

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD  
+ + + + +  
MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :  
: :  
Lamaree, Inc. t/a :  
Aroma Indian Restaurant : Show Cause  
1919 I Street, NW : Hearing  
Retailer CR - ANC-2B :  
License No. 1847 :  
Case #11-CMP-00111 :  
: :  
(Failed to Comply with :  
Board Order No. 2012-016) :  
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February 13, 2013

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S Washington, D.C. 20009, Chairperson

Ruthanne Miller, presiding.

PRESENT:  
RUTHANNE MILLER, Chairperson  
NICK ALBERTI, Member

DONALD BROOKS, Member  
HERMAN JONES, Member  
MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member

ALSO PRESENT:  
WALTER ADAMS, OAG

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (4:52 p.m.)

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.

4 The next case on our calendar and last hearing  
5 of the day is Case No. 11-CMP-00111, Aroma  
6 Indian Restaurant located at 1919 I Street,  
7 N.W., License No. 1847 in ANC-2B.

8 And would the parties introduce  
9 themselves for the record, please?

10 MR. ADAMS: Good afternoon, Madam  
11 Chairman and Members of the Board. I'm Walter  
12 Adams and I'm representing the District of  
13 Columbia.

14 MR. CHHATLOAL: Daljeet Chhatloal,  
15 Aroma Indian Restaurant.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And  
17 you are the owner, correct?

18 MR. CHHATLOAL: Partner.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Partner?

20 MR. CHHATLOAL: Yes.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. All  
22 right. This is a Show Cause Hearing. Do we

1 have any preliminary issues?

2 MR. ADAMS: Yes, there is a  
3 preliminary issue.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

5 MR. ADAMS: The parties would like  
6 to offer an offer in compromise to the Board.  
7 This matter is regarding the -- an unpaid fine  
8 by this establishment of \$4,000. We would  
9 like to offer a settlement in which the  
10 establishment pays the \$4,000 fine plus an  
11 additional \$2,000 fine in 120 days and just  
12 give the Board some background.

13 The reason that we are asking for  
14 this fine is this establishment has a, in  
15 discussions, fairly low volume of alcohol  
16 sales. It's just that, you know, they have  
17 had a few cases of quarterly statement cases  
18 that accumulated.

19 So considering that in this case,  
20 to keep the establishment, you know, going, we  
21 felt that -- the parties felt that, you know,  
22 obviously, it would be a bit of a hardship to

1 pay \$6,000, at this point, but at the same  
2 time, if they are able to pay that in 120  
3 days, that that would be a fair and reasonable  
4 settlement of the matter.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Let me  
6 ask you, sir, first of all, if you do agree to  
7 the offer in compromise of a \$4,000 plus  
8 \$2,000 fine, which would be a total of \$6,000  
9 to be paid within 120 days? \$4,000 from what  
10 you owe and then \$2,000 more in order for you  
11 to pay within 120 days.

12 MR. CHHATLOAL: Yes, ma'am.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Can  
14 you tell us at all if you are having trouble  
15 paying \$4,000 now, why you think you will be  
16 able to pay \$6,000 in 120 days?

17 MR. CHHATLOAL: We have --  
18 basically, my sales are so low, even the food  
19 sales. I do everything, about \$1,000 a day  
20 sales in that neighborhood of our income and  
21 a lot of people move out. And my business has  
22 also gone down, that's the reason I'm

1 requesting.

2 And we started that negotiating --  
3 not negotiating, request that six months would  
4 be -- my request was six months, but Mr.  
5 Walter has been very generous in agreeing to  
6 four months. And I'll try my best to take  
7 care of it within four months.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Other  
9 questions?

10 MEMBER JONES: I guess since you  
11 asked a question, it didn't really seem like  
12 he answered it.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Well --

14 MEMBER JONES: I thought you asked  
15 him a different question. Did you -- did he  
16 answer that question?

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I guess I  
18 understood the answer, but if you want more  
19 clarity on that, feel free.

20 MEMBER JONES: Oh, okay. So she  
21 asked if you haven't in the amount of time  
22 since the order paid the \$4,000 fine, what

1 makes you think you're going to be in a  
2 position to pay a \$6,000 one in 120 days?

3 MR. CHHATLOAL: I will do whatever  
4 I have to to come up with this money.

5 MEMBER JONES: Is there a reason  
6 why you haven't done whatever it is you had to  
7 to pay it before?

8 MR. CHHATLOAL: We -- a couple of  
9 times Mr. Walter was not able to make --  
10 actually the last hearing, Mr. Walter was not  
11 here and the other attorney from the District  
12 side was not open to me about what options are  
13 available to me and that's how we moved on to  
14 the next hearing.

15 And previous hearing that we did,  
16 we paid \$2,000 fine at that time and in  
17 between fine of \$2,000 came up, I was not even  
18 aware of that. So without my knowledge, my  
19 \$4,000 jumped up to \$6,000 fine, but I am not  
20 asking for to reduce the fine. All I'm asking  
21 is that I'll arrange a payment however I can  
22 arrange, now that this is the final amount

1 that I owe.

