Do you have ownership interest in any other store that require an alcoholic beverage license?

Witnesses in Support of Chuck's liquors present:

Surabhi Shah, Gita Raj, Barry Muffley, Amy Blankenship, Velmer Blankenship, Rosa Flores Lopez, Dinesh Patel, Daniel Cruz, Mayur Malinda Miles, Shawna Jones, Charnette Robinson, John Priestley, Karl Jones Jr "KC Jones", Lisa Harris, Jose Michaca, Tangie Thomas, Roger Chavis, Rudy Corado, Steve O'Bannon, William "Bill" Moore, Jose Aquilar, and David Lopez are all sworn in.

Each person is given 2 minutes to speak their piece.

Ms. Carter: Please tell everyone your position and why you are here.

Mayor Miles: I am the Mayor and a resident of Mt. Rainier. I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. They have been a huge support to the community and Mr. Randy's statements have been true. Though there have been conversations about loiterers outside of Chuck's Liquors, Chuck's is safe, secure and they have always coexisted with the library.

Jose Aguilar: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I worked for the business for a few years and have gotten all my money orders there. I feel safe there, even when I was working late nights. They have always been there for me.

Steve O'Bannon: I'm here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have a body shop down the street and have always felt safe going to Chuck's. I have never been asked for money, seen loiterers, or had any kind of problem. I do business with them frequently.

Mr. Kim: Mr. O'Bannon, where do you live? Where you work is about 5 minutes from the business?

O'Bannon: Yes.

Commissioner Sparkman: Mr. O'Bannon, what time frame do you usually frequent Chuck's?

O'Bannon: It could be any time of day, but most conveniently, I cash checks during the day.

William Moore: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have been going since 2006 and I love it there. They are friendly, I always feel safe, and we all know each other.

John Priestley: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have lived here since 1983, taxes increased, many problems were arising personally and, in the community, surrounding Chuck's, and they have put forth a collaborative effort to change things. The most effective thing that they have done for the community is install 16 cameras to survey the surrounding area. I have never had a problem going to Chuck's with my wife and 6 kids. The community depends on their services. They came forward with \$2,000 checks and 4,500 masks.

Ms. Carter: This is the author of Exhibit #22.

Lisa Harris: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I am a business owner of Juice Bar up the street and have been a resident for a long time before that. Chuck's has always been helpful and supportive. You can catch any bus at the bus stop outside of the business, so the bus brings in people from all over. It is difficult to manage the outside of any business, but Chuck's has done a great job of controlling it and I have never felt unsafe there.

Tangie Thompson: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. Randy has made some big changes to the area since he came. I am a business owner of 17 years and I have never had a problem with Chuck's. Randy is a very good business owner. I have never seen any disturbances there or faced any disrespect. Randy has kept everything clean. He is a good man and supports my business as well.

Daniel Cruz: I am in support of Chuck's Liquors. I am the president of MRBA (Mt. Rainier Business Association) and Randy is on my association team. We have been working with them on issues outside the business with them. This issue is not with this store, but the bus terminal. If we could possibly relocate the terminal, I believe that would solve a lot of the loitering problem.

Ms. Carter: Are there any public restrooms in Mt. Rainier?

Daniel Cruz: There aren't any to my knowledge. There is only one bathroom that is strictly for Ramada employees, not the public.

Mr. Kim: Does Chuck's make payments to the MRBA?

Daniel Cruz: When they pay for their business license, a fee is also contributed to the MRBA.

Mr. Kim: Would you say that the issues surrounding Chuck's to be exacerbated by liquor?

Daniel Cruz: No, the loitering continues even while they are closed on Sundays. It has nothing to do with them.

Surahbi Shah: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I am a homeowner in Mt. Rainier. I believe there should be more suggestions on how to address the real issues outside of Chuck's. Chuck's Liquors is an asset to the community. I always feel safe long as Chuck's is open.

Gita Ray: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have been a resident for 3.5 years. I've owned the Art Studio across from them for 5 years. I have never once had a negative experience at Chuck's.

Commissioner Norman: Are you a business owner? Do you also experience loitering?

Gita Ray: Yes, it is all around in the street.

Commissioner Norman: Do you contribute that to Chuck's?

Gita Ray: No.

Barry Muffley: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I believe that their Liquor License should be renewed. My family has done business with them for 40 years. Randy has made a real difference in the area. He is providing service for the community. So many people are in support of this business. I have never felt unsafe in all the times I have been there.

