

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

Chloe, LLC  
t/a District  
2473 18th Street, NW  
Retailer CR - ANC-1C  
License No. 92742  
Case #14-251-00003 and  
Case #14-251-00003(a)

Show  
Cause  
Hearing

(Interfered With an Investigation)

March 11, 2015

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing  
Room, Reeves Building, 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  
HECTOR RODRIGUEZ, Member  
JAMES SHORT, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

AMY SCHMIDT, OAG  
FELICIA DANTZLER, ABRA Investigator

T-A-B-L-E O-F C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S

Opening Statement by Government. . . . . 8  
 Closing Statement by Government. . . . . 129

WITNESS	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT	RECROSS
Gregory Hill	12	22	45	47
Felicia Dantzler	48	63		
Alireza Hajaligholi	78	81		

REBUTTAL WITNESS	DIRECT	CROSS
Felicia Dantzler	127	129

EXHIBITS	IDENTIFIED	RECEIVED
GOVERNMENT		
6 - Modem, DVR Pic		57
7 - Radios and Radio Parts		58
12 - District Security Plan		75
A - Acela Printout		128

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

2 11:59 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Good. All  
4 right. The next case on the calendar is Case No.  
5 14-251-00003 and 14-251-00003(a), District  
6 located at 2473 18th Street, N.W., License No.  
7 92742, in ANC-1C.

8 This case was scheduled for 11:00 a.m.  
9 and I understand that the respondent is on his  
10 way. And so we are going to take this case up at  
11 1:00.

12 All right. Thank you. We will see  
13 you then.

14 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
15 went off the record at 12:00 p.m. and resumed at  
16 1:27 p.m.)

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right. I'm  
18 going to call the case now for this afternoon.  
19 It's Case No. 14-251-00003 and 14-251-00003(a),  
20 District located at 2473 18th Street, N.W.,  
21 License No. 92742, in ANC-1C.

22 I believe the parties are at the

1 table.

2 MS. SCHMIDT: Good afternoon. Amy  
3 Schmidt, Assistant Attorney General on behalf of  
4 the District of Columbia.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Good afternoon.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Good afternoon.  
7 Alireza Hajaligholi and I'm one of the partners.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. How do I  
9 pronounce your name, Hajaligholi? How do you  
10 pronounce your name?

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Hajaligholi.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Haj --

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: You can call me Haj.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. I'll call  
15 you Haj. Thank you. All right. So this is a  
16 Show Cause Hearing and I wanted to ask you if you  
17 are familiar with the proceedings or if you  
18 wanted me to give you an idea of how to proceed?

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: We had a discussion.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And I don't have an  
22 attorney with me, mainly because there are five

1 attorneys that all have conflict of interest.  
2 I'm here mainly because I want to answer any  
3 questions, even though I was not the person in  
4 charge running the business. As if you remember,  
5 I came before the Board and brought two people  
6 and gave my businesses to -- in their hands to  
7 run it and give them a percentage.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So let me  
9 stop you right there before you say too much,  
10 because it is an evidentiary hearing.

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So I'm going to  
13 put you under oath so when you testify, I could  
14 do it, unless if --

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: But just I want  
17 you to go on the witness stand, because that's  
18 when you will be testifying basically.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: But just to let  
21 you know that as far as evidence goes, if you are  
22 going to talk about your role or anything like

1 that, it will be in the record as evidence once  
2 you are under oath.

3 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. But you  
5 know, if there is anything else you need to say  
6 right now --

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: So the Board is  
8 going to call me as a witness?

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Well, you can  
10 call yourself as a witness.

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The way it goes  
13 formally is that the Office of the Attorney  
14 General has the burden of proof, you know, to  
15 prove any violation that you have been noticed  
16 with.

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Right.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And so  
19 normally, she would make an opening statement  
20 about what she is going to prove. And then she  
21 will call her witnesses first. And you can  
22 "cross-examine" her witnesses.

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I'm not going to  
2 plead in absentia today.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I'm not a lawyer.  
5 I'm not trying to be one.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And I'm here only  
8 because I feel obligated to be here. If there is  
9 questions from the Board, I will be happy to  
10 answer.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So then  
12 that will happen after she does her thing. You  
13 will have heard everything, then you can take the  
14 witness stand and answer any questions that, you  
15 know, we may have for you, she may have for you.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And that's  
18 basically the case. Any documents can be put  
19 into evidence. Then she may do a closing  
20 argument and then you may do, you know, a closing  
21 argument. But it's not required. And I will --  
22 you know, if you have any questions along the

1 way, feel free to ask me.

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So we will  
4 start with Ms. Schmidt then.

5 MS. SCHMIDT: I will make a very brief  
6 opening statement.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

8 MS. SCHMIDT: The District Nightclub  
9 operation as shown by its abysmal opening on New  
10 Year's Eve and morning of December 25, 2013 to  
11 2014 showed -- is indicative of its ability to be  
12 a safe environment for the citizens of the  
13 District of Columbia and thus its license  
14 revoked, at the very least, canceled by ABRA.

15 District was the scene of five  
16 stabbings that night. More importantly, rather  
17 than assisting patrons, MPD and ABRA  
18 Investigators, it tried to cover up what had  
19 happened that evening.

20 First of all, they didn't call MPD.  
21 The victims flagged down MPD officers and there  
22 were no radio runs that night. Also, MPD had to

1 go into the club and tell employees to stop  
2 cleaning up the blood from the floors and other  
3 evidence that the fights had occurred in that --  
4 in the club that evening. They had to tell them  
5 to do so because of the MPD investigation.

6 They also saw some staff members  
7 exiting through the back door. There are no  
8 operative cameras to record the events that  
9 night, including the fact that patrons had thrown  
10 glass bottles and other glassware. And not  
11 having operative cameras does not -- did not  
12 allow MPD to do its job that night, so it's much  
13 harder to try to find the suspect.

14 And MPD, for example, only IDed four  
15 individuals as security, which also helped impede  
16 any sort of investigation that night since there  
17 was insufficient security.

18 Therefore, the Government is going to  
19 ask that -- the Government is going to ask given  
20 the severity of what happened that night and the  
21 lack of cooperation that this -- that the license  
22 be revoked.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Do you  
2 wish to say anything, Haj, at this point? You  
3 can say -- you know, you will have a chance to  
4 speak later.

5                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I have no problem  
6 with the incident happening, but I got to the  
7 place around 12:30. I was downstairs in the  
8 other place that we own and I heard on the radio  
9 and I went upstairs. When I went upstairs, yes,  
10 there were busboys mopping. Nobody knew what  
11 happened. It was unfortunate. It was -- any  
12 given night a deranged person can pull a knife  
13 and slash a few people.

14                   My concern, at that time, was when the  
15 Watch Commander came and that the people were not  
16 seriously hurt.

17                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Let me say  
18 this again though. I didn't swear you in yet  
19 until you go to the witness stand, so --

20                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

21                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- you would need  
22 to say this if you want this to be considered as

1 evidence of --

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- you know.

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I did everything in  
5 my power to cooperate with Ms. Fletcher. I asked  
6 the Commander if he needs me to stay there. He  
7 said did you see anything? I told him no and I  
8 left.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And then later on,  
11 Ms. Fletcher called me. I went there and gave  
12 her whatever she asked me and whatever they  
13 provided to me, I give it to her.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. All right.  
15 Thank you. Ms. Schmidt, do you want to call your  
16 first witness?

17 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes. The Government  
18 calls Officer Gregory Hill.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Good afternoon.  
20 It's Officer what?

21 OFFICER HILL: Hill.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Hill. Thank you.

1 Whereupon,

2 OFFICER GREGORY HILL

3 was called as a witness by Counsel for the  
4 Government, and having been first duly sworn,  
5 assumed the witness stand and was examined and  
6 testified as follows:

7 OFFICER HILL: I do.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you.

9 DIRECT EXAMINATION

10 MS. SCHMIDT: Good afternoon, Officer.

11 Could you, please, state your name for the  
12 record?

13 OFFICER HILL: Gregory Hill.

14 MS. SCHMIDT: And by whom are you  
15 employed?

16 OFFICER HILL: District of Columbia  
17 Government, Metropolitan Police Department.

18 MS. SCHMIDT: And which precinct are  
19 you in?

20 OFFICER HILL: 3rd District.

21 MS. SCHMIDT: And how long have you  
22 been employed by MPD?

1                   OFFICER HILL: A little over two  
2 years.

3                   MS. SCHMIDT: I'm drawing your  
4 attention to January 31, 2013 -- I'm sorry,  
5 December 31, 2013.

6                   OFFICER HILL: Yes.

7                   MS. SCHMIDT: Were you in the vicinity  
8 of 2473 18th Street, N.W.?

9                   OFFICER HILL: I was.

10                  MS. SCHMIDT: And what was at that  
11 location?

12                  OFFICER HILL: At the location, I came  
13 across a woman who was bleeding from her hand.

14                  MS. SCHMIDT: And -- okay. Just go  
15 back. And what was the establishment at that  
16 location?

17                  OFFICER HILL: District Nightclub.

18                  MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. And you saw --  
19 and what happened when you saw -- and so what did  
20 she say about her bleeding? What did she tell  
21 you?

22                  OFFICER HILL: Her friends actually

1 stopped me just walking down the sidewalk and  
2 they told me look at her. I looked at her hand.  
3 She said she was stabbed inside of a club.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I'm sorry, could  
5 you speak a little louder?

6 OFFICER HILL: My apologies. I was  
7 walking down the sidewalk actually in front of  
8 District Nightclub.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

10 OFFICER HILL: One of the witnesses,  
11 one of the friends to the person who was stabbed  
12 stopped me and told me to look at her friend's  
13 hand. I did. I asked her what happened. She  
14 said she was stabbed inside of the club.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you.

16 MS. SCHMIDT: And was he the only  
17 person that came out of the club when you were  
18 there?

19 OFFICER HILL: At that moment she was.

20 MS. SCHMIDT: But then what happened  
21 afterwards?

22 OFFICER HILL: A few minutes passed as

1 I was getting information from her and I noticed  
2 a, what I would describe as, large ball of people  
3 flooding from the stairway and door of District  
4 Nightclub.

5 MS. SCHMIDT: And was there any sense  
6 of order to that flood of people that you saw?

7 OFFICER HILL: No.

8 MS. SCHMIDT: Did you see any security  
9 from the nightclub with the people?

10 OFFICER HILL: No one that I could  
11 point out as being a security person.

12 MS. SCHMIDT: And so what happened  
13 when you saw these people come out?

14 OFFICER HILL: I just saw the group  
15 coming out. I saw a woman who had blood on her  
16 and while waiting for an ambulance for the first  
17 person I came across that was cut, I attempted to  
18 try to help or assist the other person that I saw  
19 was cut, but I was prevented from getting to them  
20 by the large crowd. The crowd was hindering me  
21 from getting any aid or assistance to that  
22 person, so I wasn't able to track that person

1 down.

2 Then a third person, a gentleman came  
3 up to me saying he had been stabbed as well.

4 MS. SCHMIDT: And at that point, were  
5 you aware if any calls had been made to MPD?

6 OFFICER HILL: No. From my  
7 understanding, I was the first person to ever  
8 make a call known to the dispatcher or  
9 communication.

10 MS. SCHMIDT: So how did other  
11 officers come to assist you, if they did?

12 OFFICER HILL: When I requested for  
13 ambulance and I told them I had additional  
14 officers arrive as well as they could see the  
15 flooding of people, because the majority of us  
16 had already left the intersection at 18th and  
17 Columbia, so we were walking down 18th Street, so  
18 officers were there as well.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: And so what happened at  
20 the club, at that point, do you know?

21 OFFICER HILL: At that point, we were  
22 trying to figure out how many people were

1 stabbed, how they were stabbed, any suspect  
2 information and things of that nature. And then  
3 we eventually made entry into the club to see  
4 what crime scene, if any.

5 MS. SCHMIDT: And what did you see  
6 when you came in the club?

7 OFFICER HILL: When I came to the  
8 second floor, as was described, there was a lot  
9 of broken glass and blood drops on the floor. I  
10 could see the staff were cleaning up most of the  
11 area and then walking dishes and things back to  
12 the bar. I also saw people walking out of the  
13 back door of the establishment.

14 MS. SCHMIDT: Did you give any  
15 instructions to the staff?

16 OFFICER HILL: Per the detective that  
17 was there, everyone was ordered to stop moving  
18 and to stop cleaning and to stop leaving  
19 everything and, at that point, I put everyone  
20 against one part of the bar or club rather, so we  
21 could start getting IDs and start getting  
22 everyone's name and contact information as well

1 as anything that might have happened.

