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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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IN THE MATTER OF:

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Inner Circle 1420, LLC :

t/a Lotus : Show Cause
1420 K Street, NW : Hearing
Retailer CN - ANC-2F : (Status)
License No. 75162

License No. 75162 :
Case #11-CMP-00512, :
Case #11-251-00347 and :
Case #11-CMP-00257 :

:

June 6, 2012

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control

Hearing Room, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Suite 400S Washington, D.C. 20009, Chairperson Ruthanne Miller, presiding.

PRESENT:

RUTHANNE MILLER, Chairperson NICK ALBERTI, Member DONALD BROOKS, Member HERMAN JONES, Member CALVIN NOPHLIN, Member MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

LOUISE PHILLIPS, OAG

	Page 2				
1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S				
2	(9:53 a.m.)				
3	CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The next case				
4	on our calendar is a Show Cause (Status)				
5	Hearing, Case No. 11-CMP-00512, 11-251-00347				
6	and 11-CMP-00257.				
7	Good morning.				
8	MS. PHILLIPS: Good morning.				
9	Louise Phillips, Assistant Attorney General				
10	for the District of Columbia. Good morning,				
11	Board Members.				
12	MR. MPRAS: Good morning, Emanuel				
13	Mpras, Inner Circle 1420, LLC t/a Lotus.				
14	MR. ROMEO: Michael Romeo here				
15	from Lotus.				
16	CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I'm sorry, I				
17	missed your name, sir.				
18	MR. ROMEO: Romeo, Michael.				
19	CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Michael. And				
20	you are?				
21	MR. ROMEO: Lotus.				
22	CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Are you the				

MS. PHILLIPS: So I am prepared to delineate them just presenting one, so however you prefer.

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CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Then the Board prefers that they be divided as they are on the calendar and that we deal with the two separate groups.

MS. PHILLIPS: So my recollection if you called 512 and 347 --

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Correct.

MS. PHILLIPS: -- first --

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Correct.

MS. PHILLIPS: So we'll deal with those first. The offer in compromise for the two cases that we just delineated, there is a total fine of \$4,000 to be paid in 60 days.

And a suspension, six suspension days served.

And I have got the dates all combined, so the dates that the parties presented to me of dates which they have indicated they are open are 7/22 through 7/30, which I have to subtract three from that.

failures to have police details. And I just divide everything in half. \$2,000 for the first one and a three day suspension days served and \$2,000 for the second and three suspension days served.

I combined all of the dates for all of them, so they would be served at one stretch, but since we are dividing them, the days for this notice --

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

MS. PHILLIPS: -- and these two cases will be 7/22 to 7/27. I believe that should add up to four -- six, rather six.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So let me ask the licensee then, do you agree to a \$4,000 penalty to be paid within 60 days, six suspension days served from July 22nd through July 27th for the violations associated with 00512 and 00347?

MR. MPRAS: Ma'am, we do, but this was done -- initially, we did as a global settlement for all the charges, so we request

that the -- that 204 and 216 be read at this time, so the entire penalty can be combined.

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CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So 20 -- let me look at this. So are you saying you don't necessarily agree to this unless it is part of a settlement with the other case?

MR. MPRAS: Excuse me, that's how we negotiated with the OAG's office and were told it would be presented that way.

MS. PHILLIPS: Pending acceptance by the Board.

MR. MPRAS: Yes, pending acceptance.

MS. PHILLIPS: Everything is always --

MR. MPRAS: Of course, of course.

MS. PHILLIPS: -- pending

acceptance of the Board, which the Board has denied.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I'm sorry,

different people are talking at once. So is

that your -- is that -- I didn't hear what you

1 said.

MS. PHILLIPS: I agreed that pending acceptance by the Board, I would present them all mass.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

MS. PHILLIPS: And I will still present the days for the two separate notices to run contiguously, because I think that is appropriate for these five cases.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. But the question is procedurally, you know, we need to know whether -- I thought that you were, you know, on board with proceeding with this case first and then the other part. But if you're not, then we need to hear the other part and then decide.

MR. MPRAS: If you could do that?
But we have agreed to that for these particular charges.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, one second. Okay. I just wanted to confer with counsel on this. There are two separate

charges and the Board does not wish to have
them consolidated and that it's our authority
not to consider an OIC with them consolidated,
even though that's what you would like to do.

So at this point, we have one, if you want to proceed with an OIC on one, we will consider it at a time. If you do not want to proceed with an OIC on one, then we can set for hearing.

MR. MPRAS: Ma'am, may we proceed in one fashion if possible, since they are all consolidated? 204 and 216 were listed first on the agenda. Maybe if they could go first.

MEMBER ALBERTI: They're not.

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: They are not listed first on my agenda. That's why I called the other one first.

MS. PHILLIPS: Not on my agenda, either. Nope.

MR. MPRAS: May I confer with someone?

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes. Are we

Page 13 1 ready? 2 MR. MPRAS: Yes, ma'am. 3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: MR. MPRAS: We would like to 4 5 proceed. 6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. 7 MS. PHILLIPS: Madam Chair, for 8 the Board, just for the record, is that 204, 204(a) and 216 cases did occur earlier 9 10 chronologically in time than the cases that we are now discussing. 11 12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. 13 MS. PHILLIPS: Just for the 14 record. 15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So what we have before us now is an offer in 16 17 compromise on 512 and 347. 18 MS. PHILLIPS: I'm sorry, I missed 19 that. 2.0 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: 512 and 347, 21 unless you want me to read the whole number 22 out again.

1 Alberti has a question.

MEMBER ALBERTI: Mr. Romeo, I was looking at your website for Lotus and it indicates that your days that you are open are Tuesday through Saturday. Are Sunday and Monday days that you are regularly open?

MR. ROMEO: A lot of times we are not open. But if we have special events, we are open on Saturday and Sunday, depending on how we can get the cop detail. What happens is --

MEMBER ALBERTI: But if you don't have special events you don't?

MR. ROMEO: No, no, we don't.

Normally, on Monday -- Sunday and Monday, just for the record, we open up early and we do close early. We have early events. It depends. If we don't have anybody, then we close up early. A lot of times on Saturday, we close at midnight because it's not busy.

MEMBER ALBERTI: But you are normally open on Sunday?

	Page 16			
1	MR. ROMEO: Yes.			
2	MEMBER ALBERTI: That's a day			
3	you're normally open?			
4	MR. ROMEO: Yes.			
5	MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you.			
6	MR. ROMEO: You're welcome.			
7	CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, Mr. Jones			
8	has joined us. Okay.			
9	All right. Any other questions?			
10	Then we have before us an offer in compromise			
11	of \$4,000 to be paid within 60 days with six			
12	days suspended to be served July 22nd through			
13	July 27th.			
14	I would move that we accept this			
15	offer in compromise. Do I have a second?			
16	MEMBER NOPHLIN: Second.			
17	CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Any other			
18	comments?			
19	All those in favor of accepting			
20	the offer in compromise say aye.			

CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All those

ALL: Aye.

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1	opposed? All those abstaining? Then the vote
2	is $6-0-0$ to accept the offer in compromise.
3	Okay.
4	(Whereupon, the Show Cause
5	(Status) Hearing in the above-entitled matter
6	was concluded.)
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