

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :

:

Ronnie Wilson : Fact Finding

: Hearing

Manager's Application :

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FEBRUARY 15, 2012

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., Ruthanne Miller, Chairperson, presiding.

PRESENT

RUTHANNE MILLER, Chairperson

NICK ALBERTI, Member

DONALD BROOKS, Member

HERMAN JONES, Member

JEANNETTE MOBLEY, Member

CALVIN NOPHLIN, Member

MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member

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

2 10:11 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: The next case  
4 on the Board's agenda is a fact finding  
5 hearing related to a manager's application.  
6 And this deals with personal issues, and  
7 therefore I'm going to read the instructions  
8 for the Closed Meeting Act and ask that those  
9 people who are not present for this case leave  
10 the room.

11 But first of all, let make sure  
12 then the person is here. Mr. Wilson?

13 (No audible response.)

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So if  
15 those people not involved in the case; and I  
16 think that primarily Mr. Wilson would probably  
17 be the only one who should stay, if you could  
18 leave the room, we would appreciate it.

19 Most of the hearings are public,  
20 but this involves something personal.

21 As Chairperson of the Alcoholic  
22 Beverage Control Board for the District of

1 Columbia and in accordance with Section 405 of  
2 the Open Meetings Amendment Act of 2010, I  
3 move that the ABC Board hold a closed meeting  
4 for the purpose of discussing and hearing  
5 reports concerning ongoing or planned  
6 investigations of alleged criminal or civil  
7 misconduct of violations of law or  
8 regulations.

9 Is there a second?

10 MEMBER NOPHLIN: Second.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. I'm  
12 going to take a roll call on this motion  
13 before we proceed.

14 Mr. Nophlin?

15 MEMBER NOPHLIN: I agree.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Brooks?

17 MEMBER BROOKS: I agree.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Alberti?

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: I agree.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Miller

21 agrees.

22 Mr. Silverstein?

1 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: I agree.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And, Ms.  
3 Mobley?

4 MEMBER MOBLEY: I agree.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Mr.  
6 Jones just have stepped out.

7 Okay. Then the motion passes by a  
8 vote of 6-0-0.

9 Okay. Good morning. Do you mind  
10 introducing yourself for the record?

11 MR. WILSON: Yes, Your Honor.  
12 Ronnie Wilson.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So  
14 you're here today because you're applying for  
15 a manager's license.

16 MR. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And there  
18 were some questions raised with respect to a  
19 criminal record. And so, the purpose of this  
20 hearing is for you to explain a little bit  
21 on --

22 MR. WILSON: Okay.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER:  -- those  
2 offenses and why, you know, we should find you  
3 fit to be a manager despite the criminal  
4 record.

5                   MR. WILSON:  Okay.  I actually am  
6 pleased to be here at this time.  In my --  
7 just to make this long story short, in my life  
8 I was a maintenance -- I did maintenance  
9 engineering, and that's my -- that was my work  
10 that I did.

11                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER:  Doing what?  
12 I'm sorry.

13                   MR. WILSON:  Is maintenance  
14 engineering.

15                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER:  Engineering?  
16 Okay.

17                   MR. WILSON:  On apartment  
18 buildings and stuff like that.  And I did well  
19 for awhile.  Oh, I did start in real estate.  
20 I did well there, too.  Got married.  Got  
21 custody of my three daughters, two, four and  
22 six.  And I wanted to find a way to make money

1 and take care of the three. I did. I did  
2 that well for a long time.

3 My record didn't get bad until  
4 after the divorce. Wife, she went out -- my  
5 wife got married to a lady. You know, one of  
6 the things. It happened. I went probably  
7 through a period of time in my life where I  
8 just didn't care. I didn't care.