2 MS. SCHMIDT: And what -- and did you  
3 speak to any of the employees there?

4 OFFICER HILL: I did. I recorded  
5 names of, I believe, over 10 people in my  
6 notebook and I spoke with them. I asked them  
7 directly if they saw anything or were able to  
8 provide any suspect information.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: And were they able to?

10 OFFICER HILL: One person provided me  
11 with a description, but based on the description,  
12 what they thought was a suspect, it matched the  
13 description of a person that was actually a  
14 stabbing victim, not a suspect.

15 MS. SCHMIDT: Would you say they were  
16 cooperative or helpful?

17 OFFICER HILL: Everyone as far as I  
18 know, as far as I could tell was cooperative.  
19 They even provided me their names and what their  
20 particular occupation there was.

21 MS. SCHMIDT: But did they say any --  
22 did they see any of the fights in the club at

1 all?

2 OFFICER HILL: Two or three people  
3 reported that they saw a fight on the VIP area or  
4 the third floor or like a shoving match and  
5 bottles being thrown, but no one could pinpoint  
6 an aggressor or particular suspect.

7 And the other group or the rest of the  
8 staff said they saw nothing or knew nothing.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: And let's see, how many  
10 people were there security staff?

11 OFFICER HILL: In my notes, I recorded  
12 four people.

13 MS. SCHMIDT: And were you -- and when  
14 people -- and how do they -- and going back, did  
15 they let -- how did they let people out of the  
16 club that night? Was there any line up or how  
17 would you describe how they let people out of the  
18 club?

19 OFFICER HILL: It seemed like everyone  
20 was coming out of the club in almost in a  
21 forceful manner. It didn't seem --

22 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Pardon?

1           OFFICER HILL: In a forceful manner.  
2           The crowd did not seem to be dispersing as you  
3           would expect if you were told to just simply  
4           leave or something was closing. They seemed more  
5           like there was a rush to get out, a panic rush of  
6           people coming out of the door. You could see it  
7           because there is a stairwell right there and I'm  
8           standing next to it and I could see like a large  
9           group of people and they didn't seem to have  
10          anyone directing anyone anywhere, just the group  
11          was in a hurry to leave.

12           MS. SCHMIDT: And what was -- what did  
13          MPD say about the crime scene? What did the  
14          other officers want to happen at that location?

15           OFFICER HILL: As always with all  
16          crime scenes, we want the crime scene to be  
17          preserved so it stays as it is. No one is to  
18          clean or touch anything and that's our main  
19          objective is to preserve it for our crime scene  
20          staff.

21           MS. SCHMIDT: And what about the --  
22          what about letting patrons go?

1           OFFICER HILL: The patrons that were  
2 leaving out, we can't really do -- considering  
3 the large amount of people, I don't think it's  
4 practical to stop who is not a victim. But for  
5 the staff that were inside, anyone who was left  
6 inside once we are able to control the scene must  
7 stay there.

8           MS. SCHMIDT: And that did not -- did  
9 that happen that night?

10          OFFICER HILL: No. My understanding  
11 is that several people left out of the back door  
12 to include staff and some patrons before we could  
13 actually fully control the scene inside the  
14 building.

15          MS. SCHMIDT: And how many victims  
16 were there total that evening?

17          OFFICER HILL: Five.

18          MS. SCHMIDT: And how do you know  
19 there were five?

20          OFFICER HILL: I personally saw three  
21 people and then additionally two more were  
22 transported to the hospital and officers were

1 able to relay information to me that they were  
2 also inside the club.

3 MS. SCHMIDT: And to your knowledge,  
4 has this investigation been concluded?

5 OFFICER HILL: As of right now, it's  
6 listed as suspended, pending any further  
7 information, so right now, we have not closed the  
8 case.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: I have no further  
10 questions, at this time.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Sir, do  
12 you have some questions for him?

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes, I just have a  
14 couple questions.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

16 CROSS-EXAMINATION

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Officer Hill, do you  
18 remember the time that this happened?

19 OFFICER HILL: It's recorded in my  
20 notes.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Around 3:30,  
22 correct?

1                   OFFICER HILL: I believe so, yes.

2                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. You know that  
3 that's the last call and then we give last call,  
4 we normally turn the lights up and we just tell  
5 people to leave.

6                   MS. SCHMIDT: Objection.

7                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Is that a  
8 question or a statement? You can ask him a  
9 question.

10                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Usually at last call  
11 when -- what the people do?

12                  OFFICER HILL: I myself am not  
13 familiar with the bar scene or the protocol of  
14 the bars.

15                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: All right. The five  
16 people that been stabbed, any of them seriously  
17 hurt? Do you know?

18                  OFFICER HILL: I'm not a medical  
19 doctor, so I couldn't determine what is serious  
20 and what is not serious, but they were punctured  
21 through their skin and were bleeding.

22                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Did you see me in

1 the place talking to the Watch Commander, sir?

2 OFFICER HILL: I cannot recall.

3 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. Did you know  
4 that one of the people that got stabbed got  
5 stabbed on the sidewalk in front of 25 MPD police  
6 officers?

7 OFFICER HILL: In my notes a fifth  
8 person was mentioned that they were exiting  
9 District Nightclub and were stabbed by an unknown  
10 suspect.

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: In the sidewalk?

12 OFFICER HILL: On the sidewalk in  
13 front of the establishment.

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: In front of the  
15 establishment, right. And how many police  
16 officers do we have on 18th and Columbia Road that  
17 we basically pay for some of them?

18 OFFICER HILL: I don't know the  
19 deployment orders. I am not assigned to that  
20 particular beat.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Probably 40 or 50?

22 OFFICER HILL: I would believe no.

1       Actually, I know that for a fact there is not  
2       that many.

3               MR. HAJALIGHOLI:   Okay.  10?

4               OFFICER HILL:   Sir, I can't discuss  
5       the deployment orders of the Metropolitan Police  
6       Department.

7               MR. HAJALIGHOLI:   Okay.  Well, there  
8       were plenty of security/police officers in Adams  
9       Morgan that night and the street was closed off.

10              OFFICER HILL:   There were police  
11       officers assigned to the 18th Street Corridor,  
12       yes.

13              MR. HAJALIGHOLI:   Right.  And if the  
14       police officer can't catch some maniac that  
15       stabbed somebody on the sidewalk, what is the  
16       expectation of us to not evening knowing that  
17       happened?  I mean --

18              MS. SCHMIDT:   Objection.  That's  
19       argument, argument, argument.  It's not really  
20       asking a question.  It's more of an argument.

21              CHAIRPERSON MILLER:   No.  I'm going to  
22       overrule it.  He's not a lawyer.  It's just a --

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: As far as I remember  
2 that we -- all the employees were told to stay  
3 there.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Wait. Be sure  
5 that you frame it as a question.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: You will get to  
8 testify later.

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I don't have  
10 anything else to say, that's basically it. And  
11 one more, how do you know that it was four  
12 security people?

13 OFFICER HILL: Oh, the people that  
14 were left behind, staff, I asked each person what  
15 their name was and I also asked them what their  
16 occupation or job title there was. Of those  
17 people, only four identified themselves as being  
18 security.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Right.

20 OFFICER HILL: And only doing  
21 security-related functions. They were not bar  
22 staff or other staff of the establishment.

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Did you ask were  
2 there any more security people here tonight?

3 OFFICER HILL: I asked every person  
4 that I could see with my eyes that were standing  
5 there that I instructed to get to one side of the  
6 room and provide identification and name and  
7 their name, excuse me, and all those people that  
8 I gave that instruction to, I spoke to  
9 personally, and the information that I was given  
10 is documented in the report.

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Would you be  
12 surprised if I tell you that there were 18  
13 security people there?

14 OFFICER HILL: I'm not familiar with  
15 the establishment's protocol on security staff.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: All right. Thank  
17 you.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Does that  
19 complete your cross?

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I'm done.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Board  
22 questions?

1 MEMBER SHORT: Madam Chair?

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, Mr. Short?

3 MEMBER SHORT: Thank you, Officer, for  
4 your testimony. Would you -- you used the word  
5 panic while you have been testifying when you saw  
6 people coming out in a disorderly fashion. Were  
7 you assuming the crowd -- was it a dangerous  
8 panic? Was it a panic that could have caused  
9 someone to get trampled or?

10 OFFICER HILL: Yes, I believe so. I  
11 saw many people squeezing through the doorway at  
12 once. It wasn't slow orderly. It was a panic.  
13 I could see it in people's faces that they were  
14 fleeing something. I didn't know what, but they  
15 were just trying to get out of there panicked.  
16 It was not orderly. It was not safe.

17 MEMBER SHORT: All right. Knowing  
18 that you are not a person that deals with numbers  
19 professionally, but did you happen to notice what  
20 the occupancy was for the club that night or was  
21 there a posted sign in the club of how many  
22 people were supposed to be there?

1           OFFICER HILL: I do not recall an  
2 occupancy sign. I remember at the doorway seeing  
3 what I thought was about 30 at least. I couldn't  
4 tell you any more than that. I just remember  
5 seeing a large group and then refocusing my  
6 attention to the person I saw.

7           MEMBER SHORT: Now, a question was  
8 asked to you. 18 security persons, in your  
9 professional -- you testified that you only  
10 identified four persons there as security?

11          OFFICER HILL: Yes, those that  
12 identified themselves.

13          MEMBER SHORT: 18 would be out of the  
14 question as far as you are testifying?

15          OFFICER HILL: I believe the number of  
16 18 is greater than the number of people I  
17 actually interviewed.

18          MEMBER SHORT: Thank you. That's all  
19 I have, Madam Chair. Thank you very much,  
20 Officer Hill.

21          CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you.

22          OFFICER HILL: Okay.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Rodriguez?

2 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Officer, thank you  
3 for being here. Question number one is those  
4 security officers that you identified, security  
5 personnel, were they -- did they have uniforms  
6 on?

7 OFFICER HILL: I believe they were  
8 wearing all black. Not a uniform, but were  
9 wearing black clothing.

10 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: All black.

11 OFFICER HILL: Yes.

12 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: And you saw four of  
13 them, right?

14 OFFICER HILL: I talked to people,  
15 four that identified themselves, yes.

16 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Okay. My next  
17 question is were they -- did you see any weapons  
18 or were there any weapons recovered there?

19 OFFICER HILL: As far as I know, no  
20 weapons were recovered and I did not see any  
21 weapons.

22 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Thank you.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Others? Yes, Mr.  
2 Silverstein?

3                   MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Thank you for  
4 your service, Officer. If you could just walk us  
5 through the various things, besides the fact that  
6 four or five people were stabbed there, that you  
7 saw that you thought were improper ways of  
8 running an establishment or were clearly a danger  
9 to health and safety.

10                  OFFICER HILL: I can't speak to  
11 running an establishment, that's not really my  
12 purview. Things that were of concern to me was  
13 just that the amount --

14                  MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Please speak up.

15                  OFFICER HILL: I can't speak to the  
16 operation of the establishment, that isn't my  
17 occupation or my business. As far as the health,  
18 safety and welfare aspect, just the amount of  
19 people and the way they were just exiting the  
20 club was alarming and very much -- it was my --  
21 it grabbed my attention. My attention was drawn  
22 by that.

1           In terms of everything else, I can't  
2 speak to it, because again I don't operate a  
3 business. I have no knowledge of that. It's  
4 just basically the crowds dispersal was not at  
5 all safe.

6           MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Was there  
7 cooperation? Did the police receive full  
8 cooperation from the establishment during and  
9 following this incident?

10          OFFICER HILL: As far as my opinion,  
11 yes, everyone was just giving me the same answer  
12 that they had no knowledge of anything, but no  
13 one refused to talk to me or anyone else, as far  
14 as I know.

15          MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Was the crime  
16 scene itself kept sanitary or had it been --

17          OFFICER HILL: It had been disturbed,  
18 at least from the second floor, where people were  
19 cleaning up. If anyone came from the third floor  
20 and needed to come to the second floor, then exit  
21 to the ground or to a back door, that area was  
22 being cleaned. So I would say that the crime

1 scene, part of the crime scene on the second  
2 floor had been disturbed or cleaned, tampered  
3 with, however you wish to describe it.

4 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Did they -- had  
5 they notified you in any way that something had  
6 happened there or was it their claim that people  
7 were just being stabbed and they didn't know  
8 about it?

9 OFFICER HILL: No one that I spoke  
10 with was aware that anyone had been stabbed until  
11 we asked the questions of stabbings.

12 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Okay. Thank you  
13 very much. No further questions.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Others?

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, Mr. Alberti?

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: So I may have missed  
18 this in your testimony, but did MPD find blood at  
19 all in the establishment?

