

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATION
ADMINISTRATION BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:

H & R, LLC t/a Exotic Roll Call Hearing
Hookah Lounge
2409 18th Street, NW
License #ABRA 097382
Retailer CR
New Application
Case #15-PRO-00007

Monday,
March 2, 2015

ABRA Hearing Room, 400 South
Reeves Municipal Center
2000 14th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

The above-entitled matter convened at
10:22 a.m., before the District of Columbia Alcoholic
Beverage Regulation Administration Board.

BEFORE:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, Board Mediator

P R O C E E D I N G S

(10:17 a.m.)

MS. FLETCHER: Would the parties in the matter of Exotic Hookah Lounge please come forward. The parties in the matter of Exotic Hookah Lounge.

This is Case No. 15-PRO-00007, H & R LLC, trading as Exotic Hookah Lounge, 2409 18th Street, N.W., License No. ABRA-097382. This is a Retailer Class CR new application. The protest issues are adverse impact on peace, order, and quiet.

My name is LaVerne Fletcher, and I'm conducting the roll call hearing as the Board's Agent, pursuant to D.C. Official Code 1601.2.

Introductions, beginning with the Applicant.

MR. MATTHEWS: Jermaine Matthews on behalf of Exotic Hookah Lounge.

MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Matthews, would you please spell your name for the record.

MR. MATTHEWS: J-E-R-M-A-I-N-E. M-A-T-T-H-E-W-S.

MS. FLETCHER: And your name, ma'am?

1 MS. AZEZE: Rahel Azeze. R-A-H-E-L. A-Z-E-
2 Z-E.

3 MS. FLETCHER: What's the last name again?

4 MS. AZEZE: Azeze. A-Z-E-Z-E.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much. And Mr.
6 Matthews, did you put your contact information on that
7 sheet?

8 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you. And present
10 on behalf of ANC1C?

11 MR. GUTHRIE: Ted Guthrie. T-E-D. G-U-T-H-
12 R-I-E.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Guthrie. And
14 on behalf of the Kalorama Citizens Association?

15 MR. JAMES: Denis James. Denis is spelled
16 with one N.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Mr. James, did you give the
18 Applicant notice, the seven day notice of the meeting,
19 the KCA meeting?

20 MR. JAMES: Yes. I did. I emailed that to
21 you earlier today. I'm not sure if you had a chance to
22 see it.

1 MS. FLETCHER: You did? Okay. Thank you.
2 I'll put it in the record when I get back to my desk.
3 Thank you.

4 And on behalf of the Reed-Cooke
5 Neighborhood Association?

6 MS. AUBRUN: Benedicte Aubrun. A-U-B-R-U-N.
7 First name with an E at the end.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. And Ms. Aubrun,
9 I saw in your letter that you gave the seven day
10 notice. Just stating it for the record.

11 We have three Protestants in this matter.
12 ANClC, Kalorama Citizens Association, and the Reed-
13 Cooke Neighborhood Association.

14 We need to set a date for a mediation, a
15 status hearing, and a protest hearing. I'll give you
16 the dates for the status and protest hearing first.

17 The status hearing is set for March the
18 25th at 9:30 a.m.

19 MR. MATTHEWS: You said 9:30?

20 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

21 The protest -

22 MR. GUTHRIE: Ms. Fletcher.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Yes?

2 MR. GUTHRIE: This is an unusual case, in
3 that the Board has directed the Applicant to provide
4 certain information to it before this is going to
5 proceed any further. So it seems strange that it'd be
6 on such an abbreviated docket.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Yes. It's a new application
8 and the Board expedites those cases, but I'm not
9 aware, Mr. Guthrie, of what you just said, that the
10 Board -

11 MR. GUTHRIE: They were here on a fact-
12 finding, what was it, a couple weeks ago?

13 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

14 MR. GUTHRIE: That the Board required them
15 to provide certain further information before it went
16 forward any further. So far as I know, that
17 information hasn't been -

18 MR. MATTHEWS: The information will be
19 submitted this week, that they needed.

20 MR. GUTHRIE: Okay.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Then I'll go ahead and
22 set the dates, and then I'll check to make sure the

1 information has been forwarded with Mr. Matthews, from
2 Mr. Matthews. I'll check, but I'm assuming it's going
3 to go to Martha Jenkins, the Board's attorney?

