

1 GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
2 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATION ADMINISTRATION  
3 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

4 - - - - -X  
5 IN THE MATTER OF: :  
6 Debebe Addis, t/a Mesobe :  
7 Restaurant and Deli Market :  
8 1853 7th Street N.W. : Case #15-251-00224  
9 License #81030 : Show Cause Hearing  
10 Retailer CR : (Status)  
11 ANC 1B :  
12 Operating after Hours, :  
13 Substantial Change in :  
14 Operation Without Board's :  
15 Approval, Failed to Obtain :  
16 Cover Charge Endorsement :  
17 - - - - - X

18 Wednesday, February 17, 2016

19 Whereupon, the above-referenced matter  
20 came on for hearing at the Alcoholic Beverage  
21 Control Board, Reeves Center, 2000 14th Street,  
22 N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009.

1 CHAIRPERSON:

2 DONOVAN ANDERSON, Presiding

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4 BOARD MEMBERS:

5 NICK ALBERTI

6 RUTHANNE MILLER

7 JAMES SHORT

8 MIKE SILVERSTEIN

9 DANETTE WALKER

10

11 ALSO PRESENT:

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13 MAUREEN ZANIEL,

14 On Behalf of the District of Columbia

15 WORKCH CHURNET,

16 licensee

17 SELAM LEJER,

18 Interpreter

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

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. The next  
3 case on our show cause hearing status is Case No.  
4 15-251-00224, Mesobe Restaurant and Deli, License  
5 No. 81030. Will the parties please approach?

6 And could you please identify yourself  
7 for the record, please?

8 MS. ZANIEL: Good morning, Maureen Zaniel  
9 on behalf of the District of Columbia.

10 MR. CHURNET: Good morning. Worknch  
11 Churnet on behalf of Mesobe Restaurant and  
12 [garbled speech].

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

14 THE INTERPRETER: Selam Jejer, Amharic  
15 interpreter.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yeah. Hold on one  
17 moment, please. What language are you  
18 interpreting for --

19 THE INTERPRETER: Amharic.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Haric?

21 THE INTERPRETER: Amharic.

22 MR. CHURNET: Amharic.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: To English?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Can you  
4 raise your right hand, please?

5 [Oath administered to the court  
6 interpreter.]

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Be seated  
8 please. All right. Thanks. All right.

9 Are there any preliminary matters?

10 MS. ZANIEL: I guess the Government would  
11 like to say this. We have been in discussions  
12 about an offer and compromise and we are what the  
13 Government thinks is very close to a compromise.  
14 I think we can't reach it today, necessarily but  
15 my recommendation is that we continue the matter  
16 and set another status prior to the show cause  
17 hearing date.

18 MR. CHURNET: That's great. Yeah.  
19 That's good.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You're in  
21 agreement with that, sir?

22 MR. CHURNET: Yeah. Yeah, there was this

1 matter of a pending criminal case involving  
2 confrontation witness. And before that criminal  
3 case is concluded we could not expect this  
4 witness to appear to testify on our behalf on the  
5 show cause hearing. So we were concerned about  
6 that. But now that she -- counsel has offered a  
7 new -- another status hearing I think that takes  
8 care of that because if we don't settle by then  
9 then we will raise this criminal issue and we'll  
10 ask the Board to decide one way or the other.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. The  
12 show cause hearing was scheduled for March 23rd  
13 at 10:00. Hold on one minute.

14 [Pause.]

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Ms.  
16 Jenkins will inform you of the new date for the  
17 show cause status hearing. Okay?

18 MR. CHURNET: Okay.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. So  
20 good luck in your negotiation.

21 MR. CHURNET: Thank you.

22 MS. ZANIEL: Thank you.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Thank you.

2 Going back to Case No. 251-00224, we will  
3 have -- we'll have another show cause hearing  
4 status, and that's scheduled for March 16th, at  
5 9:30.

6 So that's why I'd have him call. That's  
7 why I said, going back to Mesobe Restaurant. So  
8 March -- we'll have another show cause hearing  
9 status on March 16th, at 9:30.

10 MR. ALBERTI: We're just seeing if you're  
11 listening, Ms. Phillips.

12 MS. PHILLIPS: Well, I wasn't listening  
13 totally, apparently. I'm back on Carolina  
14 Kitchen. You know?

15 [Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
16 concluded.]

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