Amy Blankenship: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I grew up in this area. I went to Chuck's as a child with my dad. My daughter and I sell Girl Scout Cookies up there and the loitering is all over. Randy has been such a big help. They support the community 100% and customers always feel safe.

Velmer Blankenship: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have been here for over 40 years. Through all the ups and downs through the years, they have always been supportive. Now that Randy is here and times are good, everyone feels safe and money is going back into the community.

KC Jones: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have been an employee at the store since 1991. I have not been there recently due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Chuck's has been a staple in the community. Long as I have been there, there has never been much of an issue inside or outside the store. There has been no need for security.

Mr. Kim: Did Randy install bulletproof glass in front of the counters?

Mr. Jones: Yes.

Rosa Lopez: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. My family and I are part of a business next door. If not for Chuck's, we would not be in business. He helped us adjust our hours so that our hours of operation would match. This was in order to support each other. They make us feel so safe. Loitering has been seen, but not because of Chuck's. There is no public restroom in the vicinity and that causes people to have to use Chuck's restroom.

Commissioner Norman: So, Randy is your landlord? (**Rosa-** Yes.) Are you closer to the bus stop? Do you experience a problem? Have there been any complaints?

Rosa Lopez: Yes, the bus stop is in front of us. We mostly receive words of understanding from our customers. This happens at 10 a.m. when everyone is taking the bus to work.

Dinesh Patel: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. Local stores have been working with Chuck's and Randy, participating in local community events, especially during Covid-times. The store has done a great job, so much good stuff. The bus stop issue is a police job. I have no idea why has been made their (Chuck's) problem.

Shawna Jones: (Questioning done by **Ben Carter** in place of Linda)

Ben Carter: You are not a resident of Mt. Rainier but have spent a lot of time there?

Ms. Jones: Yes, always looking for new real estate. I'm there about 3-4 times weekly and that could be any time of day.

Ben Carter: And your working with Randy on a big project? Can I turn the Board's attention to Exhibits 10 and 11, please?

Shawna Jones: We are planning to build an apartment complex just north of the business on a plot of land that he purchased. The project has cost \$8 million and going up.

Charnette Robinson: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. They have worked on several community issues. I have lived here for 30 years and I believe gentrification is

causing the loitering. People of black and brown skin are all around City Hall. This is a community issue. Everyone needs to work together to work on this, not just one liquor store.

Commissioner Norman: Gentrification? How has the community changed?

Ms. Robinson: We have always tried to have the city address this situation. Most people in opposition are not people of color. They are paying attention to the wrong thing.

Mayur Lakhan: I am here in favor of Chuck's Liquors. I know Randy very well. The Covid-19 pandemic has been a tough time for everyone. During this time, Chuck's, an all Indian owned liquor store, got together to help those in need. They provided 35,000 meals to people in need.

Roger Chavis: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. They would always cash my checks. I don't have any complaints and I always feel safe.

Jose Machaka: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I used to work at Chuck's. We were always nice to customers, there were no robberies, no fights, and no complaints. Everyone always feels safe.

David Lopez: I am here to support the renewal of Chuck's Liquors. I have been a resident of Mt. Rainier for over 20 years. I am in the Department of Public Works, a family business on the same block as Chuck's. They are helpful and respectful. There is a loitering problem but that is unrelated to them. Everyone is doing as much as they can to combat the loitering issue.

Rudy Corado: I am here in support of Chuck's Liquors. I have lived in Mt. Rainier for 25 years. Chuck's has been there for a long time. I know the owner and how he will help everyone. I want to represent the Spanish community in saying that Mr. Randy will always help those in need. This is a good community. I have never had a problem there because I've never seen it. They've helped the police, me, my family. Please leave this business open.

Mr. Singh is sworn in.

Mr. Randy swears to properly translate for **Mr. Singh**.

Mr. Kim: How long have you been on the license?

Mr. Singh: I have been Randy's partner and on the license for 10 years.

Robert Kim, Esquire begins opposition. Due to the late hour, many in protest were no longer present.

Opposition witnesses: Ayelet Hines, Vice-Chair Deni Taveras, David D'Orio, Sahar Chaudry, Mary Lee Haughwout, Thomas Thompson, Pamela Boozer-Strother, Arthur Silverman, and Holly Marshall are sworn in.

Sahar Chaudry: I have been a resident of Mt. Rainier since 2006. I have been personally harassed and physically grabbed at Chuck's Liquors. I've engaged with Mr. Randy before. I have no problem with people who are hanging out. This is about his Liquor License. Mt. Rainier is on the border and no other liquor stores in the area open at 6 a.m. The community has pressured him for years to post pictures of those who are to be refused service.