20 OFFICER HILL: I believe so. I saw  
21 blood myself on the floor. I'm not sure our  
22 crime scene person took pictures of. He took

1 pictures of the third floor and he took pictures  
2 of blood as well, took pictures of victims.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: So they took pictures  
4 of blood on the third floor crime scene cleared  
5 it, right?

6 OFFICER HILL: Yes. I never recorded  
7 the crime scene, but the response was to take  
8 photographs of the interior.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Did the crime scene  
10 photograph blood any other place?

11 OFFICER HILL: That I don't know.  
12 It's on another detailed report just for the  
13 crime scene and that's --

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

15 OFFICER HILL: -- I don't have access  
16 to that.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And where did  
18 you see blood?

19 OFFICER HILL: On the second floor as  
20 I came up. It's right there you come up from the  
21 ground to the second floor. As you are exiting  
22 it's just blood droplets right there.

1                   MEMBER ALBERTI: How much blood? Can  
2 you describe it? Do you recall?

3                   OFFICER HILL: I believe it was a  
4 large blood.

5                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Was it like on just  
6 one step or more than one step or it extended?  
7 Did it extend over an area? And can you describe  
8 that for me?

9                   OFFICER HILL: This is right at the  
10 top of the stairs, because I could just tell  
11 everything was just a mess, but the blood was  
12 just right at the top of the stairs coming up to  
13 get to the second floor. I see it's like blood  
14 where people were walking.

15                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. When you say  
16 they were cleaning up, did it appear that they  
17 were cleaning up just in general or they were  
18 cleaning specific areas?

19                   OFFICER HILL: Just in general,  
20 because I could see them picking up things off  
21 the floor and all over the area.

22                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Were they wiping up

1 the floor?

2 OFFICER HILL: That I can't recall  
3 specifically. I just remember they were picking  
4 up objects off the floor and then taking plastic  
5 bins back to the bar.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, I mean, it was  
7 your statement that they had, I guess, I want to  
8 say tampered with the crime scene, disturbed the  
9 crime scene.

10 OFFICER HILL: I think it wasn't as it  
11 was when the incident occurred, not to me or is--

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: How do you know that?

13 OFFICER HILL: In all sense, if an  
14 incident does occur, an incident does happen, the  
15 moment the officer gets there and it's not in the  
16 exact same or in a similar manner to which it was  
17 when the incident occurred, then the crime scene  
18 has been disturbed.

19 If someone comes in here and commits  
20 an act or commits a crime and everyone floods out  
21 of here, if there is anything moved after that  
22 portion of time, then that crime scene has been

1       disturbed.

2                   MEMBER ALBERTI:   Okay.   So what do you  
3       think was moved?

4                   OFFICER HILL:   Just things were picked  
5       up off the floor, so not knowing where those  
6       objects were, if those objects were used as  
7       weapons or in an offensive manner, things of that  
8       nature.  Obviously, the crime scene was disturbed  
9       because no one could pinpoint what they were  
10      stabbed or punctured with.  And that was another  
11      issue is they don't know if it was a knife or a  
12      glass item, so it's just if those items have been  
13      removed or disposed of or discarded of, then they  
14      can't be proven or disproven as being the weapon  
15      that was used.

16                   MEMBER ALBERTI:   Okay.  Did it appear  
17      that the floor had been wiped clean in any spots?

18                   OFFICER HILL:   Not that I can recall,  
19      no.

20                   MEMBER ALBERTI:   Okay.  Thank you.  I  
21      have no further questions.

22                   MEMBER SHORT:   Madam Chair?

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, Mr. Short?

2 MEMBER SHORT: Officer Hill, blood was  
3 on the floor, so that is verified from your  
4 testimony.

5 OFFICER HILL: Yes.

6 MEMBER SHORT: Did you question anyone  
7 in the club as to how the blood got on the floor  
8 or were they -- after they were aware the blood  
9 was on the floor, was there --

10 OFFICER HILL: I asked if they noticed  
11 anything that happened or a fight and those we  
12 moved basically they acknowledged that a fight  
13 happened. They didn't know anything about blood  
14 or a stabbing.

15 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. So a fight had  
16 happened.

17 OFFICER HILL: Right.

18 MEMBER SHORT: Blood was on the floor,  
19 but they didn't know anything other than that.

20 OFFICER HILL: No.

21 MEMBER SHORT: And so the crime scene  
22 was compromised in your professional --

1           OFFICER HILL: In my opinion, yes. If  
2 people are cleaning up things off the floor after  
3 a certain point, it has been disturbed.

4           MEMBER SHORT: And you said in your  
5 testimony also that they were cooperative?

6           OFFICER HILL: Yes.

7           MEMBER SHORT: But they didn't know  
8 how the blood got on the floor and they didn't  
9 know why they were cleaning up?

10          OFFICER HILL: Correct.

11          MEMBER SHORT: Is that fair to say?

12          OFFICER HILL: That would be a fair  
13 statement.

14          MEMBER SHORT: That's all I have,  
15 Madam Chair.

16          CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Others?  
17 Just to follow-up on Mr. Short's question, did  
18 you talk to patrons as well as employees or just  
19 employees?

20          OFFICER HILL: The only patrons I  
21 spoke with were the stabbing victims and everyone  
22 else after that were employees.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And the  
2 employees, they acknowledged that there was a  
3 fight?

4                   OFFICER HILL: Only a handful. I  
5 can't remember. I would have to look at my notes  
6 to tell you exactly how many acknowledged seeing  
7 a group of people fighting to men and women  
8 fighting to bottles being thrown, that was how it  
9 was described, different ways by different  
10 people.

11                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And did  
12 you find broken glass from the bottles?

13                   OFFICER HILL: That was on the third  
14 level. That I didn't -- I don't remember seeing,  
15 but the crime scene took photos of the third  
16 floor where there was broken glass.

17                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So were there  
18 other officers besides you that went into the  
19 establishment?

20                   OFFICER HILL: Yes.

21                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, okay. How  
22 many?

1           OFFICER HILL: I couldn't begin to  
2 tell you. There were detectives, ABRA  
3 Investigators, other officers assigned to that  
4 particular 18th Street detail, sergeants and  
5 command staff.

6           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So were you  
7 assigned to just a certain level or what?

8           OFFICER HILL: I was the reporting  
9 officer. It was my job just to go and get the  
10 names. Whoever was at the door could fill in the  
11 crime scene. I do not recall that person would  
12 have recorded names of anyone entering the  
13 establishment.

14          CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And how  
15 again did you become the reporting officer?

16          OFFICER HILL: I was walking south on  
17 18th Street from 18th and Columbia and the friends  
18 of the first victim saw me walking down the  
19 sidewalk and just walked me over towards her.  
20 She was sitting in a stairwell to the right of  
21 the main door of District Nightclub.

22          CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So you

1 were part of the police force that is out on 18th  
2 Street?

3 OFFICER HILL: No, that night I was  
4 detailed to an overtime assignment, because of  
5 shortage of personnel.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And then  
7 did you call the police officers on 18th Street  
8 for support?

9 OFFICER HILL: Yes. Some of the  
10 officers were also there and walking down 18th  
11 Street as well and once I was asking for an  
12 ambulance and when I had four, people then began  
13 to come up in that direction.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

15 OFFICER HILL: Some of them came up  
16 and then others were also walking down.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And were those  
18 officers part of the reimbursable detail or  
19 something else?

20 OFFICER HILL: They were, at the time,  
21 part of what I believe is to be the, what is now  
22 called, Nightlife Zone of 2300 and 2400 Blocks of

1 18th Street. They are part of that detail, yes.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So the  
3 Nightlife Zone police officers serve all the  
4 nightlife establishments on that corridor?

5 OFFICER HILL: In the 3rd District it  
6 is broken down to two separate areas. A group  
7 that serves U Street Corridor and then there is a  
8 group that used to be called Club Zone that  
9 serves the 18th Street Corridor. It's been  
10 renamed Nightlife, but it serves as pretty much  
11 our club area on the weekend hours and weekends.  
12 That's what they do, they pretty much handle from  
13 18th and Columbia south, 18th to, I believe,  
14 Florida, I believe they cover.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So you  
16 actually heard about the fight before any of  
17 those officers. Is that right?

18 OFFICER HILL: Well, I was the first  
19 MPD member to know of an incident occurring  
20 there.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. The other  
22 thing I just wanted to ask you about is I think

1 that you said you weren't familiar with how bars  
2 operate or their protocol when Haj was asking you  
3 about last call. Is -- are you not familiar  
4 with --

5 OFFICER HILL: I don't work that  
6 corridor and myself, I don't -- I am not a patron  
7 of bars and so I don't really know what time last  
8 call is. I do know that when I have worked that  
9 particular area, there is a time in which alcohol  
10 is stopped, the serving of alcohol is stopped and  
11 then there is a time when the establishment is  
12 then vacated or closed at a certain point. So  
13 that I'm familiar with. I couldn't -- I don't  
14 know an exact time.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

16 OFFICER HILL: An exact cutoff per  
17 establishment or per the corridor per day.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: But are you  
19 somewhat familiar with bars and nights or  
20 incidents that occur?

21 OFFICER HILL: At least I understand  
22 what last call means. I just don't know what

1 time. He is referring to a specific time, I do  
2 not know the time of when it was that night.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Are you  
4 familiar though with violent incidents that occur  
5 at bars or things like that or overcrowding at  
6 bars or other kinds of general situations?

7 OFFICER HILL: Yes, general I'm  
8 familiar with.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: You are. Okay.  
10 Good. All right. That's all of my questions.  
11 Are there any other Board questions? Any  
12 questions on Board questions?

13 MS. SCHMIDT: I have questions on Mr.  
14 Haj's questions.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

16 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay.

17 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

18 MS. SCHMIDT: Going back to the fifth  
19 stabbing, how far from the bar did that occur?

20 OFFICER HILL: I didn't interview that  
21 person personally, but the other officer gave the  
22 account to me and said the person was standing in

1 front of, directly, not actually in front of the  
2 door, but was in front of the club on 18th Street  
3 when he was stabbed.

4 MS. SCHMIDT: And did the other  
5 officer tell you if it was someone who was  
6 exiting the club who did the stabbing?

7 OFFICER HILL: I believe the gentleman  
8 wasn't able to provide a suspect in terms of it  
9 looked like -- he said he was just on the street  
10 or on the sidewalk with him.

11 MS. SCHMIDT: Right in front of the  
12 club though?

13 OFFICER HILL: Yes.

14 MS. SCHMIDT: But did the other  
15 officer know if that person came from within the  
16 club?

17 OFFICER HILL: Yes, that person he  
18 said they came from within.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Do you have any  
21 questions on the Board questions?

22 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION

1                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The person who got  
2 stabbed on the sidewalk, the police officer did  
3 not see the weapon? How? What he got stabbed  
4 with? Was it a knife? Was it a bottle? I mean,  
5 any information?

6                   OFFICER HILL: No.

7                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: You mentioned that  
8 he didn't know how these people got stabbed. And  
9 because of cleaning the glass and some broken  
10 bottles is as part of evidence, I was just  
11 curious to know if the police officer saw a  
12 broken bottle or a knife or the victim said  
13 anything about what she or he got stabbed with?

14                  OFFICER HILL: No.

15                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

16                  CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, it's a  
17 question. Do you not understand the question?

18                  OFFICER HILL: I'm sorry, the answer  
19 is no. I'm sorry.

20                  CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, no. I'm  
21 sorry. I didn't hear that. Okay. Thank you.  
22 That's it? Okay. Thank you. Thank you very

1 much.

2 OFFICER HILL: You're welcome.

3 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you very  
5 much for coming down. We appreciate it.

6 (Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

7 MS. SCHMIDT: The District calls  
8 Investigator Felicia Dantzler.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Good afternoon.

10 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Good  
11 afternoon.

12 Whereupon,

13 FELICIA DANTZLER

14 was called as a witness by Counsel for the  
15 Government, and having been first duly sworn,  
16 assumed the witness stand and was examined and  
17 testified as follows:

18 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: I affirm.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you.

20 DIRECT EXAMINATION

21 MS. SCHMIDT: Investigator Dantzler,  
22 could you state your name for the record?

1                   INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Felicia  
2 Dantzler.

3                   MS. SCHMIDT: And by whom are you  
4 employed?

5                   INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: The Alcoholic  
6 Beverage Regulation Administration, also known as  
7 ABRA.

8                   MS. SCHMIDT: And in what capacity are  
9 you employed?

10                  INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: I'm an  
11 Investigator.

12                  MS. SCHMIDT: And how long have you  
13 been an Investigator?

14                  INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Eight years.

15                  MS. SCHMIDT: And I call your  
16 attention to December 31, 2013. Well, January 1,  
17 2014, I apologize. Were you in the vicinity of  
18 2473 18th Street, N.W.?

