

**February 22, 2022  
9200 Basil Court  
Largo, MD 20774  
Virtual Hearing**

**Present:**

Daphne Turpin-Forbes, Board Chair  
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman  
Tammie Norman, Commissioner  
Dennis Smith, Commissioner  
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner  
Jason DeLoach, Esquire, Counsel  
Terence Sheppard, Director  
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

**Start Time: 10:03 a.m.**

**Commissioner Forbes:** This is an open meeting for the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners. Welcome to our House. 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 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 Sunnybrook Tavern**, Class B+, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 9001 Livingston Road, Oxon Hill, 20745, Dhara G. Patel, to serve as Member/Authorized Person.

**Linda Carter, Esquire** is representing.

**Ms. Dhara Patel** is sworn in.

**Ms. Patel** is currently a student at University of Maryland majoring in Psychology and will be heading to law school next.

**Ms. Carter** asked the standard questions used to qualify the Substitution of Corporate Officers Application. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D. in the state of Maryland, and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Do you agree to abide by the rules and regulations? Do you have any questions about those rules and regulations? You'll be held accountable as the licensee.

**Ms. Patel** agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of this Board and doesn't have any questions.

**Commissioner Norman:** Are you a naturalized citizen? On the application it says you were naturalized in Fairfax, Virginia.

**Ms. Patel:** I was born in the United States, in Chicago, Illinois.

**Ms. Carter:** I apologize members of the Board, I'm not sure where that came from. If we can amend the affidavit to delete that reference.

**Ms. Katrice James of the BOLC:** Commissioner Norman you're referring to the current licensee's affidavit. Ms. Patel's affidavit states that her place of birth is in Illinois.

**No further questions.**

Once the series of questions were completed, **Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the SCO for t/a Sunnybrook Tavern, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

### REGULAR SESSION:

**t/a Martini's Restaurant & Lounge**, see letter dated December 3, 2021, regarding the request to have their full Special Entertainment Permit reinstated and request to stay open until 3:00 a.m. on Friday & Saturday. Continued from February 2, 2022.

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

**Mrs. Jedeka Mundy** is sworn in.

**Mr. Kenneth Mundy** is sworn in.

**Mr. Mundy:** We truly understand now that having Special Entertainment is a privilege. We've made necessary provisions to move forward with our business. We had issues with our camera, now they hold over one year of data. Our security plan is adequate. We've emailed the Board our security plan.

**Commissioner Forbes:** When you all were last here, we gave your Special Entertainment back, but we had to close your establishment at 1:00 a.m. with the

condition that within a period we would reconsider extending the 1:00 a.m. closing time to 3:00 a.m. closing time. The safety and how you operate your business matters to the Prince George's County brand. Have you all given some thought on any things you'll be doing in the community to your brand Martini's Restaurant and Lounge?

**Mr. Mundy:** We've been providing dinners to retirement homes, providing a safe place for meetings, and we do things for an elementary school in the area.

**No further questions.**

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to reestablish the full privileges of the Special Entertainment Permit for t/a Martini's Restaurant & Lounge, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

### **TRANSFER:**

1. Md Abdus Satter, President/Treasurer, Sharmin Akther, Secretary, for a Class D, Beer and Wine for the use of LAS Corp., **t/a Woodyard Market**, 6905 Dower House Road, Upper Marlboro, 20772 transfer from LAS Corp., t/a Woodyard Market, 6905 Dower House Road, Upper Marlboro, 20772, Nam Hee Choe, President/Secretary, Scott Choe, Vice President.

**Jay Yoo, Esquire** is representing.

**Mr. Md Satter** is sworn in.

**Ms. Sharmin Akther** is sworn in.

**Mr. Yoo** asked **Mr. Satter** the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the five acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. They've submitted a copy of the Alcohol Awareness certificate. Mr. Satter has no experience serving alcoholic beverages and no prior alcoholic beverage violations.

**Commissioner Forbes** let Mr. Yoo know there are six acceptable forms of I.D.

**Mr. Satter couldn't name all six forms of I.D.**

**Commissioner Forbes** tabled licensee t/a Woodyard Market and let Mr. Yoo know that we'd come back to this case due to the importance of these questions.

**Director Sheppard recalls this case.**

**Everyone is reminded they've been sworn in.**

**Mr. Yoo** asked **Mr. Satter** what the six acceptable forms of I.D. are? The applicant states seven forms of I.D. to include an International I.D.

**Commissioner Forbes:** So, that was seven, there's no international I.D. but the six were correct.

**Mr. Satter's** duties at the store will be a cashier and management. All three of their employees will be Alcohol Awareness trained.

**Commissioner Camacho:** You're saying that your open twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week, you're not allowed to sell alcohol after midnight. What are you doing to make sure no alcohol is being sold after hours? It's very important that whoever is working that shift does not sell any alcohol.

