

**February 11, 2026
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
Leonard Vauss, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide
Ariana Posada-Mejia, Administrative Aide
Alecia Hughes, Assistant to the Director

Start Time: 7:03 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 as long as it is information that has been discussed in this hearing.

REGULAR SESSION

1. Jeffrey Sze, Member, **t/a The Spot**, located at 4531 Telfair Blvd, Suite 101, Camp Springs, MD, 20746. For the Board to inquire about the change in the mode of operation as it relates to the hours of operation. Subsequently, on December 9, 2025, you submitted a request to change the hours of operation, Monday through Sunday, to 4:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Licensee does not have an attorney, acknowledges his right to an attorney and agrees to move forward without an attorney.

Chief Clark of the BOLC informs the Board inspectors were sent out on an investigation regarding The Spots' opening and closing hours. The bar was closed each time. They found that on average, the establishment was open until 9:00 p.m. The restaurants can't close before the bar.

Commissioner Camacho questions what Mr. Sze's hours of operation are.

Mr. Sze states that the establishment's hours of operation are Thursday-Monday 4:00 p.m.- 11:00 p.m. Light food such as fries and chicken is provided from the bar area. The kitchen is within the food hall. They are closed on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Commissioner Camacho questions who operates the kitchen?

Mr. Sze states kitchen staff and the bartender run the kitchen. He emphasized that the hours of operation are very important. They used to open on Wednesday's, but the bartenders think that there has not been enough traffic in the hall for the bar. The bartenders were closing on Wednesday's without informing Mr. Sze, the licensee.

Commissioner Camacho asks Mr. Sze what days he is on the premises?

Mr. Sze is usually on the premises on weekends.

Commissioner Camacho asks if the Board can set up a time to send in inspectors to see how the business is operating.

Commissioner Norman states Mr. Sze said that they are closed on Wednesday's, but the Board received a request on December 9th, 2025, to open Monday-Sunday. She asked if the mode of operation changed since applying for this license? The Board's understanding was that the bar was not providing food; the other establishments were providing food at the same hours of operation of the bar.

Mr. Sze states one of the stores closed down and they tried to have all of the restaurants open but there was not enough revenue. In order to open a little longer, they decided to serve light food while the bar was open.

Commissioner Norman states her concern about the familiarity of the Rules and Regulations of the Board. Her concern is raised about who is running the business and if it is being ran outside of the scope of the license. It is clear to commissioner Norman that Rules and Regulations are not understood.

Mr. Sze states the rest of the restaurants would provide the food while the bar provides the alcohol. He did try to have some kitchen staff members stay late with the bar. The only adjustment they made to the operation was selling chicken and fries. He also did not submit the request; the person that helps manage the bar did. Mr. Sze was not aware of the request to adjust hours of operation.

Commissioner Norman states the Board will need documentation on his business plan so that they can be assured the mode of operation is within the guidelines of the license type.

Commissioner Norman questions when documentation can be provided.

Mr. Sze states within ten days, his business plan will be submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Sparkman would also like to know the name of the establishment that provides food at the bar.

Continued to the hearing on March 11, 2026.

2. Heeyong Kwan, President/Secretary/Treasurer, Hyung Chun Kim, Assistant Secretary **t/a Laurel Food Mart**, located at 9107 Marshall Avenue, Laurel, Maryland 20707, for an alleged violation of R.R. No. #11(A&C) of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County:– Purchases by Authorized Retailer: (A) No license holder shall purchase any alcoholic beverage except from a duly licensed manufacturer or wholesaler. (C) No license holder shall at any time keep or permit to be kept upon the licensed premises any alcoholic beverage unless purchased in accordance with this Rule and Regulation. Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

Inspector Kinney of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on January 5, 2026.

Mr. Kim states Mr. Kwan was unaware of where these boxes came from. He went through his payment records and didn't see payments made from the store. He had no idea that they were purchased. There is no dispute regarding the Inspector's report.

Commissioner Camacho motions to find t/a Laurel Food Mart in violation of R.R. No. 11, assessing a fine of \$1,500, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

3. Marlon Selmon, Member, **t/a BLVCK Cow**, located at 3504 Waterford Mill Road, Bowie, MD, 20720. While conducting a Special Assignment complaint that BLVCK Cow was operating beyond the scope of their approved license, an Inspector observed a band performing after 9:00 p.m., this location does not have an Entertainment Permit, which is in direct violation of R.R. No. 75 Entertainment Permit.

Attorney Linda Carter, Esquire requested this matter be continued to the next available hearing.

4. Mike R. Afshar, President, Salomeh Afshar, Vice President, Yasmine Afshar, Treasurer, **t/a Terrapins Turf**, located at 4410 Knox Road, College Park, Maryland 20740, for an alleged violation of:

R.R. No. #32 - Inspections of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County: All license holders, their agents and employees, must cooperate with representatives of the Board of License Commissioners, members of the Police Department, Fire Authorities, Health Department, Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement, Grand Jury, and representatives of other authorized agencies whenever any of these persons are on the licensed premises on official business and shall comply with any reasonable order of such authorities or other public authority designed to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the public at large.