19                  INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Yes, I was  
20 advised to report to that establishment.

21                  MS. SCHMIDT: What was the name of  
22 that establishment?

1 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: The District.

2 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. And how did you  
3 even know to go to that establishment that night?

4 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: ABRA  
5 Supervisor Investigator Keith Gethers received a  
6 call on ABRA's Hot Phone advising that there were  
7 multiple victims stabbed inside the establishment  
8 known as the District.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: And so what did you do  
10 as part of your investigation of that?

11 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Myself and  
12 ABRA Investigator Donnell Butler and Chief -- and  
13 Supervisor Chief of Enforcement Johnnie Jackson  
14 responded to the location.

15 MS. SCHMIDT: And what did you see as  
16 part of your investigation?

17 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Once I arrived  
18 on the scene, I observed the front of the  
19 establishment corner had yellow tape draped  
20 around the front of the establishment and I can  
21 see blood drops on the steps leading up to a  
22 second level next door to the establishment.

1 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. And did you speak  
2 to any of the owners of the establishment? Well,  
3 let's start with the security personnel of the  
4 establishment.

5 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Yes.

6 MS. SCHMIDT: And who did you speak to  
7 there?

8 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: James Brown.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: And what did he say  
10 about the security that evening?

11 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: James Brown  
12 was identified to me from one of the owners by  
13 the name of Mr. Wilder and he stated that James  
14 Brown was the head of security. I asked Mr.  
15 Brown did he witness anything. He stated he was  
16 making rounds on the mezzanine level and observed  
17 a commotion.

18 MS. SCHMIDT: What kind of commotion  
19 was it?

20 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: He stated it  
21 was some sort of fight that was going on.

22 MS. SCHMIDT: And did he notice

1 anybody being injured during that fight?

2 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: No.

3 MS. SCHMIDT: And did he say -- so  
4 what did he say about how that fight resolved  
5 itself?

6 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: He stated that  
7 one of the security guards had one of the people  
8 involved in the incident, the fight, there was  
9 about 7 to 10 people, he stated, involved in the  
10 fight. But three of the individuals were unruly  
11 and one of the security guards had one of those  
12 individuals in custody. And he was about, he  
13 meaning the other security guard, to walk him  
14 out.

15 Instead Mr. Brown stated that he took  
16 the person or should I say the group, he took the  
17 group, the three of the individuals and led them  
18 out the front door of the establishment.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. Now, as an  
20 Investigator, what should he have done? Did he  
21 handle the situation correctly?

22 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: According to

1 the security plan, no.

2 MS. SCHMIDT: What was he supposed to  
3 have done?

4 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: According to  
5 District's security plan, Mr. Brown should have  
6 had another security person with him as he  
7 escorted the individuals out of the  
8 establishment.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: And was he to call MPD  
10 or was his protocol to call MPD?

11 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: I don't recall  
12 that request stated in the security plan.

13 MS. SCHMIDT: And the -- okay. That  
14 was in the security plan, but if there is a  
15 situation where several people in a fight, isn't  
16 there plans where establishments regularly call  
17 MPD at that point?

18 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: At some point,  
19 yes.

20 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. And that happened  
21 this evening -- that evening as far as you know?

22 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: To my -- I

1 can't answer that. I don't know.

2 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. How many security  
3 people did he say were working that night?

4 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Approximate --  
5 according to Mr. Wilder, there were 17  
6 individuals working security.

7 MS. SCHMIDT: And were they supposed  
8 to be attired in a certain way?

9 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Yes, Mr.  
10 Wilder stated that security were identified by  
11 their all black attire, pink ties and they had a  
12 badge that had the establishment's name on it.

13 MS. SCHMIDT: Did you see any of those  
14 -- any of the security personnel wearing that  
15 attire that evening?

16 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: I saw  
17 individuals who were all dressed in black, but  
18 they were absent any name tags or ties.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: And when they are  
20 wearing black, do they have any -- did any of the  
21 clothing say District on them or anything or  
22 security, something that would alert the public

1 that they were, indeed, security?

2 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: No.

3 MS. SCHMIDT: And did Mr. Brown say  
4 anyone was injured at the establishment that  
5 evening?

6 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: Mr. -- as far  
7 as injuries, Mr. Brown didn't state that he saw  
8 anyone inside the establishment injured. He  
9 actually told me after escorting the group out of  
10 the establishment and watching them walk towards  
11 Columbia Road, upon his re-entry into the  
12 establishment, he saw a gentleman who was  
13 bleeding next door to their establishment.

14 And he asked the security guard who  
15 was at the door what was up with that guy and  
16 that security person told him that had nothing to  
17 do with their -- that had nothing to do with  
18 them.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. And were there  
20 any security cameras operating that evening?

21 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: No.

22 MS. SCHMIDT: And can I approach the

1 witness? I'm now going to show you, and Mr. Haj  
2 has a copy of these exhibits, what has been  
3 marked as Government Exhibit No., let's see, 6.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Schmidt,  
5 where are these exhibits?

6 MS. SCHMIDT: The exhibits to the  
7 report.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The case report?

9 MS. SCHMIDT: The report, 14-251 --  
10 I'm just trying to get the number, I'm sorry.  
11 The investigative report, 14-251-00003.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And, Mr. Haj, do  
13 you have a copy of that?

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I have a copy. Are  
15 you talking about No. 5?

16 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes, No. 5.

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No. 5 has nothing to  
18 do with the security system.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. I have it.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Right.

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Right.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Hold that.

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

3 MS. SCHMIDT: Could you tell the Board  
4 what that is?

5 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: That's a  
6 photograph of some type of modem and some DVRs, I  
7 believe.

8 (Whereupon, the above-referred to  
9 document was marked as Government  
10 Exhibit No. 6 for identification.)

11 MS. SCHMIDT: Did you take that  
12 picture?

13 INVESTIGATOR DANTZLER: No. ABRA  
14 Investigator Butler took the photographs.

15 MS. SCHMIDT: Can you look at the  
16 exhibits, please?

17 MS. DANTZLER: Yes, yes.

18 MS. SCHMIDT: And I'm now going to ask  
19 you about Exhibit No. 6 also.

20 MS. DANTZLER: That appears to be a  
21 picture of some sort of DVR.

22 MS. SCHMIDT: And Exhibit No. 7?

1 MS. DANTZLER: Assorted radios and  
2 radio parts.

3 (Whereupon, the above-referred to  
4 document was marked as Government  
5 Exhibit No. 7 for identification.)

6 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. And what are they  
7 supposed to be? Do you know what the function of  
8 these things are?

9 MS. DANTZLER: Yes. When I asked Mr.  
10 Brown about the use of the radios, he stated that  
11 -- I asked Mr. Brown about the radios and I asked  
12 Mr. Wilder about the security cameras. And Mr.  
13 Wilder asked that we follow him to the office.  
14 And there in the -- at the office, the three  
15 exhibits that you just asked me to identify,  
16 those items were in the office.

17 MS. SCHMIDT: And did he say that  
18 those were supposed to be linked to the security  
19 system?

20 MS. DANTZLER: Mr. Wilder did, yes.

21 MS. SCHMIDT: And was there any tape  
22 or whatever, digital recording, whatever media

1 that was retrieved from District that night?

2 MS. DANTZLER: No. Mr. Wilder  
3 admitted that the cameras were not working and  
4 that the establishment was equipped with 13 non-  
5 functional cameras.

6 MS. SCHMIDT: And were there any  
7 radios in use that evening?

8 MS. DANTZLER: According to Mr. Brown,  
9 yes.

10 MS. SCHMIDT: And about approximately  
11 how many people were in the establishment that  
12 evening, according to --

13 MS. DANTZLER: I believe Mr. Brown  
14 stated there were, approximately, 200 inside the  
15 establishment.

16 MS. SCHMIDT: And to your knowledge,  
17 how was security staff even assembled for that  
18 evening?

19 MS. DANTZLER: There were,  
20 approximately, 17 working that night. And I  
21 would have to see my report to know exactly where  
22 each were.

1 MS. SCHMIDT: I'm sorry. How were  
2 they hired for that evening?

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, I'm sorry,  
4 how were they what?

5 MS. SCHMIDT: Hired.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Hired?

7 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: H-I-R-E-D.

10 MS. DANTZLER: I spoke with one person  
11 who was identified by the time I arrived as one  
12 of the security guards. His name was, I think,  
13 James Van. Mr. Van stated that a friend of his  
14 asked him did he want to work security and told  
15 him about District needing some assistance with  
16 security guards.

17 MS. SCHMIDT: And did Mr. Brown know--  
18 assemble the staff? Did he know the staff prior  
19 to that evening?

20 MS. DANTZLER: According to Mr. Van,  
21 he did not know Mr. Brown prior to arriving at  
22 District.

1 MS. SCHMIDT: Did Mr. Van say he got  
2 any training that night?

3 MS. DANTZLER: To the extent that Mr.  
4 Brown had a meeting with the security individuals  
5 and talked about basic security measures.

6 MS. SCHMIDT: And were there any --  
7 prior to entering the club, was there any  
8 security performed on the patrons? Any sort of  
9 pat-downs or --

10 MS. DANTZLER: That I don't know.

11 MS. SCHMIDT: Did you see any wands  
12 when you went into District establishment?

13 MS. DANTZLER: No.

14 MS. SCHMIDT: Oh, and about the  
15 security, was it only -- were they only supposed  
16 to work at District that night?

17 MS. DANTZLER: I can't recall.

18 MS. SCHMIDT: Let's go to the setup of  
19 District. Is District a stand -- does District--  
20 what establishment is next to District?

21 MS. DANTZLER: Federal.

22 MS. SCHMIDT: And who is -- are they

1 connected at all?

2 MS. DANTZLER: From my previous  
3 experience, when the establishments were called--  
4 Federal was called Saki and District was called  
5 Chloe. And during my investigations when the  
6 establishments was under the previous names, I do  
7 know that they were connected from a rear step.

8 MS. SCHMIDT: And do you know if that  
9 night they shared security?

10 MS. DANTZLER: That I do not know.

11 MS. SCHMIDT: No further questions, at  
12 this time.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Your turn,  
14 Haj.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Ms. Dantzler, are  
17 you aware that Federal was closed one hour  
18 earlier, because we did not have the permission  
19 to be open?

20 MS. DANTZLER: No, sir.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. Did James  
22 Brown mention that these radios were used?

1 MS. DANTZLER: Yes, he did.

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Did everybody  
3 cooperated with you to the best of their ability,  
4 including the owners?

5 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That's all I have.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you.  
8 Board Members? Mr. Short?

9 MEMBER SHORT: Yes. Mr. Haj?

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No.

12 MEMBER SHORT: Huh?

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: You're going to  
14 ask Ms. Dantzler.

15 MEMBER SHORT: Ms. Dantzler.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: You said Mr. Haj.

17 MEMBER SHORT: I'll save my questions.  
18 I'm sorry.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes. Okay. Do  
20 you have any for Ms. Dantzler?

21 MEMBER SHORT: No.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Others?

1 Yes, Mr. Alberti?

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: So, Investigator  
3 Dantzler, thank you for your report. I have a  
4 short memory, so can you go over briefly what Mr.  
5 Brown said he knew about incidents that evening?

6 MS. DANTZLER: Mr. Brown stated that  
7 he was on the mezzanine level and he observed  
8 some commotion. I understood it to be some sort  
9 of physical altercation. And he went over to  
10 assist the security guard who was assigned to the  
11 third floor. And that security person was Mr.  
12 Van.

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. That security  
14 guard was Mr. Van?

15 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Did Mr. Brown  
17 say -- tell you whether or not he was aware that  
18 anyone had gotten stabbed?

19 MS. DANTZLER: He only stated that he  
20 recalled someone being injured when he was  
21 outside the establishment.

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Did you ask

1 him about people being injured or harmed inside?

2 MS. DANTZLER: I can't recall.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. In your  
4 report, you mentioned a Mr. James Nicholas Hall.

5 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm reading from your  
7 report and tell me if this is correct. "Mr. Hall  
8 stayed approximately an hour after dispute/fight  
9 erupted, which did not include him. Mr. Hall  
10 stated he was leaving. As he was leaving, he  
11 felt a sting on his right side. Then he walked  
12 farther and felt another sting in his left side.  
13 Mr. Hall stated once outside, he realized he was  
14 wet and cold in the areas where he felt the  
15 sting, so he looked at his clothing and  
16 discovered that he was bleeding."

17 So where is the VIP section?

18 MS. DANTZLER: Mr. Hall was on the  
19 mezzanine level, the top level.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: He was on the top  
21 level?

22 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And do you  
2 recall what I have just read to you from your  
3 report?

4 MS. DANTZLER: I do.

5 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And it's  
6 accurate as I read it?

