

**April 22, 2025  
9200 Basil Court  
Largo, MD 20774  
Virtual Hearing**

**Present:**

Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, Chair  
Armando Camacho, Vice Chair  
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner  
Tammie Norman, Commissioner  
Dennis Smith, Commissioner  
Jason DeLoach, Esquire, Counsel  
Terence Sheppard, Director  
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  
Ariana Posada-Mejia, Administrative Aide  
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide  
Alecia Hughes, Assistant to the Director

**Start Time: 10:07 a.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.

## PRELIMINARY MATTERS

April 22, 2025

1. Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a Shopper's**, Class D(R), Beer and Wine, 4720 Cherry Hill Road, College Park, 20740, William A. Hauser to serve as Treasury instead of Gary C. Jameson, President/Treasurer. Represented by **Benjamin Carter, Esquire**.

**Mr Carter** states there will be no changes made to the application. The applicant has gone over the rules and regulations and agrees to abide by them. Mr. Carter asked the standard questions typically asked during the qualification of the SCO. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the SCO for t/a Shoppers, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

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

2. Substitution of Corporate Officers application, **t/a B.K. Miller Super Liquors**, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 9024 Old Branch Avenue, Clinton, 20735. Colton B. Miller to serve as Vice President instead of Blossie J. Miller III, President/VP/Secretary/Treasurer. **Licensee has no attorney, acknowledges his right to an attorney and agrees to move forward without an attorney.**

**Chair Bridgewater-Simms** asked the standard questions typically asked during the qualification of the SCO. The applicant was able to answer each question.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to approve the SCO for t/a B.K. Miller Super Liquors, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

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

## REGULAR SESSION

### NEW – CLASS B(BH), BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR

1. Kiritkumar U. Kapadia, Authorized Person, for a Class B(BH), Beer, Wine, and Liquor for the use of Jigi, LLC, **t/a Jimmy's Bar & Grill**, 9421 Largo Drive West, Upper Marlboro, 20774. Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

**Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.**

**Mr. Kim** states that Jimmy's Bar & Grill will be located in a Comfort Inn with 125 rooms. It will have about 79 seats.

**Mr. Kim** asked the standard questions typically asked to qualify this type of license. The applicant was able to answer each question. **There will be no changes to the application.**

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Class B(BH), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of t/a Jimmy's Bar & Grill, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**. **After Board vote, the motion carries.**

#### **NEW – CLASS B(AE), BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR**

1. Ernesto A. Escobar, President/Secretary/Treasurer for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Medi Cafe, Inc., **t/a Medi Café**, 3237 Rhode Island Avenue, Mt. Rainier, 20712. Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

**Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.**

**Mr. Kim** asked the standard questions typically asked to qualify this type of license. The applicant was able to answer each question.

**An exhibit package was mailed to the Board. There will be no changes made to the application.**

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Class B(AE) for t/a Medi Café, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

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

**Director Sheppard reads the Rules of Engagement and scoring criteria for the four Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor licenses.**

#### **NEW – CLASS B, BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR**

1. Carlos Murphy, CEO, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Adacia, LLC, **t/a Tish: Wine Bar**, 14703 Main Street, Suite 106, Upper Marlboro, 20772.

**Licensee is not represented by an attorney, knows his right to an attorney and agrees to move forward without an attorney.**

**Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.**

**Mr Murphy** states that Tish: Wine Bar is veteran owned and operated. There will be hip hop music and various types of wines, beers and alcohol. Will be a venue for various wine tastings, fundraisers and campaign events.

**Ms. Spencer and Ms. Cooper testified in favor of t/a Tish: Wine Bar.**

**Commissioner Camacho** questions what kind of food will be served?

**Mr. Murphy** states salad, charcuterie boards, wings and other finger foods will be served.

**Commissioner Camacho** states that there is a larger food requirement for this license. The food ratio needs to be 60/40 food to alcohol in revenue.

**Director Sheppard** states Mr. Murphy has two options, to reapply for a beer and wine license or to continue with the competition. **Mr. Murphy** has chosen to continue.