9 I'm 48. Matter of fact, I turned  
10 48 February the 4th. And, yes, I've did some  
11 things I don't -- that I don't -- that I  
12 regret doing, you know? I've learned from  
13 them. I'm about 300 pounds now. There's been  
14 a time that I didn't weight nowhere this.  
15 Come back, you know, with vengeance. I study  
16 now the Bible with Jehovah Witnesses. It's  
17 what I do. And I've -- I've got myself  
18 together, you know, and looking forward to  
19 just doing -- just staying on the right path  
20 like I was before, you know?

21 If you look at my record, you'll  
22 see that my -- my private record is pretty

1 good, not that bad, you know? But I've done  
2 a lot of things. I'm just asking for a chance  
3 to stay on track like I am now and -- and --  
4 and this -- this is a way that I can support  
5 myself. My little -- my kids are grown now.  
6 I'm a grandfather any day now and one -- I do  
7 have a -- a -- a grandson.

8 I'd like to work -- let my  
9 daughters work with me at the -- at the  
10 building, 6th and Q. I had a store on 5th and  
11 N before. I didn't do well with that, you  
12 know? You might know about -- you all know  
13 what 5th and N is, but that's over there not  
14 too far from Dunbar. And I've learned from  
15 that store what to do on the store that I'm  
16 hoping to get now. So, you know, mistakes  
17 I've made, yes. And I just -- I just need a  
18 chance, you know, however I can do it to prove  
19 that I can be a sub-standing citizen and stay  
20 on the right track.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Can you talk  
22 a little bit about your fraud case, which was

1 last February?

2 MR. WILSON: Fraud case -- yes,  
3 the fraud case was -- in real estate when I  
4 was, you know, buying and selling houses. In  
5 this economy, if you want to know the truth,  
6 and I'm not going to -- I got into a house  
7 that actually really didn't belong to me, but  
8 I was renting it out. And I rented it out and  
9 when I let my daughter -- she didn't have  
10 nowhere to go -- when I let my daughter move  
11 in, I didn't give her the key because he had  
12 a lot of people running in and out and I  
13 didn't want that.

14 So she called the police and that  
15 led into a whole different thing. And they  
16 said, well, who owns it? Are you the owner?  
17 No, I'm not the owner. Are you renting it  
18 out? That's fraud, you know? You just can't  
19 rent out something that really -- that wasn't  
20 mine, you know?

21 I went downtown to get a permit to  
22 pull -- pull a permit for -- to fix the steps



1 on. I really didn't have to -- didn't -- I  
2 really shouldn't have done it, but I thought  
3 this was a way that I could get into the house  
4 for nothing, actually. Just fixing up  
5 someone's house that needed it, actually. And  
6 it's been sitting there for years. And it was  
7 -- it was a stupid mistake, you know?

8 But boiled down to it, it can be  
9 fraud. When you put a ad in the paper say the  
10 -- this house is yours or something, you know,  
11 and you rent it out, it's always called fraud.  
12 And that's what I did.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Just so I  
14 understand, the owner needed repairs on the  
15 house, so he gave you the key to repair the  
16 house and then you lived in it because no one  
17 was living in it? Is that what you did?

18 MR. WILSON: The owner didn't me  
19 the key, no.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: alcohol  
21 awareness

22 MR. WILSON: He didn't give me the

1 key. It's just -- it's like I said, a stupid  
2 mistake that I made. It's -- no.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No?

4 MR. WILSON: It was already -- the  
5 house was already open and I just went in  
6 there and I changed the locks. I fixed it up.  
7 I, you know, was fixing the step. I had  
8 pulled from -- I was going to pull a permit,  
9 \$35, pull the permit downtown. I called and  
10 found -- I was -- tried to find out the owner.  
11 I spoke to the neighbors. I was known around  
12 the neighborhood because I had the store on  
13 5th and N. It's right down the street from  
14 the store that I used to have. So by me being  
15 known in the neighborhood and know about real  
16 estate, I tried to find out the owner and no  
17 one came to -- for the one.

18 So it was -- had flooded inside of  
19 it. I fixed it. And I thought -- I said,  
20 well, if the owner came back, at least he'll  
21 know that, you know, it's not flooding in his  
22 house no more. I fixed the steps. I did

1 this. And I feeling that that would probably  
2 take care of that. He'd say, okay, well, you  
3 fixed it. It's been sitting for awhile. At  
4 least it's been taken care of. Bad move.  
5 Wrong mistake.