7 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Great. So  
9 then do you have the report in front of you?

10 MS. DANTZLER: I do not.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Can we get her a copy  
12 of the report, please? Because I want to refresh  
13 your memory on your interview with Mr. Van.

14 MS. SCHMIDT: Is there a copy of that,  
15 I can pass my copy.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Do you need a  
17 copy?

18 MS. DANTZLER: Yes, if you would.  
19 Thank you.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Do you want to read  
21 the last paragraph on the fourth page to refresh  
22 your memory?

1 MS. DANTZLER: The very last one?

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, it's the  
3 paragraph on page 4 starting "On Wednesday,  
4 January 2, 2014, Investigator Dantzler  
5 telephonically interviewed James Van." Can you  
6 read that paragraph? Not out loud, just read it  
7 to refresh your memory.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I just want to  
9 say for the record, you are reading from 14-251-  
10 00003, correct?

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

13 MS. DANTZLER: Okay. That one.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's correct. That  
15 one. I'm sorry, yes, I forgot there were two  
16 reports.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

18 MS. DANTZLER: Okay. Could you repeat  
19 your question?

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: So it's page 4. I  
21 would like you to read -- I'll give you a moment  
22 to read that paragraph. The second -- the last

1 large paragraph on that page.

2 MS. DANTZLER: "On Wednesday, January  
3 2 --

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: No, just read it to  
5 yourself.

6 MS. DANTZLER: Okay.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: And then you can  
8 testify to refresh your memory.

9 MS. DANTZLER: Okay. I have  
10 concluded.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So what did  
12 Mr. Van tell you about having been assigned a  
13 radio or a flashlight?

14 MS. DANTZLER: Mr. Van stated that he  
15 was not provided a radio. He only had a  
16 flashlight.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Where was Mr. Van  
18 stationed?

19 MS. DANTZLER: On the mezzanine level.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: And can you tell me  
21 where that is in the club?

22 MS. DANTZLER: The top level, the very

1 top level.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Where was it with  
3 respect to the VIP section?

4 MS. DANTZLER: I understood the VIP  
5 section and the -- the VIP section is in the --  
6 on the mezzanine level.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: It is. Okay.

8 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Did he say anything  
10 about observing a disturbance up there?

11 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: Can you tell me what  
13 he said to you about that?

14 MS. DANTZLER: He stated that he was  
15 looking over the railing, and I understood that  
16 he was looking at the one level below, and then  
17 he heard a commotion. He turned and saw a fight  
18 that was in progress. And --

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Did he describe  
20 anything about the fight?

21 MS. DANTZLER: Yes. According to my  
22 report, he stated that he heard a female yelling

1 they are stabbing people.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Did he say  
3 anything to lead you to believe that it was  
4 multiple people or just one person, just two  
5 people or anything about the size of the number  
6 of people involved? Did he say anything that  
7 would lead you to -- give you some idea about the  
8 size of the group involved?

9 MS. DANTZLER: I understood him to say  
10 it was like a melee.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Like a what?

12 MS. DANTZLER: Melee.

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: Melee?

14 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. You said  
16 in your report that he turned and saw guys  
17 pushing one another and the fight erupted between  
18 men-on-men and girls-on-girls. Is that correct?

19 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Is that what is in  
21 your report?

22 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: Great. Did he say  
2 anything about seeing anyone with blood on them?

3 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: He did?

5 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Did he say  
7 anything about calling 911?

8 MS. DANTZLER: No.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Did he say that he  
10 did? Did he say that he didn't?

11 MS. DANTZLER: He didn't say either  
12 way. His action was to jump to -- jump into it  
13 and to disperse it or break it up as best he  
14 could.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. I have no  
16 further questions right now. Thank you.

17 MS. DANTZLER: Okay.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Are there other  
19 questions? I just have one or two follow-up.  
20 Just I'm not clear. As far as what you  
21 witnessed, what did you notice that would lead  
22 someone to believe that there was stabbings

1       inside the establishment versus outside? Do you  
2       think that -- is there something to believe that  
3       some were inside and some were outside? Can you  
4       just kind of address that for me maybe?

5               MS. DANTZLER: Yes. The stairs that  
6       were leading up to where MPD, the third level,  
7       the mezzanine level, that area was cordoned off  
8       by yellow tape as well as a police officer.

9       However, I was able to go up the stairs to that  
10      point. He being the unidentified officer in  
11      charge of that space, saw that I was trying to  
12      take photographs, but couldn't do so  
13      successfully, so he took my camera and took  
14      photographs of blood that was leading to the  
15      bathroom and blood that was on the walls.

16             CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So that's  
17      where the indications are bleeding or stabbing  
18      inside?

19             MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

20             CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And this  
21      is how many hours later did you arrive after the  
22      stabbing?

1 MS. DANTZLER: I arrived approximately  
2 4:16, 4:20 in the morning. And was probably  
3 there an hour and a half or so.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Now, did  
5 you say you saw somebody bleeding outside?

6 MS. DANTZLER: I did not see anyone  
7 bleeding. I saw remnants of someone bleeding. I  
8 believe it was a jacket. There were blood, large  
9 blood droppings on like two or three steps as if  
10 maybe someone was sitting there, because I could  
11 see the jacket or shirt that was left behind.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Outside the  
13 establishment?

14 MS. DANTZLER: Outside the  
15 establishment, yes.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Where?

17 MS. DANTZLER: Next door.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Next door. Okay.  
19 Next door being Federal?

20 MS. DANTZLER: Next door not being  
21 Federal with the establishment facing me, it  
22 would be the establishment to the right of

1 District.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. The other  
3 side.

4 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The other side.

6 Okay. Okay.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: I have --

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- just one quick  
10 question. I'm sorry. I forgot to ask this  
11 earlier. So, Investigator Dantzler, do you still  
12 have your report there?

13 MS. DANTZLER: I do.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: And do you have the  
15 attachment, which is the District Lounge and  
16 Grill Security Plan?

17 MS. DANTZLER: I do not.

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Exhibit 12?

19 MS. DANTZLER: I'm sorry?

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Exhibit 12, District  
21 Lounge and Grill Security Plan. Do you have that  
22 there?

1 MS. DANTZLER: I do not have the  
2 actual exhibit. I don't have 12.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Can we get her  
4 Exhibit 12 or a copy of it? You can borrow mine  
5 if you would like.

6 MS. SCHMIDT: I'll give her mine.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. Thank  
8 you. That's better because mine is marked up.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: I just have to get it  
10 out of here, that's all.

11 MS. DANTZLER: I have it.

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: Great. Would you  
13 look at the first paragraph? I'm really  
14 interested in the last sentence of that first  
15 paragraph.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And which exhibit  
17 are we looking at?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Exhibit 12.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: District Lounge and  
21 Grill Security Plan.

22 (Whereupon, the above-referred to

1 document was marked as Government  
2 Exhibit No. 12 for identification.)

3 MS. DANTZLER: Page 1 of 3?

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: It's really about the  
5 security camera system.

6 MS. DANTZLER: "There shall be a  
7 security camera system recording throughout the  
8 building during business hours."

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you. Now, you  
10 testified earlier, you talked about I think Mr.  
11 Wilder's security system?

12 MS. DANTZLER: Correct.

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: Will you remind me  
14 what you said about that? What he told you about  
15 that?

16 MS. DANTZLER: Mr. --

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: The security system  
18 on that evening.

19 MS. DANTZLER: -- Wilder admitted that  
20 the 13 security cameras were not operating.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you. I have no  
22 further questions.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Questions  
2 on Board questions?

3 MS. SCHMIDT: None from the  
4 Government.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. All right.  
6 Thank you very much.

7 MS. DANTZLER: You're welcome.  
8 (Whereupon, witness temporarily  
9 excused.)

10 MS. SCHMIDT: The Government rests, at  
11 this point.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you.  
13 All right. Are you ready to proceed with your  
14 case?

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: If the Board has any  
16 questions, I will be happy to --

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Why don't  
18 you take the witness stand then, so it's in  
19 evidence? I'm going to swear you in.  
20 Whereupon,

21 ALIREZA HAJALIGHOLI  
22 was called as a witness for the Licensee, and

1 having been first duly sworn, assumed the witness  
2 stand and was examined and testified as follows:

3 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I do.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. You can  
5 have a seat. There is a microphone on the table.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I also want to  
8 say that, you know, before I said you weren't  
9 sworn in, so if there is something you want to  
10 tell the Board now you are under oath and you  
11 should feel free to do that if you want to.

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The only thing I  
14 want to mention is that I'm sure the Board knows  
15 that anyone at any given time --

16 (Cell phone rings.)

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sorry, can I turn it  
18 off? It's the alarm. My kid's alarm.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: At any given time,  
21 somebody can cause a huge problem or a deranged  
22 person can pull some -- pull a knife and stab a

1 couple of people. I'm not excusing it. If I  
2 were in charge of my establishment, I may have  
3 done things differently.

4 But as you remember, I came in front  
5 of the Board and stated that I'm not capable of  
6 running my businesses any more. And I feel that  
7 when it comes to punishment for the crime, as an  
8 owner of the business, I can't have -- endure a  
9 huge amount of punishment, much more than a  
10 couple thousand dollars. I lost my business.

11 And I did that by choice. I did not  
12 decide to come in front of the Board 72 hours  
13 later. I refuse to allow the place to be open  
14 period. I returned the license to the landlord  
15 and took a loss over a quarter million dollars  
16 and never benefitted by one cent, not one piece  
17 of equipment.

18 And if it's to punish the landlord  
19 because he is the one that is the license holder,  
20 he has been punished for two years not being able  
21 to collect rent and having his license being in  
22 limbo.

1           I just feel that an action of somebody  
2 who is running the business doesn't necessarily  
3 mean that someone else cannot come in and make  
4 some adjustment or do some other things that they  
5 are supposed to do, which I was promised by my  
6 partners and it didn't work out that way,  
7 unfortunately.

8           So I feel that the landlord shouldn't  
9 be punished any more than he has been punished.  
10 And I self-imposed punishment on myself by giving  
11 up the business that had a value. Basically, I  
12 walked away and immediately put the second place  
13 on the market and sold it and it's gone.

14           So I did not want to take a chance the  
15 same thing happening to my other establishment  
16 and I shut the door.

17           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Which  
18 establishment are you referring to?

19           MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Federal.

20           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you.  
21 Okay. Are you ready for questions?

22           MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sure.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Schmidt, do  
2 you have questions?

3                   MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. I have one  
4 question.

5                   CROSS-EXAMINATION

6                   MS. SCHMIDT: How is it that your  
7 landlord it now the owner of the license? Was  
8 there an official transfer from ABRA?

9                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The landlord is the  
10 owner of the license.

11                  MS. SCHMIDT: Is his -- was his name  
12 on the license originally?

13                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Originally it was in  
14 his name and as a common practice many of the  
15 landlords own licenses for the establishment and  
16 they have the ability to, basically, yank your  
17 license away if you don't pay the rent.

18                  In similar situations, as a matter of  
19 fact, that has happened in Adams Morgan, the  
20 landlord immediately shut the place and took the  
21 license and transferred to themselves and got a  
22 new tenant. We have been one of them.

1 MS. SCHMIDT: And what is your  
2 landlord's name?

3 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Paul Reneau.

4 MS. SCHMIDT: Paul?

5 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Realty.

6 MS. SCHMIDT: And you are going to go  
7 -- we are going to go -- we are trying to get the  
8 records right now to see, because I only see Dino  
9 Diego Tapper, Ari Wilder, you and Mr. McLean.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Right. And we  
11 transferred the license to the landlord and the  
12 landlord came to the Board and put - tried to put  
13 the license in safekeeping. And for some reason,  
14 they did not rule on it and they told me that  
15 because this issue is up in the air, we have to  
16 resolve it before he can put it.

17 So they asked me to put the license in  
18 the safekeeping. I came down. I met with the  
19 Investigators and they told me you can't put the  
20 license in your safekeeping because you have  
21 given your rights away back to the landlord. So  
22 landlord can put it under safekeeping.

1           And my understanding is there had been  
2 a couple of Fact-Finding or whatever that has  
3 been put on the agenda, but the Board never has  
4 acted on it. The gentleman told me that he  
5 couldn't figure out why this license is not in  
6 safekeeping, because license cannot be just out  
7 there.

8           So the license right now, I can't put  
9 it under safekeeping, it's not mine. The  
10 landlord can't put it on and it has been -- we  
11 have been -- he has been paying on it, renewed  
12 it, but he is not able to find somebody else and  
13 bring it basically and transfer it and go through  
14 the process, maybe some adjustment on the  
15 voluntary, maybe some restriction, but save his  
16 license and his property.