2 I tried to review it with Mr.  
3 Walter and the Board also, but I guess I was  
4 not justified enough to get the payment  
5 reduced.

6 MEMBER JONES: Okay. So just to  
7 be clear, so you understand the charges,  
8 correct?

9 MR. CHHATLOAL: Yes.

10 MEMBER JONES: Clearly understand  
11 the charges. So I take --

12 MR. CHHATLOAL: I believe.

13 MEMBER JONES: -- as an individual  
14 Board Member, I take violating a Board Order  
15 very seriously. In my opinion, and I'm pretty  
16 confident in this, you have violated a Board  
17 Order by not making the payment in the  
18 appropriate amount of time.

19 So I am highly concerned about the  
20 nature of this OIC and I'll leave it at that.

21 MR. CHHATLOAL: If I am unable to  
22 pay at the given time, I'll surrender my

1 license and move on.

2 MEMBER JONES: Is that part of the  
3 OIC?

4 MR. CHHATLOAL: Excuse me?

5 MEMBER JONES: Was that -- that  
6 was not part of the OIC?

7 MR. ADAMS: That was not part of  
8 the OIC --

9 MEMBER JONES: Okay.

10 MR. ADAMS: -- Mr. Jones.

11 MEMBER JONES: Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Are  
13 there other questions? Okay. Thank you. I  
14 think we understand your situation.

15 All right. Then at this point  
16 then, I would move approval of the offer in  
17 compromise for a payment of \$6,000 total to be  
18 paid in 120 days.

19 Do I have a second?

20 MEMBER BROOKS: Second.

21 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Second.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Mr.

1 Silverstein has seconded the motion.

2 All those in favor say aye.

3 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Aye.

5 MEMBER BROOKS: Aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All those  
7 opposed?

8 MEMBER JONES: Oppose.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Oppose. Madam  
10 Chair, I would just like to speak on that.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Let's  
12 just -- okay. Let me just call the vote. All  
13 those abstaining?

14 Okay. The vote is then 3-2-0 to  
15 approve the OIC. Okay. Mr. Alberti?

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm opposing  
17 because the original order came out in January  
18 12, 2012. We are now 13 months past that  
19 date. We are 11 months past the date on which  
20 the original payment was due. Because of that  
21 -- and at any time during that 11 months, you  
22 could have paid the original fine to show good

1 faith.

2 And because you haven't and  
3 because it's such a long time that has passed,  
4 I think the 120 days is far too generous of a  
5 time to pay it. I would have considered a 30  
6 day to pay, but I think 120 days puts us at,  
7 what almost a year and a half from the order.

8 So I cannot accept this OIC.

9 MR. CHHATLOAL: I had some  
10 family --

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: No. There is no  
12 need to take -- make a comment.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Where  
14 is it? Okay. All right. So the comments  
15 have been made and your OIC has been approved.  
16 And good luck in the next 120 days.

17 MR. CHHATLOAL: Thank you for  
18 considering this.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank  
20 you. Okay. That concludes this hearing. And  
21 I believe that concludes our cases for hearing  
22 for this afternoon.

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MR. ADAMS: Thank you, Madam

Chair.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you

very much and we will recess and come back to  
do our agenda shortly. Okay.

(Whereupon, the Show Cause Hearing  
in the above-entitled matter was concluded at  
5:00 p.m.)