6 You know, I -- you probably would  
7 have -- matter -- as a matter of fact, the  
8 owner said, he said if it wasn't for the  
9 commotion between me and my daughter, he said  
10 I probably would have let you go ahead and do  
11 it. But I can't take a chance, and that's  
12 what he said.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. And I  
14 know other Board members will have questions,  
15 too, but how about your dealing with drugs or  
16 the possession of drugs?

17 MR. WILSON: Possession of drugs.  
18 You know, when you're out there -- when -- at  
19 this uncaring moment that I was going through  
20 with the divorce, you know, you meet people  
21 who does that.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

1                   MR. WILSON: I did it myself, you  
2 know? I mean, if you go down the street and  
3 you find someone who's selling it, you get it  
4 and you think you're getting away with it and  
5 the police may be looking on the other side of  
6 the corner, you don't know. You get caught.  
7 And it led to that. It wasn't -- I never had  
8 sold it at all. I did it because I was a user  
9 of it.

10                   And I didn't -- like I say, I  
11 didn't weight this much. I didn't -- if I  
12 could show you a picture of me then as to now,  
13 you would say, wow, you know? It's just that  
14 you have to be hungry enough. You know, when  
15 I went to -- got locked up, I just got tired.  
16 I always was raised as Jehovah Witness, but  
17 you know, you just -- you got to be hungry  
18 enough to just want to change sometimes, you  
19 know? And I just got tired.

20                   I'm almost 50 years old. I'll be  
21 50 -- well I just turned 48, but you know, I  
22 wasn't -- was just going through a -- life

1       took -- you know, I met my wife when she was  
2       14 years old. Okay? My first house I was 19.  
3       So like I say, real estate has taught me how  
4       to find houses for sale by owners, you know,  
5       and I've learned a lot for it. My eight-  
6       bedroom house, that's what I had. That's when  
7       I got divorced. That's what she left for  
8       another lady. And I just went off the high  
9       end.

10                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: When was  
11       that, the divorce?

12                   MR. WILSON: Huh?

13                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: What year was  
14       the divorce?

15                   MR. WILSON: That was -- it's been  
16       four years ago.

17                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And when do  
18       you think you got out of that slump, that  
19       uncaring period?

20                   MR. WILSON: I've been changed. I  
21       mean, it's at the point I just -- when I --  
22       the last time I got locked up -- I always

1 wanted to -- you know, when you're doing wrong  
2 and was raised the right way, you always want  
3 to change, but it's the time for everything,  
4 you know? You have to hit rock bottom. At  
5 that time, by me having the house that I had,  
6 you know, I really didn't have nowhere. Real  
7 estate had lost employment.

8           You know, when you get a police  
9 record, you -- you know, by me being in  
10 maintenance, you got -- you have to have a  
11 police clearance. I really didn't have a good  
12 police clearance. I couldn't get a decent  
13 job. So you're out on the street just two --  
14 just four or five months, two or three years.  
15 You're just hustling and really not going  
16 nowhere, you know? And that's what was going  
17 on. So you start to making money any way you  
18 can, doing whatever you can to make ends meet,  
19 you know?

20           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. I  
21 think this might be my last question, but how  
22 did you get to apply for this application?

1 MR. WILSON: Well, I was -- the  
2 store that I had before, Mr. Fung, he -- I  
3 like to cook, and if you ever heard of Catfish  
4 Fridays?

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes.

6 MR. WILSON: May have heard of  
7 Catfish Fridays. I -- cooking is my -- that's  
8 what I like to do. And they know me by my  
9 cooking. And he said this was excellent.  
10 When I was working at his store, he's said  
11 this is the excellent guy to run the store.  
12 I was clean and sober and doing real well,  
13 still to this day until now, you know? He  
14 referred me it. And he said, well, if you can  
15 get your license, because he know where I come  
16 from, then I'll let you run the store. And  
17 I'm hoping to maybe -- hoping to get -- do  
18 that.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Any other  
20 questions? Mr. Brooks?