Ms. Carter: Was Chuck's in its current location? (**Ms. Chaudry-** Yes.)

David O’Orio: I moved here in 2006 as a business owner and knowing the area well. I have seen a lot of drunkenness by the bus station, the parking lot next to Chuck’s, and on the stairs next to the street. People come to Mt. Rainier at 6 a.m. to get liquor. They claim everything is safe, but then they put 2 inches of bulletproof glass up in front of the cashiers.

Deni Taveras: I’d like to differ my testimony to the people who have been sitting for hours. I sent a letter with my statements a month ago. I am here in disapproval of the renewal of liquor licensure for Chuck’s Liquor. There has been disorderly conduct surrounding the business. There were 50 calls to service at this location, there are 10 patrol cars in the area, and a high density of alcoholic beverage establishments in the area. There have been reports of illegal bars out of apartments and homes. These statistics are caused by alcohol. There have been 12 incidents of assault there requiring an ambulance. Outside the establishment, there is unruly behavior near the parking lot and bus stop.

Ms. Carter: Do you know how many calls of service they had in 2019? 2018? (**Ms. Taveras-** No.) There were 11,163 calls in 2019 and 6,455 calls in 2018.

Pamela Boozer-Strother: I am a resident of Brentwood, living about 0.3 miles from Chuck’s. I am a Prince George’s County Board member through the school system. There is a high concentration of liquor stores in the area, 7 establishments in a circle around the school. I rarely see a child walking to school due to the number of strangers. People get harassed by drunk men. Police would not have to be there all the time if this were not an issue. The library is now underutilized due to Chuck’s.

Mary Lee Haughwout: I have been a resident for 11 years. I don’t believe that Chuck’s is promoting a safe and healthy environment. Loitering, public drunkenness, urination, and defecation in the area all come back to Chuck’s. There are not the same issues at other bus stops. I have taken my daughter to the library and she has witnessed a man’s genitals while he was publicly urinating. Police say that they are always patrolling the area.

Arthur Silverman: I am 69 years old with no car and I have a lot of experience at this bus stop. The disorderly conduct is a regular occurrence and people are afraid to use or even approach the bus bench. They don’t get on the bus. The source of the problem is the district’s homeless shelter. They go straight to Chuck’s at 6 a.m. They should open later.

Ms. Carter: How long have you lived there?

Mr. Silverman: 6.5 years at the current location.

Holly Marshall: This specific Liquor License is the source of the problems surrounding Chuck’s. They should not supply liquor services. The problem extends from Chuck’s, all the way up the street and beyond the circle. I have been harassed and seen harassment there. These issues do not happen in other locations.

Tom Thompson: I am here to oppose the renewal. For my family, Chuck’s has been a no-travel area. Lewd and threatening comments were made to my daughter there. None of us feel safe. All you must do is sit and watch the relationship between crime and alcohol. It needs to stop.

Ayelet Hines: I have been a resident for 15 years. When I worked downtown, I would take the bus. Drunk men making lewd comments was a regular part of my commute. I

will avoid the library with my children. My children fear the drunk people and won't ride the bus. Chuck's Liquors is not a good neighbor.

Linda Carter: We appreciate the time and consideration of everyone involved tonight. I would like to renew my request to strike the petitions from the opposition due to their failure to comply with section 4-406 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. There has been absolutely no evidence submitted by the opposition. There is, however, a tremendous amount of evidence from the licensee. We have demonstrated that the licensees are fit and proper. Yes, they made a mistake on the application; English is not their first language. So many people love them. Everyone testifying on behalf of Chucks has never had a problem with crime.

Robert Kim: This is the first time I've been told that you can't disclose violations over 2 years old. Several violations from before then ought to be disclosed. Everyone in opposition of the renewal are members of the area and have personal experiences. Several of them had relations with Mr. Randy as a Landlord or are former employees. Mr. Randy put up bulletproof glass as soon as the business opened. Intoxication is a problem. Loitering is a problem.

Ms. Carter: Three of the witnesses do not live in Mt. Rainier.

Ms. Forbes: We will make sure Ms. Carter and Mr. Kim will get each other's evidence using the 10-day rule to submit any remaining evidence regarding what was shared here tonight. We will discuss the review of these documents on February 23, 2021 at 10 a.m. We can only enforce what was shared here today.

Adjourned: 11:39 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Jamie Schaefer
Administrative Aide, BOLC*