17           MS. SCHMIDT: I have asked Ms.  
18 Dantzler to research this, so we can move on to  
19 another area.

20           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

21           MS. SCHMIDT: Because I am totally --  
22 I have not heard -- you know, I do not see his

1 name. I do not see any formal transfer of the  
2 license. I'm just -- and I am not privy to the  
3 Board's deliberations on this matter, so I'm not  
4 aware. So I asked Ms. Dantzler to -- and then we  
5 can present evidence on this in a little while.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

7 MS. SCHMIDT: All right.

8 MEMBER SHORT: I'm going to ask  
9 questions.

10 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. No further  
11 questions, at this time.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right. Board  
13 questions?

14 MEMBER SHORT: I have a question.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Go ahead.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Short?

17 MEMBER SHORT: Mr. Haj, how are you  
18 today?

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Good. Thank you,  
20 sir.

21 MEMBER SHORT: Great. Five people  
22 were stabbed in the establishment, which you have

1 part ownership.

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

3 MEMBER SHORT: You said you had 18  
4 security there that night, correct?

5 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I was told that they  
6 had 18 security.

7 MEMBER SHORT: What is the occupancy  
8 load?

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The occupancy of the  
10 place is 355.

11 MEMBER SHORT: How many?

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: 355.

13 MEMBER SHORT: 355. And you had 18  
14 staff there?

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That's --

16 MEMBER SHORT: So you had plenty of  
17 security there.

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That's -- I -- sir,  
19 I was not running my business. I took in two  
20 partners to run the business. I just happened to  
21 go that night, because it was New Year's Eve.  
22 After I put my kid to bed, I felt like, you know,

1 maybe I go there and it was the first night, it  
2 was the very first night the place was open. So  
3 it was the grand opening of the establishment.

4 MEMBER SHORT: Okay.

5 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: At New Year's Eve.

6 MEMBER SHORT: Well, let me finish.

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

8 MEMBER SHORT: Then you have -- how  
9 many people were in the club that night when you  
10 got there?

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: When I got there, I  
12 am a bit older, I don't really -- I'm not a  
13 clubby-person. I don't know whose phone this is  
14 by the way, oh, it's a recorder. Sorry. I  
15 stayed in my other place, Federal, which is next  
16 door. And I helped Mr. Tapper close the Federal,  
17 because Federal will not -- was not allowed to  
18 open one extra hour for some technical reason.

19 MEMBER SHORT: Let's leave Federal  
20 where it is.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. And then I  
22 got a call while I was sitting in the office in

1 the other establishment there was a radio there  
2 and somebody on the radio said there is a fight.  
3 By the time I came out, went up to District, I  
4 saw the people outside and I saw the dropped  
5 blood and then I didn't see who stabbed who. And  
6 the lights were on. The busboys were cleaning  
7 some of the broken glass.

8 MEMBER SHORT: We've got that  
9 testimony.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

11 MEMBER SHORT: How many years have you  
12 been in business in the District of Columbia?

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I have been in  
14 business, sir, for over 40 years.

15 MEMBER SHORT: Have you ever had any  
16 violence in any other businesses that you have  
17 run in Washington?

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Never.

19 MEMBER SHORT: Never had any violence?

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Never. Never.

21 MEMBER SHORT: This is the very first  
22 time?

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: It's the very first  
2 time, sir. And I brought -- I have run some of  
3 the roughest joints in this town.

4 MEMBER SHORT: Can you name them?

5 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sure. Before I  
6 owned the business, I was the general manager of  
7 Good Guys 1720 Club and another Good Guys in  
8 Maryland. And I never had a violation. I'm  
9 talking about a long time ago. If they have a  
10 violation last 10, 15, 20 years, that has nothing  
11 to do with me.

12 But and then before that in 1980 I  
13 opened my first place that was called Club Soda.  
14 It was the only music club, basically Motown and  
15 Oldies, that was my first establishment.

16 MEMBER SHORT: Where was that located?

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Right across from  
18 Uptown Theater.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes, yes.

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And then I opened a  
21 place called By Word of Mouth in Friendship  
22 Heights.

1                   MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Now, let's --  
2                   and all of these establishments, what kind of  
3                   cliental did you cater to or what kind of  
4                   cliental were you catering to the night of the  
5                   five people stabbed?

6                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: If you are asking me  
7                   that if I chose --

8                   MEMBER ALBERTI: No, I didn't ask you  
9                   that.

10                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: -- that crowd,  
11                  that's --

12                  MEMBER SHORT: Who were your patrons  
13                  in the business that night?

14                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: My patrons --

15                  MEMBER SHORT: Let's go by age first.

16                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. Age, I would  
17                  say, some were -- the girls usually are younger,  
18                  so they are 21, 22, that type of age. Anywhere  
19                  from 21, 22 for the girls to 30-something and the  
20                  guys 25 to 40.

21                  MEMBER SHORT: Okay. And so this is  
22                  normally the --

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That's what I saw at  
2 District when I got the call and I went up.

3 MEMBER SHORT: Okay.

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I saw walking out.

5 MEMBER SHORT: Now, and you testified  
6 earlier that you saw blood on the ground. Where  
7 did you see the blood?

8 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: When I walked  
9 upstairs, I saw in the mezzanine, because it was  
10 past last call. They just turned the lights on.  
11 And you -- I have to remind you that the one  
12 reason that nobody saw blood was because the  
13 place was dark.

14 MEMBER SHORT: Well, somebody saw  
15 blood, because we've got testimony.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: They saw it when --

17 MEMBER SHORT: The police officer saw  
18 blood.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: -- immediately after  
20 last call.

21 MEMBER SHORT: Okay.

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: They turned the

1 lights on when they know it was a fight and  
2 that's when the blood was there. And I walked up  
3 and I saw the blood. I got upset. I looked for  
4 the commander and my concern was that the people  
5 that got stabbed if they were okay.

6 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Now, great,  
7 great. That's good, too. Now, please, let me  
8 further go with this. Your business that you are  
9 a part of --

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

11 MEMBER SHORT: -- five people were  
12 injured, stabbed. You saw the blood. You said  
13 you have been in business in Washington, D.C. for  
14 40 years. So you would know that Washington,  
15 D.C. really doesn't accept this kind of business  
16 in Washington, D.C. Is that correct?

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I completely  
18 understand that, sir.

19 MEMBER SHORT: Thank you very much.  
20 That's all I have, Madam Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Others?  
22 Yes, Mr. Alberti?

1                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Haj, this happened on  
2 New Year's Eve?

3                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

4                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Well, first of  
5 all, I don't want to put words in your mouth,  
6 but, and I'm a little confused here and I want to  
7 make sure I'm clear, Board Member Short said to  
8 you five persons were stabbed in the  
9 establishment and you said yes. Is that true?

10                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I was -- I'm going  
11 by what everybody else is telling me afterwards.

12                  MEMBER ALBERTI: But so you don't --  
13 all right.

14                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I never --

15                  MEMBER ALBERTI: Who is everybody?

16                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The police officer,  
17 the commander told me that there was one person  
18 that got an artificial wound on his head on the  
19 sidewalk. And there is total of four or five  
20 people.

21                  CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. One  
22 second. I want to make sure that the court

1 reporter --

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- thank you.

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Can I get my water  
5 while we --

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, please, go  
7 get your water.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes, go get your  
9 water, of course.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I want to make  
11 sure that the court reporter didn't miss some of  
12 the testimony. Would you have? Did you miss any  
13 of the testimony?

14 COURT REPORTER: No, it's all  
15 recording.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: It's all  
17 recording. Okay.

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I mean, you  
20 needed your water anyway. So thank you.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Where were we?

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: To the members of the

1 audience, please, do not disturb the court  
2 reporter. If you have questions, please, have  
3 staff contact our General Counsel, but do not  
4 disturb these proceedings, please.

5 MEMBER SHORT: Thank you, Mr. Alberti.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Okay.

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: So by the time I got  
8 upstairs, already there were police officers  
9 walking up from the front of the place. So I  
10 was, basically, just accompanying the police  
11 officers. I saw a few drops of blood on the  
12 steps.

13 Then we went to mezzanine and saw  
14 blood --

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: -- on the wall.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: I got that. All  
18 right.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: So did you talk to  
21 staff about what happened inside?

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Oh, I was losing my

1 mind. I was extremely upset.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So did you  
3 talk to staff?

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And staff, the few  
5 that I knew, basically, yes. I was extremely  
6 upset with Mr. Wilder. I was extremely upset  
7 with James Brown. And I took -- I asked the  
8 commander if he wants me to stay. He said if you  
9 didn't see anything --

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. Well,  
11 let's stay on track with my question.

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right.

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes, I did talk to  
15 them.

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: So you talked to at  
17 least Mr. Wilder and Mr. Brown?

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I talked to Mr.  
19 Wilder.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: What did they tell  
21 you about what happened inside?

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: He said they didn't

1 know. It happened so quickly.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: So they denied having  
3 any knowledge?

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: They said by the  
5 time they knew, it was already happened.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: What happened?

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That somebody got  
8 stabbed. They heard it --

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Somebody got stabbed  
10 where?

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: They heard it from  
12 the doorman at the front that somebody has been  
13 stabbed.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Where?

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Inside the District.

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Great. Thank  
17 you. This was -- this event occurred on New  
18 Year's Eve, so it was 2013.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Right.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. All  
21 right. Do you know anything about this event?  
22 The planning for this event at all?

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: As I mentioned to  
2 you before, sir, you know, if you recall, I came  
3 in front of the Board and I, basically, gave away  
4 a portion of my business, so -- for two people  
5 that I thought they were capable of running it.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: So you don't -- you  
7 have no idea who was organizing that evening, the  
8 planning for that evening?

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That --

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: Is that what you are  
11 telling me or am I incorrect?

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I was not a managing  
13 partner. I -- but I happened to be there that  
14 night.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Do you know  
16 who Hollywood Vito is?

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Hollywood Detail?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes, V-I-T-O.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: I think it's V-I-T-O.  
21 Yes, V-I-T-O. Hollywood Vito. No? Did you see  
22 the flyers?

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes, I saw the  
2 flyer.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. "We own  
4 the night."

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Alberti, are  
6 those exhibits?

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: This is Exhibit 2 in  
8 the investigative report, 14-251-00003(a).

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: And then there are --  
11 it says co-hosted by Hollywood Vito.

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I saw the exhibit.  
13 I saw the flyer that is an exhibit.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Any idea what that  
15 means?

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Do I know what that  
17 means?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes. What that  
19 implies? I mean, who is Hollywood Vito? What  
20 was their role?

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I have no idea, sir.  
22 They -- my understanding was that they booked

1 different parties on the different area of the  
2 business. And some of these people basically  
3 brought guests and I think they got paid for  
4 booking parties, different parties. So they had  
5 a number of different groups of people.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm going to read a  
7 quote from you on October 24, 2013, just a couple  
8 of short months prior to this.

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: All promoters.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: We had a Fact-Finding  
11 here to talk about the operations of District,  
12 because we were concerned. I mean, it just  
13 seemed like every establishment there had some  
14 problems. And so we had to move on there and we  
15 wanted to find out what the plans were. And you  
16 assured us "They are not going to have promoters,  
17 sir. I understand we are not getting that. They  
18 are not going to have promoters, people that come  
19 in there and they have the place to their own.  
20 That's one of the very few things we discussed.  
21 We are not going to have other people coming to  
22 our place and take over and try to run it. It's

1 going to be all in-house."

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes. That's -- I  
3 remember that.

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: This says -- does  
5 what you described to me seem to contradict that?

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: You are absolutely  
7 right.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes. All right.  
9 Thank you for your honesty. I appreciate that.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sure.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you. I have no  
12 further questions.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Alberti, do  
14 you have the cite for that in the transcript? Do  
15 you have a page or anything?

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes. It's transcript  
17 -- well, it's in -- I'm quoting from what appears  
18 in the investigative report I just referenced on  
19 page 3 is an excerpt that I read. I read from  
20 that excerpt, but this is from the October 24,  
21 2013 Fact-Finding Hearing. It is transcript page  
22 48 and 49.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And is  
2 that also attached as an exhibit to the case  
3 report?

4                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes, those pages, I  
5 believe, are attached to the -- I'm not sure. I  
6 can't say for certain.

7                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, I see it.  
8 It is Exhibit 13.

9                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes. I think they  
10 are kind of -- yes, they are attached to the  
11 investigative report I just previously  
12 referenced.

13                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Got it. Great.  
14 Thank you. Other questions?

15                   So I would like to follow-up on that  
16 then.

17                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sure.

18                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So were there  
19 promoters being used that night?

20                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Obviously, there  
21 were promoters.

22                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And so you are

1 one of four partners at that time?