R.R. No. #83 – Alcohol Awareness of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County: 2. the licensee(s) of, or a person employed at, a licensed premises must be certified by an approved alcohol awareness program. 3. The license holder or an individual designated by the+ license holder who is employed in a supervisory capacity shall be present on the licensed premises at all times when alcoholic beverages may be sold.

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

Inspector Johnson and Inspector Gregory of the BOLC testified about the incident that occurred on October 24, 2025.

Ms. Yasmine Afshar testified that the inspection occurred during a shift change when several servers had already left. Her understanding of the directive required license holders to maintain TIPS certification on the premises but did not require that person to be on site at all times. Ms. Yasmine Afshar's certification had recently expired at the time of the incident. All certifications have been renewed since then. The shift change occurred between the dinner and happy hour shifts on Friday from 2-9 p.m. and 4-10 p.m. The inspection began around 9:50 p.m. when the servers were closed out already.

Ms. Salomeh Afshar testified that the server had just gone on break for her shift since she was working a double on that particular day. The second server who was going to come in for the happy hour shift was not scheduled until 11 p.m. Ms. Afshar was on the main floor, closing out registers, she saw the interaction with the inspectors and went to address that everything was okay. The first thing that Inspector Johnson said to her was "Who is going to sign this?" She expressed her confusion with the need for a signature. She did not understand what the violation was about. She stated that she has never had a violation in the 50 plus years that they have been in business with her family. The second question that Inspector Johnson made was "Do you have your handbook?" Ms. Afshar stated that she kept asking what the violation was for and got no response. The final thing was an iPad in her face showing the section code in the handbook. She stated she would not sign anything until the violation they were receiving was verbally expressed. She then saw Inspector Johnson approach a table that had about 7 or 8 young college students dining in for dinner. Mr. Gregory then told her what the violation was for—alcohol awareness and she immediately signed the violation. Ms. Johnson came back and said, "We need to get them to sign it." Then Inspector Gregory stated it was signed. Ms. Johnson stated there were two more violations found.

Ms. Yasmine Afshar stated Inspector Johnson stated one violation was for not having a handbook, she brought it out and Inspector Johnson stated, "no this is not the correct handbook." She proceeded to void the signed R.R. 83 violation and rewrote the citation, this time adding R.R. 32. This questioned the professional integrity of deleting a signed record and adding two more violations. At no point was there refusal of entry, submission of documents or denial of assistance. Three managers actively assisted the inspectors for about an hour. She questioned why she was deleting the signed record and speaking so harshly to the licensees. Inspector Johnson replied with "I can speak to you however I want; I am a government official." There was no refusal, instead they requested clarification as any responsible licensee would do before signing. The signed record reflected cooperation.

Inspector Johnson maintained what she discussed in her report to be the true recollection of the events that occurred that evening. She also added that Mr. Marzouki was not available full time of the inspection. The inspectors sat down to wait for him to bring out the handbook for about 15 minutes. The handbook that they had was from 2001. She initially started the inspection on her iPad since Mr. Gregory was still in training. They were having issues with their survey app where different fields were disappearing, and comment sections were not available. They were going back and forth between both of their iPads trying to pass the information from one iPad to the other.

Commissioner Sparkman questioned which individual was yelling the foul language.

Inspector Johnson stated the individual in the middle of the zoom appearance was the one who yelled the foul language.

Ms. Yasmine Afshar stated that it was Salomeh not her.

Inspector Johnson stated her name was put into the system.

Inspector Gregory stated she had it correct in her report, it was Salomeh Afshar.

Commissioner Sparkman questions if Inspector Johnsons testimony of the foul language is true.

Ms. Salomeh Afshar states that she did use foul language to express her frustration. She had the original signed record. She stated she can be cooperative after something is explained to her. She would never sign anything that she does not know what it is about. She never got a clear verbal expression of what the violation was. As a business owner, she felt threatened.

Inspector Gregory stated no violation had been put into the ipad. He had Salomeh prematurely sign the survey.

Both **Ms. Afshars** state the dispute of the non-compliant is still standing. They cooperated until the inspector was not cooperative.

Mr. Marzouki testified that all of what Ms. Yasmine and Ms. Salomeh said was correct.

Commissioner Norman questioned how much staff were present that night.

Ms. Salomeh Afshar stated roughly about 4. There were about 7 present including the managers and none were alcohol awareness certified.

Commissioner Sparkman questioned if it was foul language the reason, she wrote violation R.R. 32.

Inspector Johnson stated that was one of the reasons. Another reason was because she did not comply with every question or area that they went to for the inspection and the inspectors were met with resistance.

Commissioner Norman motions to find t/a Terrapins Turf in violation of RR. 83 and RR. 32 assessing a fine of \$1,500, seconded by **Commissioner Sparkman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

Adjourned: 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ariana Posada-Mejia
Administrative Aide BOLC