4 MR. GUTHRIE: I assume so; yeah.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. So the status date
6 will be March 25 at 9:30, and the protest hearing is
7 set for April 29th at 1:30.

8 MR. GUTHRIE: Excuse me. April what?

9 MS. FLETCHER: April 29th at 1:30.

10 I'll give you the next available dates for
11 mediation prior to March 25th. Thursday, March 12 is
12 available at 9:00, 10:00, or 11:00. That's next
13 Thursday.

14 MR. MATTHEWS: 11:00 is good for me.

15 MS. FLETCHER: 11:00. Is that good for you,
16 Mr. James?

17 MR. JAMES: Well, I don't think - I know
18 it's a different track but I would like to be assured,
19 before we go to mediation, that the Board has received
20 this information that it's requested, and perhaps some
21 of it might be something that we would wish to look
22 at.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, Mr. James, I'll
2 do that. I'll double-check to make sure. I made a
3 note, and I'll double-check that the information has
4 been received by Martha Jenkins, and if it has not,
5 then I'll send out an email postponing the mediation
6 until it's received.

7 MS. AUBRUN: Ms. LaVerne, I will be out of
8 town on the 29th of March.

9 MS. FLETCHER: On the 29th of March?

10 MS. AUBRUN: Yeah.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Oh, you're referring to the
12 protest hearing?

13 MS. AUBRUN: For the protest hearing.

14 MS. FLETCHER: It's April.

15 MS. AUBRUN: Oh. Oh, I'm sorry. Yes. I will
16 not --

17 MS. FLETCHER: You good for April 29th?

18 MS. AUBRUN: I'm not available that day at
19 all.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. On April the 29th,
21 you re not good?

22 MS. AUBRUN: No, I can ask for the week

1 after.

2 MS. FLETCHER: It's a new application. The
3 Board doesn't normally change those dates, but you can
4 always request --

5 MS. AUBRUN: Oh.

6 MS. FLETCHER: You're talking about for the
7 protest hearing; right?

8 MS. AUBRUN: Yes.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Because it's a new
10 application, those dates are normally - normally,
11 they're sort of fixed.

12 MS. AUBRUN: Okay. I may have to send
13 someone.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Okay.

15 MS. AUBRUN: Thank you.

16 MS. FLETCHER: You can always request a new
17 date, but because it's a new application, they don't
18 like to change the dates for the new applications. So
19 I'll make a note that you won't be available on that
20 day.

21 MR. GUTHRIE: So the mediation we're having
22 on the 12th at 11:00; is that --

1 MS. FLETCHER: Is that good for - okay. Is
2 that good for everybody? Ms. Aubrun, you're good at
3 11:00?

4 MR. JAMES: What day of the week is it?

5 MS. FLETCHER: On a Thursday. That's next
6 Thursday, March 12th.

7 MR. GUTHRIE: And also I would note that
8 Mr. Simpson is going to be the person who's dealing
9 with this particular application.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Is it William Simpson?

11 MR. GUTHRIE: Yeah, Billy. Yeah. William.
12 Billy.

13 MS. FLETCHER: So the mediation is set for
14 11:00 o'clock on March 11. Any questions at all?

15 MR. GUTHRIE: No.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Then the roll call hearing
17 is concluded, and the next matter -- is concluded for
18 Exotic Hookah.

19 MR. GUTHRIE: Is Risky Ventures the next
20 one?

21 MS. FLETCHER: Yes. The roll call hearing
22 is concluded for Exotic Hookah Lounge.

1 (Whereupon, at 10:30 a.m., the roll call
2 hearing was concluded.)
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