21 MEMBER BROOKS: Thank you, Madam  
22 Chair. Good morning, Mr. Wilson.

1 MR. WILSON: Good morning.

2 MEMBER BROOKS: You indicated that  
3 you feel that you are on the right track now.

4 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

5 MEMBER BROOKS: So how long do you  
6 think you've been on the right track,  
7 approximately?

8 MR. WILSON: Almost I'd say a good  
9 almost eight months now.

10 MEMBER BROOKS: Eight months?

11 MR. WILSON: Yes.

12 MEMBER BROOKS: Okay. And the  
13 situation with the house --

14 MR. WILSON: Yes.

15 MEMBER BROOKS: -- did the owner  
16 turn you into the police?

17 MR. WILSON: The owner -- I think  
18 it was more or less -- I was -- I'm thinking  
19 it was more or less the police because of what  
20 happened, but the owner, I guess -- I don't  
21 think -- I don't know for sure. I don't know  
22 for sure.



1                   MEMBER BROOKS:   Okay.  So you did  
2                   not find out because you were confined, right?

3                   MR. WILSON:    Yes.  Yes, sir.

4                   MEMBER BROOKS:   For 60 days?

5                   MR. WILSON:    Yes.

6                   MEMBER BROOKS:   And you never  
7                   found out the situation or how you got  
8                   reported or who reported you?

9                   MR. WILSON:    Well, I was reported  
10                  because I had a squabble with the -- I think  
11                  so.  I think maybe the owner maybe had --  
12                  maybe did, because the police asked him did  
13                  you want -- I believe do you want him to be  
14                  taken care of, and I think he said yes, if I'm  
15                  not mistaken.

16                  MEMBER BROOKS:   Okay.  So the  
17                  owner did --

18                  MR. WILSON:    Yes.

19                  MEMBER BROOKS:   -- contact the  
20                  police?

21                  MR. WILSON:    Yes.

22                  MEMBER BROOKS:   And that's why you

1 were arrested, is that correct?

2 MR. WILSON: Yes. Yes.

3 MEMBER BROOKS: Okay.

4 MR. WILSON: Yes. Yes. Yes.

5 MEMBER BROOKS: And where are you  
6 working now?

7 MR. WILSON: Well, right now I'm  
8 doing -- I have a little condo. I'm not  
9 really working at this moment, but I rent out  
10 a room just to try to make things go by.  
11 Hopefully this goes through that I want it --  
12 that I'm hoping to go through where I can have  
13 a job.

14 MEMBER BROOKS: Okay. Now where  
15 are you working?

16 MR. WILSON: I'm not working  
17 anywhere right now.

18 MEMBER BROOKS: Okay. So --

19 MR. WILSON: I do small --

20 MEMBER BROOKS: -- what's the  
21 reason for the ABC license?

22 MR. WILSON: Huh?

1                   MEMBER BROOKS:  What's the reason  
2                   for the ABC license at this time?

3                   MR. WILSON:  The reason for the  
4                   ABC license so I can run the store, can run  
5                   the store and it will be my permanent job.

6                   MEMBER BROOKS:  But you're not  
7                   working at the store now?

8                   MR. WILSON:  I'm not working at  
9                   the store now, no.

10                  MEMBER BROOKS:  And where is the  
11                  store?

12                  MR. WILSON:  It's on 6th and Q  
13                  Street, N.W.

14                  MEMBER BROOKS:  What's the name of  
15                  it?

16                  MR. WILSON:  It's the 6th and Q  
17                  Market.

18                  MEMBER BROOKS:  And I guess my  
19                  last question is the substance, the cocaine  
20                  possession, were you possessing it to sell it?

21                  MR. WILSON:  No, sir.  I was a  
22                  user only.

1                   MEMBER BROOKS: Thank you, Madam  
2 Chair.

3                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, Mr.  
4 Alberti?