**Mr. Satter** states he understands and will make sure.

**Mr. Yoo** asked **Ms. Akther** the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Ms. Akther has completed Alcohol Awareness training; a copy will be submitted to the Board.

**Ms. Akther's** duties at the store will be a cashier and management.

**Commissioner Forbes** asked **Ms. Akther** what the six acceptable forms of I.D. are?

**Ms. Akther** initially couldn't name all six and includes an international I.D.

**Commissioner Forbes** states there are no international I.D.'s

**Ms. Akther** is now able to name all six acceptable forms of I.D.

**Commissioner Forbes** asked **Ms. Akther** the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol?

**Ms. Akther** was able to answer each question.

**No further questions.**

Once the series of questions were completed, **Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class D license for t/a Woodyard Market, seconded by

**Commissioner Norman.**

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

2. **Ciro Noe Castro**, President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of **Castro Corp., t/a El Puente de Oro Restaurant**, 1401 University Blvd East, Units G-5&6, Hyattsville, 20783 transfer from **Castro Corp., t/a El Puente de Oro Restaurant**, 1401 University Blvd East, Unite G-5&6, Hyattsville, 20783, **Ciro Castro**, President, **Cesar V. Castro**, Vice President, **Juan P. Castro**, Secretary.

**Robert Kim, Esquire** is representing.

**Mr. Ciro Castro** is sworn in.

**Mr. Kim:** This is a transfer stock of corporate entity **Castro Corporate** is having fifty percent transferred to him.

**Mr. Kim** asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the five acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question. **Mr. Castro** has received Alcohol Awareness training. A copy of the Alcohol Awareness certificate has been submitted to the Board as of this morning.

**Director Sheppard** confirms we've received it.

**Commissioner Forbes:** On the affidavit there's a question that reads was the business ever found in violation of the laws and rules concerning alcoholic beverages and the answer states not during management. Help me understand, we know there's some past violations I just want to make sure we have a truthful answer.

**Mr. Kim:** I think that was intended because **Ciro** just started helping manage recently for his father and his uncle. I interpreted it as when **Ciro Castro** was involved he didn't have the violation. We're aware there's violations, but not when **Ciro's** been the manager. It's been very recent.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Has he been managing before we've seen you here today?

**Mr. Kim:** Yes, he's been helping his father and uncle. They want to step out of the restaurant business. He's been helping before he takes over.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Can we modify that answer because the question is really about the business ever being found in violation.

**Mr. Kim:** We should change it. I don't know the exact dates, but I represented them when it was a Special Entertainment violation in 2020.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Ms. James or Ms. Little, can we update the affidavit to reflect the answer is yes and refer to what we have in our records for the violations.

**No further questions.**

Once the series of questions were completed, **Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B license for t/a El Puente de Oro Restaurant, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

3. Gilda Williams, Managing Member, for a Class B(R), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of MMB Unlimited, LLC, **t/a Bistro 64**, 6494 Marlboro Pike, District Heights, 20747 transfer from Shady Oak One, Inc., t/a Shady Oak Inn, 6494 Marlboro Pike, District Height, 20747, Charanjit Singh, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge her right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

**Commissioner Forbes** 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.

**Ms. Williams:** Bistro 64 is getting ready to open, it'll be a Caribbean restaurant.

**Commissioner Camacho:** You have in your application that you worked as a chef at Society Lounge for how long? Where is Society Lounge?

**Ms. Williams:** I was a prep at Society Lounge in Silver Spring, Maryland.

**Commissioner Norman:** Have you done the TIPS training?

**Ms. Williams:** I'll be taking the training tomorrow.

**Ms. Katrice James of the BOLC:** Can Ms. Williams verify her hours of operation again?

**Ms. Williams:** The hours of operation are 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday.

**Ms. Katrice James of the BOLC** will update the hours of operation.

**No further questions.**

Once the series of questions were completed, **Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B license for t/a Bistro 64, seconded by

**Commissioner Norman**.

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

### **NEW- CLASS B(BLX), BEER, WINE & LIQUOR:**

1. Farid Hasan Shaikh Azhar, Member, Thuy Lieu Tran, Member, for a Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of BSF Maryland, LLC, **t/a Bombay Street Food 5**, 151 American Way, Oxon Hill, 20745.

**Benjamin Carter, Esquire** is representing.

**Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector Mendoza** gave a maps presentation.

**Mr. Farid Hasan Shaikh Azhar** is sworn in.

**Mrs. Thuy Lieu Tran** is sworn in.

**Mr. Carter:** Mrs. Tran is married to Mr. Azhar's brother. The three of them operate four Indian restaurants in Washington, DC. They're looking to expand into Maryland and National Harbor seems like the perfect place to start. We've prepared an exhibit book that shows pictures of the food, floor plan, and pictures of their DC locations. The restaurant at the National Harbor is still under construction. I'd like to move this into evidence.