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I was one of the  
3 four partners, yes.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And you are  
5 saying, if I understand you correctly, that you  
6 weren't involved in what was happening that  
7 night? You weren't in the club.

8 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: At the same Fact-  
9 Finding Hearing that the gentleman just  
10 mentioned, it was the one that I came here in  
11 front of the Board and I brought Dino Tapper and  
12 Ari Wilder, and I stated that me and my brother  
13 cannot manage our business. These are the people  
14 that I'm bringing in.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Therefore, that's  
17 how the whole thing happened. If I wanted to run  
18 the business, then I wouldn't need to bring these  
19 people in and basically give them part of my  
20 business.

21 Unfortunately, as I said before, if it  
22 was me, I wouldn't maybe open grand opening on

1 New Year's Eve, you know. Being in this business  
2 for a long time, I may have opened several weeks  
3 earlier and, you know, have some other things. I  
4 would hire extra people, bodies just to have  
5 bodies there.

6 But regardless, it happened, but my --  
7 the only point that I have is I feel that  
8 everyone is making it that this location is the  
9 problem. And I want to mention that it's not the  
10 location. It's who runs the business. And for  
11 that reason, I feel that somebody else can be  
12 screened and restriction can be put on that  
13 person.

14 Mr. James can draw a new seating  
15 arrangement that he likes and the landlord can,  
16 basically, release this place and use his license  
17 that he legally owns and is paying for.

18 And as far as punishment again, I  
19 think I have been punished plenty when it comes  
20 to dollars and cents and as far as me shutting  
21 the place, I did it voluntarily and did not want  
22 to fight and reopen it.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: What's your  
2 brother's name?

3                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Michael McLean.

4                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So Ari  
5 Wilder and Dino Tapper were supposedly the ones  
6 who --

7                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

8                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- were  
9 responsible. And did you have any kind of  
10 agreement with them that shows that they are the  
11 ones that manage and you don't?

12                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Well, yes, we have  
13 the -- actually, I give them a share of my  
14 business. And they -- for free. And they end up  
15 with 25 percent each on that business. Not on  
16 the Federal. Because I knew the District was a  
17 difficult location, being a large place and  
18 needed someone to really put their heart and soul  
19 in there.

20                  And by giving them a percentage, I  
21 thought that would be a good incentive for them  
22 to do the right thing. Dino I know for a long

1 time. He is a food person. Ari Wilder, I met  
2 through Dino Tapper. Unfortunately, it didn't  
3 happen the way that I wanted it to happen and  
4 they jumped, I think, a little too quick maybe or  
5 they did a few things that I would have done  
6 differently, if it was my choice, but I'm not  
7 denying the fact that this incident happened  
8 there.

9 My issue is we did not -- I know for  
10 a fact no one tried to clean blood, so nobody can  
11 see the blood. You know, you having a staff that  
12 half of them are working the kitchen and hardly  
13 speak English and they see glass broken on the  
14 floor, they go pick it up. They were not mopping  
15 blood. We stopped it immediately as soon as I  
16 see -- I saw the police officer.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So --

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And I had a  
19 conversation with the Watch Commander. He told  
20 me if you didn't see anything, you can go home.  
21 Everybody already been released. It's artificial  
22 wounds. I was concerned that somebody was

1 seriously hurt. And that was the end of it. And  
2 I refused -- I thought I order Dino Tapper the  
3 doors are shut and I, basically, returned the  
4 license to the landlord with all the equipment  
5 and all the furnishing and everything else.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So as far  
7 as you know, the license is with the landlord?

8 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The license is with  
9 the landlord. It is transferred to the landlord,  
10 but not in safekeeping.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: But as far as  
12 physically, it's with the landlord, because it  
13 wasn't put in safekeeping here. Is that right?

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Well, we -- I came  
15 here to get a copy, because I couldn't find the  
16 license. And I got a copy and I gave it to, I  
17 forgot the gentleman's name, I'm sorry. One of  
18 the head Investigators and because they called me  
19 and told me you need to bring the license and put  
20 it in safekeeping.

21 So I looked for it and didn't find it  
22 in the establishment. It was closed and I didn't

1 have access. My landlord let me go up there, I  
2 couldn't find the license. I came here to get a  
3 copy. And then they came out and told me that  
4 it's not your's because it had already been  
5 transferred to the landlord. So you really don't  
6 have any right to this license. He needs to put  
7 it under safekeeping. So --

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The landlord said  
9 that he had it?

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Landlord, no. No.  
11 We also got robbed, by the way, shortly after.  
12 Not shortly after, a few months after.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So are you saying  
14 you don't really know where the physical license  
15 is?

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I brought a copy.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, not a copy,  
18 but the license itself.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: But the actual  
20 license, I couldn't find it.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: Mr. Short.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh.

2                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: But I asked for the  
3 substitute license. They told me that it's not  
4 mine any more.

5                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Who?

6                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The two gentlemen  
7 that called me and said you need to come put your  
8 license under safekeeping. I went to the  
9 landlord, asked for the license. He let me in  
10 the place. We went through the office. I  
11 couldn't find the board with all the licenses,  
12 but I had copies of it on the computer, so I  
13 printed. I came down here and asked for a  
14 substitute license so I can put it in  
15 safekeeping.

16                   Then 10, 15 minutes later, a couple of  
17 the Investigators, one I know and one processing  
18 gentleman, a tall gentleman, came and said well,  
19 you are nobody. You can't. This license belongs  
20 to the landlord. And the Board is going to put  
21 it in safekeeping. And I said well, landlord  
22 told me to come here.

1           And they said we don't understand why  
2           the Board hasn't acted on this, because this is a  
3           normal procedure. So I've been coming back and  
4           forth. I don't own the businesses any more.

5           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

6           MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The landlord called  
7           me today. I was very confused about today's  
8           date, because it was changed so many times, but I  
9           talked to Mr. Moosally and tried to get here to  
10          see if there is anything I can add.

11          CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Just so we  
12          can get to the bottom of some of the confusion  
13          though and then we can look into this license  
14          issue --

15          MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

16          CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- a little bit  
17          later, but when the licensee -- you said the  
18          licensee didn't know why the Board didn't act on  
19          this, what is it that the licensee -- that the  
20          landlord thought the Board was to act on?

21          MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Well, the gentleman  
22          that works, the processing gentleman, came out

1 and said I don't understand why this hasn't been  
2 put under safekeeping, because we do this hundred  
3 times a month, you know. And you have nothing to  
4 worry about. It's not your problem. I'm going  
5 to put it on agenda. And this was in December.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And now, I was told  
8 by someone that the Board have refused to act on  
9 the safekeeping. That's the last thing I heard.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And just  
11 to confirm, the -- you don't have the license,  
12 correct?

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I don't have the  
14 license.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right. And  
16 does the landlord? You don't know whether the  
17 landlord has the license. Is that correct?

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Well, as I mentioned  
19 before, after we shut the place down and I put  
20 the other business for sale, then I realized that  
21 I may be jeopardizing my other business because I  
22 can't really allow, you know, be absent owner,

1 basically. I immediately locked the door on the  
2 other place and put it up on the market for sale.

3 And between the time that I put it on  
4 the market and I had a contract and the new  
5 owners had it, Mr. Wilder and five other people  
6 broke in the back and stole our liquor and  
7 equipment and everything else, computers and what  
8 else we could. And he opened his own place on 9th  
9 Street with my -- some of my equipment and my  
10 liquor.

11 I came here and talked to Mr. Jackson  
12 about it. I have pictures that I show that  
13 liquor -- there were liquor covered on that  
14 establishment that had Saki, Inc. on it, but  
15 somehow nothing happened.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And when was  
17 that?

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: This was sometime  
19 in, I believe, July or August. There is a police  
20 report. We had a police report. The police  
21 recovered the items in the back of the place and  
22 returned some of it, but the liquor that was

1 loose, they claim it was theirs. And we never  
2 recovered. So I end up giving \$20,000 credit to  
3 the buyer for things missing. And I believe that  
4 also the license is probably just -- maybe Mr.  
5 Wilder also took it just to be mean, I guess.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Did you want to  
7 follow-up on any questions?

8 MEMBER SHORT: No, go ahead.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I have a few more  
10 questions.

11 MEMBER SHORT: I'll wait until you  
12 finish.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Okay. So  
14 my question is why are you here and not the other  
15 owners?

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I don't talk to  
17 them.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And mainly because  
20 they robbed me.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Not Dino Tapper, but

1 Ari Wilder. And because Dino Tapper is the one  
2 that brought Ari Wilder, I hold him responsible.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: He what brought  
4 him?

5 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Dino is the one that  
6 brought Ari. I had no idea who Ari was.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. All right.  
8 I know Mr. Short has questions. Okay. And then  
9 we will get to more. Thank you.

10 MEMBER SHORT: It sounds like you have  
11 had a lot of injuries. You have testified you  
12 have been injured. Is that correct?

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Do you mean  
14 emotionally, financially?

15 MEMBER SHORT: You have been injured  
16 because you said that you gave \$500,000 and you  
17 gave part of that --

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes, sir.

19 MEMBER SHORT: -- away.

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I lost a quarter of  
21 a million dollars in that operation.

22 MEMBER SHORT: So they broke in and

1 robbed you and took your liquor and --

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

3 MEMBER SHORT: Let me ask you a  
4 question. The five people that were injured  
5 inside of your establishment, do you think that  
6 their injuries are as bad as your's?

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I absolutely think  
8 that.

9 MEMBER SHORT: Okay. Now, I would  
10 also like to ask another question.

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sure.

12 MEMBER SHORT: Washington, D.C. is  
13 getting its name and image cleaned up after the  
14 years of drugs and things like that. So you have  
15 been in business in Washington, D.C. for 40  
16 years, correct?

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

18 MEMBER SHORT: Do you think that that  
19 New Year's Eve five stabbings helped the image of  
20 Washington, D.C.'s business and alcohol  
21 businesses in Washington, D.C.?

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Do I think?

1                   MEMBER SHORT: Did that cause  
2 Washington, D.C. any injury? Like you were  
3 injured.

4                   MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Any stabbing, any  
5 incident would be a negative impact, I agree.

6                   MEMBER SHORT: Thank you. Okay. Now,  
7 you have been in business for 40 years in  
8 Washington, D.C. Let's just go back 25 years  
9 ago.

10                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

11                  MEMBER SHORT: Would a business with  
12 five stabbings have stayed open in Washington,  
13 D.C. 25 years ago, 30 years ago?

14                  MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I never had the  
15 experience of anybody being stabbed.

16                  MEMBER SHORT: I can tell you no, it  
17 would not have been. And you have been injured,  
18 but you have helped injure Washington, D.C.'s  
19 image in your business and your business  
20 practice. You have three partners. You are  
21 robbing each other. People are getting stabbed  
22 in your businesses. We have been injured also.

1 Thank you, Madam Chair. That's all I have.

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sir, can I make a  
3 comment?

4 MEMBER SHORT: You can. Yes, sir.  
5 Thank you.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That there are  
7 numerous businesses right now that are open and  
8 operating and they have people killed in them.  
9 Not to make it any lighter --

10 MEMBER SHORT: Thank you. Thank you  
11 very much.

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay. But there  
13 are --

14 MEMBER SHORT: I made that same  
15 observation.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And one more  
17 example. There is a place that was called  
18 Reeves.

19 MEMBER SHORT: Yes.

20 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: The employee stabbed  
21 a customer and they didn't lose their license.  
22 The license belonged to the landlord and landlord

1 obtained the license. So --

2 MEMBER SHORT: Do you think that's  
3 good for Washington, D.C.?

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I think that  
5 Washington, D.C. needs to be fair.

6 MEMBER SHORT: No, no, no. I asked  
7 you a question. Do you think that's good for  
8 Washington, D.C.?

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No, that's not good  
10 for Washington, D.C.

11 MEMBER SHORT: That's all I have,  
12 Madam Chair. Thank you very much.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Rodriguez?

14 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Mr. Haj, a  
15 couple short questions.

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Sure.

17 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: One, you have four  
18 owners and you were part owner. What percentage?

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I gave Ari Wilder 25  
20 percent.

21 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: 25 percent.

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And 25 percent to

1 Mr. Dino. My brother was always a partner,  
2 Michael McLean.

3 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Right.

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: He is a liver  
5 transplant survivor, so that was always just an  
6 investment. He is not -- never been in the  
7 restaurant business.

8 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: All right.

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And I kept 25  
10 percent.

11 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: So my --

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: That's in District.

13 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: In Federal, I did  
15 not give any percentage of my business.

16 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: We're talking about  
17 the District.

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes. District,  
19 that's what it was.

20 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: So you said that  
21 you put up the business for sale?

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Not the District.

1 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Is that right?

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No, no, not the  
3 District. District I immediately shut it the  
4 door.