5                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Mr. Wilson?

6                   MR. WILSON: Yes, sir?

7                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Let's sort of go  
8 back a little bit. So when were you married?

9                   MR. WILSON: Oh, God. I was  
10 married twice, actually, to the same lady.

11                  MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

12                  MR. WILSON: Don't even know the  
13 dates, man, you know? But, yes, I was married  
14 twice to the --

15                  MEMBER ALBERTI: Approximately.

16                  MR. WILSON: When was the first  
17 time? When was I married to Linda? I never  
18 kept that or the anniversaries.

19                  MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So you  
20 were married the first time and then --

21                  MR. WILSON: Right.

22                  MEMBER ALBERTI: -- how long were

1       you separated or divorced?

2                   MR. WILSON:   Okay.  I'm married --  
3       I stayed -- I guess we maybe stayed separate  
4       for maybe two years.

5                   MEMBER ALBERTI:  And then you got  
6       married again?

7                   MR. WILSON:  We married again,  
8       yes.

9                   MEMBER ALBERTI:  And the second  
10      time you got married was?  When was the second  
11      time you got married?

12                  MR. WILSON:  Boy.  When?

13                  MEMBER ALBERTI:  Approximately.

14                  MR. WILSON:  Second time I got  
15      married to Linda -- you mean years ago, you  
16      mean?

17                  MEMBER ALBERTI:  Yes.  Right.  
18      Right.  When did you get married?

19                  MR. WILSON:  I don't know.  I  
20      really don't.  I never kept them -- honest, I  
21      never kept the anniversaries.  The  
22      anniversary --

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: Do you know how  
2 many years you were married the second time?

3 MR. WILSON: I been married to  
4 Linda for about --

5 MEMBER ALBERTI: How old were you  
6 got married the first time?

7 MR. WILSON: I was about 20 years  
8 old.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: About 20 years  
10 old?

11 MR. WILSON: Yes.

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And you're  
13 48 now?

14 MR. WILSON: Forty-eight, yes.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So prior  
16 to 2010 when you got your divorce --

17 MR. WILSON: Second.

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- when your wife  
19 left you, prior to your wife leaving you in  
20 2007 --

21 MR. WILSON: Yes.

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- right about

1 that time, where were you working?

2 MR. WILSON: I was working for --  
3 I was an inspector for new houses.

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: For who? Who  
5 were you employed by?

6 MR. WILSON: Monocle Properties, I  
7 believe.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Monocle?

9 MR. WILSON: Yes.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And so  
11 what was your job there?

12 MR. WILSON: I was an inspector.  
13 There -- these were new houses that went up  
14 and I would just go in and make sure all the  
15 counter tops and everything were put -- there  
16 was no cracks, you know, big houses, make sure  
17 all the stuff, the appliances and stuff was  
18 working.

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And when  
20 did you stop working for them?

21 MR. WILSON: When I stopped  
22 working for them was about a year -- maybe

1 about a year after that or so they -- I did  
2 real well.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: So do you know  
4 what year you stopped employment for them?

5 MR. WILSON: No.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: And why did you  
7 stop working for them?

8 MR. WILSON: Started going up on  
9 the wrong end of the road, doing probably  
10 wrong things, you know? Divorce was -- the  
11 things wasn't going right. I mean, so many  
12 things were happening at that time. It's been  
13 about awhile back.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Have you been  
15 employed since?

16 MR. WILSON: I've been employed.  
17 Since '07, you say?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Since Monocle  
19 Properties have you been employed?

20 MR. WILSON: Of course, yes.  
21 Charles E. Smith, Dreyfus.

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: Where?



1 MR. WILSON: Charles E. Smith,  
2 Dreyfus. These are management companies that  
3 manage property.

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And what  
5 do you do for them?

6 MR. WILSON: I do any type of  
7 maintenance. I do plumbing, carpentry,  
8 drywall, anything that has to do with home  
9 improvements.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And when  
11 did you first start working for them?