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A</b></p> <p><b>able</b> 4:2,16 6:9  <b>above-entitled</b> 11:7  <b>abstaining</b> 9:13  <b>accept</b> 10:8  <b>accumulated</b> 3:18  <b>Adams</b> 1:23 2:10  2:12 3:2,5 8:7,10  11:1  <b>additional</b> 3:11  <b>afternoon</b> 2:10  10:22  <b>agenda</b> 11:5  <b>agree</b> 4:6  <b>agreeing</b> 5:5  <b>Alberti</b> 1:19 9:9,15  9:16 10:11  <b>alcohol</b> 3:15  <b>Alcoholic</b> 1:2,14,14  <b>amount</b> 5:21 6:22  7:18  <b>ANC-2B</b> 1:8 2:7  <b>answer</b> 5:16,18  <b>answered</b> 5:12  <b>appropriate</b> 7:18  <b>approval</b> 8:16  <b>approve</b> 9:15  <b>approved</b> 10:15  <b>Aroma</b> 1:6 2:5,15  <b>arrange</b> 6:21,22  <b>asked</b> 5:11,14,21  <b>asking</b> 3:13 6:20,20  <b>attorney</b> 6:11  <b>available</b> 6:13  <b>aware</b> 6:18  <b>aye</b> 9:2,3,4,5</p>	<p>7:14,16  <b>BROOKS</b> 1:20  8:20 9:5  <b>business</b> 4:21</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>C</b></p> <p><b>calendar</b> 2:4  <b>call</b> 9:12  <b>care</b> 5:7  <b>case</b> 1:9 2:4,5 3:19  <b>cases</b> 3:17,17 10:21  <b>Cause</b> 1:6 2:22  11:6  <b>Chair</b> 9:10 11:2  <b>Chairman</b> 2:11  <b>Chairperson</b> 1:15  1:19 2:3,16,19,21  3:4 4:5,13 5:8,13  5:17 8:12,22 9:4,6  9:11 10:13,19  11:3  <b>charges</b> 7:7,11  <b>Chhatloal</b> 2:14,14  2:18,20 4:12,17  6:3,8 7:9,12,21  8:4 10:9,17  <b>clarity</b> 5:19  <b>clear</b> 7:7  <b>Clearly</b> 7:10  <b>Columbia</b> 1:1 2:13  <b>come</b> 6:4 11:4  <b>comment</b> 10:12  <b>comments</b> 10:14  <b>Comply</b> 1:10  <b>compromise</b> 3:6  4:7 8:17  <b>concerned</b> 7:19  <b>concluded</b> 11:7  <b>concludes</b> 10:20,21  <b>confident</b> 7:16  <b>considered</b> 10:5  <b>considering</b> 3:19  10:18  <b>Control</b> 1:2,14,14  <b>correct</b> 2:17 7:8  <b>couple</b> 6:8  <b>CR</b> 1:8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>D</b></p> <p><b>Daljeet</b> 2:14  <b>date</b> 9:19,19  <b>day</b> 2:5 4:19 10:6  <b>days</b> 3:11 4:3,9,11  4:16 6:2 8:18  10:4,6,16  <b>different</b> 5:15  <b>discussions</b> 3:15  <b>District</b> 1:1 2:12  6:11  <b>DONALD</b> 1:20  <b>due</b> 9:20  <b>D.C</b> 1:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>E</b></p> <p><b>establishment</b> 3:8  3:10,14,20  <b>Excuse</b> 8:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>F</b></p> <p><b>Failed</b> 1:10  <b>fair</b> 4:3  <b>fairly</b> 3:15  <b>faith</b> 10:1  <b>family</b> 10:10  <b>far</b> 10:4  <b>favor</b> 9:2  <b>February</b> 1:12  <b>feel</b> 5:19  <b>felt</b> 3:21,21  <b>final</b> 6:22  <b>fine</b> 3:7,10,11,14  4:8 5:22 6:16,17  6:19,20 9:22  <b>first</b> 4:6  <b>food</b> 4:18  <b>four</b> 5:6,7  <b>free</b> 5:19</p>	<p><b>guess</b> 5:10,17 7:3</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>H</b></p> <p><b>half</b> 10:7  <b>hardship</b> 3:22  <b>hearing</b> 1:7,15 2:4  2:22 6:10,14,15  10:20,21 11:6  <b>HERMAN</b> 1:21  <b>highly</b> 7:19</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>I</b></p> <p><b>income</b> 4:20  <b>Indian</b> 1:6 2:6,15  <b>individual</b> 7:13  <b>introduce</b> 2:8  <b>issue</b> 3:3  <b>issues</b> 3:1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>J</b></p> <p><b>January</b> 9:17  <b>Jones</b> 1:21 5:10,14  5:20 6:5 7:6,10,13  8:2,5,9,10,11 9:8  <b>jumped</b> 6:19  <b>justified</b> 7:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>K</b></p> <p><b>keep</b> 3:20  <b>know</b> 3:16,20,21  <b>knowledge</b> 6:18</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>L</b></p> <p><b>Lamaree</b> 1:6  <b>leave</b> 7:20  <b>Let's</b> 9:11  <b>license</b> 1:8 2:7 8:1  <b>located</b> 2:6  <b>long</b> 10:3  <b>lot</b> 4:21  <b>low</b> 3:15 4:18  <b>luck</b> 10:16</p>	<p>11:7  <b>ma'am</b> 4:12  <b>MEETING</b> 1:3  <b>Member</b> 1:19,20  1:21,21 5:10,14  5:20 6:5 7:6,10,13  7:14 8:2,5,9,11,20  8:21 9:3,5,8,9,16  10:11  <b>Members</b> 2:11  <b>met</b> 1:14  <b>MIKE</b> 1:21  <b>Miller</b> 1:16,19 2:3  2:16,19,21 3:4 4:5  4:13 5:8,13,17  8:12,22 9:4,6,11  10:13,19 11:3  <b>money</b> 6:4  <b>months</b> 5:3,4,6,7  9:18,19,21  <b>motion</b> 9:1  <b>move</b> 4:21 8:1,16  <b>moved</b> 6:13</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>N</b></p> <p><b>nature</b> 7:20  <b>need</b> 10:12  <b>negotiating</b> 5:2,3  <b>neighborhood</b> 4:20  <b>NICK</b> 1:19  <b>NW</b> 1:7  <b>N.W</b> 1:15 2:7</p>
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