5 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Oh, so District is  
6 not up for sale?

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: District was shut  
8 down immediately.

9 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Right.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Locks were changed.

11 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Right.

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Keys were given to  
13 the landlord.

14 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Right.

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And the license was  
16 assigned to the landlord.

17 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Okay. That's all  
18 I had. Thank you. Sorry for your loss.

19 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No problem.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Ms. Miller?

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, Mr. Alberti?

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: Haj, I want to

1 actually return to the purpose of this hearing,  
2 which was the incident --

3 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- of January 1,  
5 2014.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. So when  
8 you arrived, your testimony was a little  
9 confusing to me, did you take over at all or did  
10 you talk -- did you instruct employees or was --

11 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No.

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- did you just talk  
13 to --

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I --

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- your peers?

16 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: As a rule, because  
17 I had these people basically being managing  
18 people, I did not want to step on anybody's toes.  
19 I stayed at my other location, which was Federal.  
20 I went to the kitchen on -- it was about 12:30,  
21 something like that. I went to the kitchen in  
22 District, they had a lot of extra leftovers. I

1 made myself something to eat. The music was too  
2 loud. I went back downstairs.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

4 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And I helped Dino  
5 Tapper close the Federal, close up, because we  
6 were closing one hour before District.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

8 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: So we were sitting  
9 in the office and having a discussion waiting for  
10 last call for upstairs and we heard on the radio  
11 that there is a fight and somebody got stabbed  
12 and we ran out the front door and came up. By  
13 that time, there were police officers. They said  
14 somebody got stabbed on the sidewalk. There were  
15 numerous police officers.

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: And I went up there.  
18 I talked to the commander.

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Right. So you didn't  
20 go inside and give instructions to the staff, did  
21 you?

22 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Oh, no, I did not.

1 I just made sure --

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: So you don't know  
3 what instructions were given to the staff with  
4 respect to how to handle the establishment after  
5 the melee, correct?

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No, sir. I was --  
7 I did not.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Great. Thank  
9 you. That's all I have. Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right. Okay.  
11 Others? I just have one more question. In  
12 response to Ms. Schmidt's opening statement, she  
13 said that, if she doesn't change her mind based  
14 on the hearing, I gather, that she would be  
15 seeking revocation of the license.

16 Do you have a response as to that?

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: If the Board feels  
18 that this license needs to be revoked, then it  
19 should be revoked. My personal feeling is that  
20 we usually dish out punishment for a crime and I  
21 think the punishment that I have endured and the  
22 landlord has endured has been so much greater

1 than if the Board would have ever done.

2 Not a couple thousand dollars, not a  
3 two week closing, I shut the door on my own,  
4 turned in the key, turned the license, didn't  
5 touch anything, didn't benefit not one cent and  
6 walked away.

7 And the landlord being in limbo trying  
8 to find somebody to lease it to go ahead and  
9 transfer the license to, but he can't do it,  
10 because the license is up in the air.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. In any  
12 event, it's not your -- it's your position it's  
13 not your license, at this time?

14 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: It's not my license.  
15 And I just wanted to come down because I feel  
16 that the people that caused the issue are the  
17 ones that are not being punished and the two  
18 people that been punished the worst are the ones  
19 that is me and the landlord. And we have lost a  
20 tremendous amount of money both and also I was  
21 devastated.

22 In 40 years of running so many

1 different places, I had a tanning business, I  
2 used to run Child Hill on 20th Street. You know,  
3 we had name Axe, I don't know if any of you guys  
4 remember, but I have done every type of business  
5 from fine dining to nightclub to strip clubs, all  
6 managed. I never had a situation.

7 If you go back through my record on  
8 District, you will realize what my violation was.  
9 Out of 128 nights of consecutive inspection by  
10 the Investigators, I was cited 11 times. 10  
11 times between four to 20 people dancing. And one  
12 time somebody was telling a joke, because at that  
13 time, we didn't have entertainment endorsement.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank you.

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Any other  
17 questions? Mr. Jones?

18 MEMBER JONES: Thank you, Madam Chair.

19 So I just want to make sure I'm understanding  
20 you. On the night in question, you acknowledge  
21 you had nothing to do with the operations of the  
22 District?

1 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes, sir. I did  
2 not.

3 MEMBER JONES: And that would be your  
4 approach to operating the business going forward  
5 from your standpoint. You don't have an interest  
6 in the license, correct?

7 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No, no, I shut the  
8 place down.

9 MEMBER JONES: Right.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Immediately shut it  
11 down.

12 MEMBER JONES: Okay. So --

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I have no interest  
14 to have that place to be open not one more night.

15 MEMBER JONES: Cool. So is it clear,  
16 it's clear for me that there is no harm that is  
17 being done to you by revoking this license?

18 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Not any more, no.

19 MEMBER JONES: Okay. Oh, I'll leave  
20 it at that. Thank you, Madam Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Anything  
22 else from the Board? All right. Any other

1 questions based on Board questions?

2 MS. SCHMIDT: No questions.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Okay.

4 Then we are finished with your testimony. You  
5 can take a seat.

6 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: We are almost  
8 finished in general. There is nothing else you  
9 want to put in evidence, is there, Mr. Haj?

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Closing?

12 MS. SCHMIDT: The District has one  
13 rebuttal, one very quick rebuttal witness.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, you have a  
15 rebuttal witness?

16 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

18 MS. SCHMIDT: The District calls  
19 Investigator Felicia Dantzler. Can we get a copy  
20 of -- we just gave the Board the ownership  
21 percentages. I just gave that away.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh. Who did you

1 give it to?

2 MS. SCHMIDT: Well, you each have a  
3 copy. Okay.

4 Whereupon,

5 INVESTIGATOR FELICIA DANTZLER  
6 was recalled as a witness by Counsel for the  
7 Government, and having been previously duly  
8 sworn, resumed the witness stand, was examined  
9 and testified as follows:

10 DIRECT EXAMINATION

11 MS. SCHMIDT: Ms. Dantzler, could you  
12 please tell the Board what -- okay. I'm now  
13 handing her what will be marked as Government's  
14 Exhibit No. A.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: A? Have you  
16 shown it to Haj?

17 MS. SCHMIDT: Yes, he has a copy.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. All right.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: Can you tell the Board  
20 what that is?

21 MS. DANTZLER: Yes, this is a printout  
22 from our computer system known as Acela. It

1 keeps track of licenses and ownership.

2 (Whereupon, the above-referred to  
3 document was marked as Government  
4 Exhibit No. A for identification.)

5 MS. SCHMIDT: And who is that a  
6 printout for? What is that a printout for?

7 MS. DANTZLER: This is a printout for  
8 the owners of District.

9 MS. SCHMIDT: And when was that  
10 printed out?

11 MS. DANTZLER: On today's date.

12 MS. SCHMIDT: And did you do that  
13 yourself?

14 MS. DANTZLER: Yes.

15 MS. SCHMIDT: And who are the four  
16 listed owners of District?

17 MS. DANTZLER: Alireza Hajaligholi,  
18 Ari Wilder, Michael McLean and Dino Tapper.

19 MS. SCHMIDT: And so there is no other  
20 party that could possibly be the landlord as a  
21 listed owner of District of that license right  
22 now?

1 MS. DANTZLER: Correct.

2 MS. SCHMIDT: And this is just for  
3 clarification, this is License No. 092742?

4 MS. DANTZLER: Correct.

5 MS. SCHMIDT: No further questions.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Do you have any  
7 questions?

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION

9 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Are you aware of the  
10 transfer application that has been signed by  
11 these four owners and the license being  
12 transferred and approved for the transfer by the  
13 Board?

14 MS. DANTZLER: No, sir, I'm not aware.

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Board  
17 questions? All right. Thank you. All right.  
18 Closing?

19 MS. SCHMIDT: Now to close.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

21 MS. SCHMIDT: This is a very strange  
22 case where no one wants -- let me start from the

1 beginning. When you have a license to sell  
2 alcohol in the District of Columbia, there is a  
3 very heavy responsibility and duty that goes with  
4 it.

5           However, this is a case where no one  
6 wants to claim responsibility for that license.  
7 Mr. Haj came down here and basically admitted  
8 that he is not capable of running the business  
9 any more, that he transferred the license. And  
10 the other three owners who were listed on the  
11 Exhibit A are not down here either. They are not  
12 claiming any responsibility for running the  
13 establishment.

14           And this mythical landlord is not even  
15 officially an owner of this license and not --  
16 and has not come here today.

17           Therefore, no one is even claiming  
18 responsibility for this license and for the  
19 horrific -- and more importantly they are not  
20 claiming any responsibility for the horrific  
21 events of New Year's Eve 2014 where five people  
22 were stabbed in the District of Columbia.

1           And even though Mr. Haj said well,  
2           people get stabbed at other locations and keep  
3           their license, that's not the way we should do  
4           District -- do business in the District of  
5           Columbia.

6           When you have such a horrific incident  
7           and there is no attempt to even -- and there --  
8           and instead of assisting police officers, there  
9           was -- they impeded the police officers by not  
10          preserving the crime scene. And there was -- and  
11          even though they agreed to have security cameras  
12          or security cameras there that would assist this  
13          investigation, this shows that no one is taking  
14          responsibility and they impeded the investigation  
15          of this incident by both MPD and ABRA.

16          And therefore, under 25-023.5, this  
17          Board can revoke, can and should revoke, the  
18          license of this establishment.

19          And when he said that any deranged  
20          person can pull a knife, well, we don't want that  
21          in the District of Columbia. This is why we have  
22          security plans and this is why people should

1 ensure -- this is why an establishment always  
2 should ensure that this does not happen. And if  
3 it does happen, then at the very least, you  
4 assist the MPD and ABRA to find out who did it  
5 and why it happened, so this will not happen in  
6 the future. This was not done in this case.

7 Therefore, the District is requesting  
8 that this license be revoked.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you. Okay.  
11 Haj? Oh, do you have anything else?

12 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: No.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No. You've said  
14 what you wanted to say?

15 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Absolutely.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So that  
17 concludes these hearings. I'm going to close the  
18 record in this case. And I'm going to ask the  
19 parties if they want to file proposed findings of  
20 fact and conclusions of law --

21 MS. SCHMIDT: None for the District.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- or waive their

1 right to do so? Okay. The Government says no,  
2 waiving their right to do so. You also?

3 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Yes.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Haj also  
5 does. So therefore, the Board is going to  
6 deliberate this case in closed session. And I'm  
7 going to take a roll call vote on our  
8 deliberating the case in closed session.

9 As Chairperson of the Alcoholic  
10 Beverage Control Board for the District of  
11 Columbia and in accordance with Section 405 of  
12 the Open Meetings Amendment Act of 2010, I move  
13 that the ABC Board hold a closed meeting for the  
14 purpose of seeking legal advice from our counsel  
15 on Case Nos. 14-251-00003 and 14-251-00003(a),  
16 District, per Section 405(b)(4) of the Open  
17 Meetings Amendment Act of 2010, and deliberating  
18 upon this case for the reasons cited in Section  
19 405(b)(13) of the Open Meetings Amendment Act of  
20 2010.

21 Is there a second?

22 MEMBER SHORT: Second.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Short  
2 seconded the motion. I'll now take a roll call  
3 vote on the motion before us now that it has been  
4 seconded.

5 Mr. Brooks?

6 MEMBER BROOKS: I agree.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Rodriguez?

8 MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I agree.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Miller  
10 agrees.

11 Mr. Silverstein?

12 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: I agree.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Short?

14 MEMBER SHORT: I agree.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Jones?

16 MEMBER JONES: I agree.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The motion passes  
18 by a vote of 6-0-0.

19 I hereby give notice that the ABC  
20 Board will hold this aforementioned closed  
21 meeting in the ABC Board conference room and  
22 issue an order within 90 days. That will be a

1 written order within 90 days.

2 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: I have one quick  
3 question.

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

5 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: There is a Protest  
6 Hearing coming up, so that's no longer --

7 MEMBER JONES: Refer to counsel.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, it's another  
9 case. I can't really answer that, at this point.

10 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: You can ask our  
12 General Counsel, Ms. Jenkins.

13 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Okay.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. I don't  
15 want to hesitate an answer. Okay. So we are  
16 finished with this case.

17 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you very  
19 much.

20 MEMBER SHORT: Thank you.

21 MR. HAJALIGHOLI: Good seeing you.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Good to see you.

1                   Our next case is Showtime. It was  
2                   scheduled for 1:30. I think the Board would like  
3                   to take just a five minute break and then we will  
4                   come back and take Showtime. Thank you.

5                   (Whereupon, the Show Cause Hearing in  
6                   the above-entitled matter was concluded at 3:19  
7                   p.m.)

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**A**

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**\$500,000** 113:16  
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