

Capital Reporting Company
In the Matter of: DRS Creative, LLC t/a Vera Cruz 08-06-2012

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :
 :
DRS Creative, LLC :
t/a Vera Cruz :
2106-2108 Vermont Avenue, NW :
2nd Floor :
Retailer CX : Roll Call
License No. ABRA-089601 : Hearing
Case No. 12-PRO-00068 :
New Application :
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August 6, 2012

The Alcoholic Beverage Control

The Board's Agent met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control
Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

PRESENT
LAVERNE FLETCHER, Board's Agent

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

2 10:06 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Would the parties in the
4 matter of Vera Cruz please come forward? This is Case
5 No. 12- PRO-00068, DRS Creative, LLC, trading as Vera
6 Cruz, 2106- 2108 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Second Floor,
7 License No. 089601. This is a Retailer CX new
8 application. The protest issues are adverse impact on
9 peace, order and quiet, and real property values.

10 My name is LaVerne Fletcher and I'll be
11 conducting the roll call hearing as the Board's Agent
12 pursuant to DC Official Code 1601.2.

13 Introductions beginning with the applicant --
14 the applicant? Thank you. Your name, sir?

15 MR. BARLOW: Andre Barlow from Doyle, Barlow
16 & Mazard.

17 MS. FLETCHER: And Mr. Barlow, would spell
18 your name for the court reporter, please?

19 MR. BROOKS: A-N-D-R-E, B-A-R-L-O-W.

20 MS. FLETCHER: And Mr. Barlow, did you say
21 that you're with the law firm representing the
22 applicant?

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1 MR. BARLOW: Yes.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. And your name,
3 ma'am?

4 MS. SALGUERO: Rosemarie, R-O-S-E-M-A-R-I-E,
5 last name, Salguero, S-A-G-U-E-R-O. I'm also --

6 MS. FLETCHER: And Ms. Salguero, are you the
7 applicant?

8 MS. SALGUERO: No, I'm not. I'm with the law
9 firm Doyle, Barlow & Mazard.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. And your name, sir?

11 MR. NWABUEZE: It's Oraegbunam Nwabueze. It's
12 O-R-A-E-G-B-U-N-A -- N-A-M, N-W --

13 MS. FLETCHER: Is the -- the last name is
14 what you're spelling now?

15 MR. NWABUEZE: Yeah, yeah.

16 MS. FLETCHER: What is it?

17 MR. NWABUEZE: Nwabueze, it's N-W-A --

18 MS. FLETCHER: Uh-huh.

19 MR. NWABUEZE: -- B-U-E-Z-E.

20 MS. FLETCHER: And you're the applicant?

21 MR. NWABUEZE: Yes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Are there any protestants

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1 present in this matter? Oh, if you can just please
2 come forward, sir, and just have a seat right at the
3 table? Can you -- you cannot hear me back there? You
4 know, the microphones are down again. I'm sorry. Can
5 you hear me back there now? Is there anyone present in
6 the matter of Vera Cruz -- Vera Cruz? Anyone else
7 present?

8 (No audible response.)

9 MS. FLETCHER: Can you hear me back there now
10 though?

11 PARTICIPANT: Yes.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you. Thank you
13 very much. Your name, sir?

14 MR. PATTERSON: It's Christopher Patterson.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Patterson.

16 Would you please spell your name for the court
17 reporter?

18 MR. PATTERSON: Sure. C-H-R-I-S-T-O-P-H-E-R.
19 Last name is P-A-T-T-E-R-S-O-N.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. Is Lorraine White
21 present or is Stanley Mays present?

22 (No audible response.)

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1 MS. FLETCHER: The protest filed by Lorraine
2 White is dismissed because neither she, nor her
3 designated representative, Stanley Mays, are present.
4 The protest called by Lorraine White is dismissed.

5 Mr. Patterson, you filed your protest as an
6 abutting property owner?

7 MR. PATTERSON: Yes, ma'am.

8 MS. FLETCHER: And does the applicant have
9 any objection to that filing? Are you -- do you have
10 reason to believe that Mr. Patterson is not an abutting
11 property owner?

12 MR. NWABUEZE: No, I have no objections.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you. So Mr.
14 Patterson, you're accepted as an abutting property
15 owner and you do have standing as a protestant. So
16 there is one protestant in this matter and that is
17 Christopher Patterson.

18 We need to set a date for -- or Mr.
19 Patterson, on that sheet of paper, could you -- oh,
20 write your name and your daytime number and email
21 address?

22 MR. PATTERSON: Sure.

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1 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you. And we need to set
2 a date for a mediation, a status hearing and a protest
3 hearing. And I will give you the dates for the status
4 hearing and the protest hearing first. There's a
5 status hearing scheduled in this matter for September,
6 19, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

7 MR. PATTERSON: Could you repeat that, the
8 date?

9 MS. FLETCHER: September 19. It's going to
10 be on Wednesday. That hearing will be held here before
11 the full Board. And a protest hearing is set for
12 December the 12th, 2012 at 1:30 p.m.

13 We need to set a date for mediation to occur
14 prior to the September 19 status hearing. And I'll
15 give you the dates that are available for mediation.
16 The first date available is August the 10th. That's
17 this week. That may be too short of notice but that
18 date is available, August 10.

19 MR. BARLOW: August 10 is fine with us.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Would that work for you, Mr.
21 Patterson or do we need to move -- keep moving on?

22 MR. PATTERSON: Is that -- is that a Friday?

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1 MS. FLETCHER: That is -- yes.

2 MR. PATTERSON: That's not a good day for me.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, the next
4 available date is -- in August is August the 23rd.

5 August 23rd is on a Thursday. And that would be at
6 9:00, 10:00, 11:00.

7 MR. PATTERSON: That would be fine with me.
8 The 9:00 would be great.

9 MS. FLETCHER: Would that work or you, Mr.
10 Barlow?

11 MR. BARLOW: Yeah.

12 MS. FLETCHER: 9:00 on the 23rd?

13 MR. BARLOW: That works.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Is that good?

15 MR. BARLOW: That works.

16 MS. FLETCHER: So mediation is set for
17 Thursday, August 23rd at 9:00 and the mediation will
18 take place here. You can just check in with the
19 receptionist. If the matter is resolved in mediation
20 in some way and a voluntary agreement is filed with the
21 Board prior to the status hearing, then the status
22 hearing would not need to take place. And the same

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1 thing applies to the protest hearing.

2 If the parties are able to resolve the
3 protest issues by way of a voluntary agreement, then
4 the protesting hearing will be cancelled as well. But
5 you're required to resolve the matter in mediation but
6 if you can, it -- the matter will not proceed through
7 the protest process.

8 And my card is on the table if you have any
9 further questions. Are there any today? Any
10 questions? Yes.

11 MR. PATTERSON: Can you confirm the -- you
12 said the status hearing was Wednesday, September 19th
13 at 9:30?

14 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

15 MR. PATTERSON: Okay.

16 MS. FLETCHER: 9:30 a.m., September 19th.

17 Okay. Well, then I'll see you on the 23rd at 9:00.

18 Thank you for coming.

19 MR. BARLOW: Thanks.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Roll call hearing concluded.

21 (WHEREUPON, at 10:13 a.m., the hearing was
22 concluded.)

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