12 MR. WILSON: Dates -- the last  
13 one, the last employment that I had was with  
14 Catfish Fridays.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

16 MR. WILSON: And I did --

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: How long did you  
18 work for them?

19 MR. WILSON: I worked at Catfish  
20 Fridays about three years.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: So this is?  
22 What's the name, Friday?

1 MR. WILSON: It's called Catfish  
2 Fridays on 4th and Rhode Island Avenue. We  
3 did --

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: And what are  
5 they?

6 MR. WILSON: They are a  
7 restaurant. They do catering and they have a  
8 carry-out.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: What did you do  
10 for them?

11 MR. WILSON: I did the food. I  
12 did the maintenance. I did both. I did one  
13 sometimes. Then when things broke down, I  
14 would fix that, the appliances and stuff.

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: And when did you  
16 start working for them?

17 MR. WILSON: When?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes.

19 MR. WILSON: Dates, I'm not good  
20 with dates, sir. I'm sorry.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, I mean,  
22 we're only going back to 2007. That's only

1 four years ago.

2 MR. WILSON: Yes. Yes. Okay.  
3 We'll say -- I would say maybe three years  
4 ago, Catfish Fridays. Well, I'll tell you  
5 what, the inauguration -- when was the  
6 inauguration? Inauguration was what?

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: 2008.

8 MR. WILSON: Yes, so four years  
9 ago. So we did the inauguration.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: 2010 it was --

11 MR. WILSON: Huh?

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: 2010.

13 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: January 2009.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: 2009. I'm sorry,  
15 2009.

16 MR. WILSON: Yes. Yes, we did the  
17 inauguration. That was the last --

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So you  
19 were working for them then?

20 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And why  
22 did you leave them?

1 MR. WILSON: Catfish Fridays  
2 closed down.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

4 MR. WILSON: Yes, he didn't pay  
5 the taxes or something.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: Do you own real  
7 estate now? Is that what you --

8 MR. WILSON: No, sir.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So what is  
10 this, you have a condo you're renting? You  
11 said --

12 MR. WILSON: Well, I have a --

13 MEMBER ALBERTI: Wait, Mr. Brooks  
14 asked you about employment and you brought up  
15 a condo. So what's that got to do --

16 MR. WILSON: Condo that I live in  
17 now?

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes.

19 MR. WILSON: The condo that I live  
20 in now --

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes.

22 MR. WILSON: -- I have a three-

1 bedroom condo. Not mine now.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. So you're  
3 renting the condo?

4 MR. WILSON: I'm renting the condo  
5 and I rent out a room in that condo, which I  
6 have permission to do, and I make a little  
7 change to keep going. And also the side work  
8 that I do. I lay carpet. A lot of times --  
9 Sam might give me a call. Like I put tile  
10 down in Fort Washington last week.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

12 MR. WILSON: And did the whole  
13 tile for --

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: So you're doing  
15 odd jobs?

16 MR. WILSON: Odd jobs just to get  
17 going. They know me by my work; yes, ma'am.  
18 Yes, sir.

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Now, okay. I'm  
20 wrapping up here. Okay? Yes, let's -- last  
21 thing.

22 MR. WILSON: Okay.

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: So now the 6th  
2 and Q Street Market --

3 MR. WILSON: Yes.

4 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- all right?  
5 When you say "run it," what's that mean?

6 MR. WILSON: Well, I would like to  
7 have a seafood, soul food, beer, wine and  
8 carry-out, as well as groceries.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: So you would  
10 actually be running it?

11 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

12 MEMBER ALBERTI: You'd be the  
13 primary person in charge of running it day-to-  
14 day?

15 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Have you  
17 undergone any treatment for cocaine addiction?

18 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Pardon?

20 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: And when did that  
22 start?

1 MR. WILSON: That started when I  
2 -- it started -- I'm still going through it.  
3 I still go through tests right now. I have --  
4 I test twice a week.