**Mr. Carter** asked **Mrs. Tran** the standard questions used to qualify his client for this type of license. Including the six acceptable forms of I.D. in the state of Maryland, and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

**Mrs. Tran** previously owned a Quiznos. Working at the Bombay DC locations, she has alcohol beverage experience as well.

**Mr. Azhar** has been involved with the restaurants for about ten years now. He's done every job in those restaurants.

**Mr. Carter** asked **Mr. Azhar** the standard questions used to qualify his client for this type of license. Including the six acceptable forms of I.D. in the state of Maryland, and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

**Director Sheppard:** I just want to confirm this location has at least one hundred seats.

**Mr. Carter** confirms there are well over one hundred seats. The previous business that was at this location had a BLX license as well.

**No further questions.**

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the Class B, BLX, license for t/a Bombay Street Food 5, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

#### **NEW- CLASS C(CLV), BEER, WINE & LIQUOR:**

1. Leon Dodson, Adjutant, Daryl Smith, Post Service Officer, Warren Parham, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander, for a Class C(CLV), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of The American Legion, William Francis Smith Post No. 235, Inc., t/a **William Francis Smith American Legion Post #235**, 7813 Old Muirkirk Road, Beltsville, 20705.

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

**Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector Mendoza** gave a maps presentation.

**Mr. Leon Dodson** is sworn in.

**Mr. Daryl Smith** is sworn in.

**Mr. Warren Parham** is sworn in.

**Mr. Dodson:** The William Francis Smith American Legion Post #235 is about veterans keeping them informed of what's out there we can be involved in. There are approximately forty-five members.

**Commissioner Forbes:** To be eligible for this license you must have at least one hundred members. Those members must be dues paying members of at least five dollars in annual dues. Before we can even proceed with this license grant you all don't meet the minimum qualifications for this license.

**Mr. Dodson:** When you say members, can the members include sons of the American Legion, the auxiliary, and the legionnaires?

**Commissioner Forbes:** Yes, if they're members and they're paying annual dues.

**Mr. Dodson:** I would say we do have one hundred members all paying membership dues.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Your testimony today is you have at least one hundred members, because remember you told me forty-five members. I want to make sure we're being truthful.

**Mr. Parham:** I would say with the legionnaires, women auxiliary, and sons of legions we have one hundred plus members that are dues paying.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Mr. DeLoach, we have a representation on the record that we have one hundred plus dues paying members which meets the minimum qualifications for this Class C (CLV), beer, wine, and liquor license is there anything else we need to be mindful of here?

**Mr. DeLoach:** The women's auxiliary, the sons of legionnaires, they all pay dues to your American Legion Post? How much are the dues? How do you track membership?

**Mr. Parham:** I'm the former first vice commander of American Legion Post #235 which the American Legion includes the auxiliary, veterans, legionnaires, and the sons of legions. When Mr. Dodson spoke, he was only speaking on the forty-five veterans that we have as members, but we have all the above. I oversaw membership until 2022. We issue membership cards.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Hearing no objections to proceed.

**Mr. Smith:** Can we amend the hours of operation Mr. Dodson gave 6:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. and we'd like to change them to 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. because there's times where we open early during the weekend.

**Commissioner Forbes:** We're going to amend the application from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday. Ms. James will fix that.

**Mr. DeLoach:** I'm looking at the law and it says that the members can only be individuals who served in the armed forces of the United States in a war in which the United States has been engaged. The forty-five members that you first documented are you asserting that at least fifty-five other members of these organizations have engaged in a war?

**Mr. Parham:** The American Legion consists of three organizations, the legionnaires are the veterans that served in the United States conflicts, the sons of the legion are the sons, grandsons, stepsons of wartime veterans and the auxiliary are the wives, daughters, and granddaughters. We have forty-five war time veterans but there's two other entities that make up the American Legion.

**Commissioner Forbes:** Our agency attorney is saying the law is very specific that the one hundred members must be the veterans that served in wars where the United States was engaged. We can assume that the forty-five veterans that you shared with us they meet those qualifications but what we're missing is fifty-five other individual veterans that served in wars in which the United States was engaged.

**Mr. DeLoach:** It's section 26-1017 of the Alcoholic Beverage Maryland Annotated Code.

**Commissioner Forbes:** **The right thing to do is to postpone or continue the matter given the information the applicants have learned on this call.** We'll make sure you

get a copy of the requirement Mr. DeLoach just cited to you. We're happy to work with you all once you've figured out the membership.

**Commissioner Norman:** Mr. DeLoach, can you verify for them they can have other members but at minimum they must have one hundred members that are veterans?

**Mr. DeLoach:** Yes, they need to have one hundred members that are veterans and they're allowed to have guests. It's a statute, a state law and not the Board's rules and regulations.

**Adjourned: 11:36 a.m.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**Alecia L. Hughes**

*Administrative Aide BOLC*