**There is no opposition for this case.**

2. Mariano Arbaiza, President, Jamie M. Arbaiza, Secretary/Treasurer for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of La Casita Partners Laurel, Inc., **t/a La Casita Pupuseria**, 14311 Baltimore Avenue, Laurel, 20707. Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

**Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.**

**There is no opposition for this case.**

**The affidavits need to be amended for each applicant. Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to Amend number 4 to show yes and 7b that they were in violation back in 2017, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

**Mr. Kim** states both applicants are licensed for La Casita Pupuseria in Gaithersburg. This restaurant has been in full operation for almost 6 months as of September 2024. They serve Salvadorean food -pupusas, fish, soups. Etc. They've invested almost \$1 million and have 170 support signatures.

**Mr. Kim** asked the standard questions typically asked to qualify this type of license. Both applicants were able to answer each question.

3. Zella Robinson, Owner, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Zells Kitchen and Lounge, LLC, **t/a Zells Kitchen and Lounge**, 4601 Presidents Drive, Suite 110, Lanham, 20706.

**Licensee is not represented by an attorney, knows her right to an attorney and agrees to move forward without an attorney.**

**Ms. Robinson** states that this location used to belong to Kitchen Cray. Kitchen Cray had a beer and wine license. Ms. Robinson is a veteran; she feeds the homeless and is a contractor for federal government. She follows laws, checks ID'S and does not overserve. There are many upscale personnel that frequent the establishment. She has a broad platform of supporters. She has a full commercial kitchen, a nice home environment, and a variety of foods. Ms. Robinson knows the ages to buy and sell, knows the Rules and Regulations and 6 forms of ID'S. She will spend about 90-100 hours on the premises. She has been in business since September of 2024.

**Director Sheppard** states the license needs to be immediately surrendered and must stop selling alcohol immediately to get the new license she is applying for.

**There is no opposition for this case.**

4. Pedro Alexander Cruz Hernandez, President, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Guanacaste Restaurant Texmex, Corp, **t/a Guanacaste Restaurant Texmex**, 5948 Martin Luther King Jr. Highway, Unit B, Seat Pleasant, 20743. Represented by **Kevin Lee, Esquire**

**Commissioner Camacho** motioned to amend question 5 of the affidavit to answer yes, misdemeanor, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

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

**Mr. Lee** stated he sent in two supporting letters, alcohol awareness training, the menu to the Board.

**Mr. Lee asked the** standard questions typically asked to qualify this type of license. The applicant was able to answer each question.

**Mr. Hernandez** states they serve Tacos, Pupusas, Tortas, Soups, Pollo con tajada, and other tex-mex foods. They currently have 3 other employees. He agrees to abide and conform to all the Rules and Regulations.

**A Council member from Seat Pleasant, Ms. Shireka McCarthy, testified in favor of this restaurant.**

**There is no opposition for this case.**

5. Moises Diaz, President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Vany, Inc., **t/a Los Antojitos Mexican Grill**, 9123 Riggs Road, Adelphi, 20783.

**Licensee is not represented by an attorney, knows his right to an attorney and agrees to move forward without an attorney.**

**Chief Clark gave a maps presentation.**

**Chair Bridgewater-Simms** asked the standard questions typically asked to qualify this type of license. The applicant was able to answer the question.

**Commissioner Smith** had a question about a license previously being revoked.

**Deputy Chief Mendoza** clarifies that several years ago, they applied for a beer and wine license and the Board accidentally gave them a beer, wine and liquor license. We found out about two years after and gave them the corrected license for beer and wine only.

**Results were presented after all scores were tallied.**

- 1) La Casita Pupuseria (100 pts)
- 2) Zell's Kitchen and Lounge (75 pts)
- 3) Guanacaste Restaurant Tex-Mex (50 pts)
- 4) Los Antojitos Mexican Grill (25)

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Class B licenses to the following four entities: La Casita Pupuseria, Zell's Kitchen and Lounge, Guanacaste Restaurant Tex-Mex and Los Antojitos Mexican Grill seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

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

**Adjourned: 12:14 p.m.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**Ariana Posada-Mejia**  
*Administrative Aide BOLC*