5 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

6 MR. WILSON: I still do that.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: So how long have  
8 you been in treatment?

9 MR. WILSON: I would say almost  
10 eight, nine months now.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Eight, nine  
12 months?

13 MR. WILSON: Yes.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And do you  
15 attend meetings, regular meetings or --

16 MR. WILSON: Never attended any  
17 meetings.

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- counseling  
19 sessions or anything?

20 MR. WILSON: I have a -- there's a  
21 program that you can go to, but I never --  
22 don't attend the meeting. It's just me, you

1 know, I wanted to stop. This was my way of  
2 stopping once I got arrested.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. When I  
4 mean treatment, I mean some active, you know,  
5 counseling, some sort of a counseling. All  
6 right? And you're saying no. You're saying  
7 that you're tested because of your probation,  
8 is that correct?

9 MR. WILSON: Yes.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: But you're not  
11 attending any counseling sessions, is that  
12 correct?

13 MR. WILSON: No, sir, I'm not. I  
14 don't think I really have to because of what  
15 I've been through and what I don't want to go  
16 through anymore.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

18 MR. WILSON: Sometimes it's just  
19 you have to be -- you know, some people can go  
20 through treatment and go right back to the  
21 same thing. They want to go back. It's not  
22 the problem. Treatment is nothing, not the



1 solution for me. It's -- you have to be the  
2 solution.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Thank you, Mr.  
4 Wilson. Thank you for coming. I wish you  
5 well. Thank you.

6 MR. WILSON: Okay. Thank you,  
7 sir.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I just want  
9 to follow up on that. Did you say -- have you  
10 been being tested for eight months, twice a  
11 week?

12 MR. WILSON: Yes.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And how long  
14 are you going to be tested for?

15 MR. WILSON: I'll be out the whole  
16 program in June, sir. I mean, ma'am.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Is  
18 there a name of that program?

19 MR. WILSON: That's CSOSA. CSOSA.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: CSOSA?

21 MR. WILSON: Yes.

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's probation.

1                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER:   Okay.   And  
2                   one last question.   I think that you've made  
3                   the statement that for the last eight months  
4                   you've been on the right track.

5                   MR. WILSON:    Yes, ma'am.

6                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER:   Can you  
7                   describe what that means?

8                   MR. WILSON:    Well, at the time,  
9                   when I was out, you know -- you know, I would  
10                  take money from my daughters and any way you  
11                  can get anything.   I've knocked on doors.   I  
12                  just want to be honest.   I've knocked on doors  
13                  and, hey, my grandma's having a heart attack.  
14                  I need money to go -- you know, I've -- all of  
15                  it because of the habit, you know?

16                  And, you know, I have my daughters  
17                  back.   I have a relationship with them.   Even  
18                  down to my wife, which I've still -- you know,  
19                  I would never marry her again.   No, no.  
20                  They're ain't going to be no three times, you  
21                  know?   She's done and she's already married.

22                  But, you know, it was a time that

1 me and my daughters we weren't close at all  
2 because they had a crackhead daddy. You know,  
3 it wasn't the best thing to be proud of, you  
4 know, and you know it when you hear your --  
5 when you see your daughter. You got -- you  
6 know, there's many times they come downstairs  
7 in the basement and see daddy stupid, stupid,  
8 crazy, you know?

9           And now, you know, my daughters  
10 study the Bible with me. We're both -- we're  
11 all going -- you know, I got two of them  
12 that's living with me, that stays with me.  
13 One ready to have a baby any day now. You  
14 know, we have a baby shower, matter of fact,  
15 at Country Buffet in the 18th of this month.  
16 I'm able to have money. I have money in my  
17 pocket now. You know, these things I wouldn't  
18 have. I wouldn't have anything. I want to  
19 keep that, you know? I want that, yes.

20           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Any  
21 other questions? Yes, Mr. Jones?

22           MEMBER JONES: Just real quick.

1 When's the last time you used any type of  
2 illegal substance? Marijuana, cocaine, meth?

3 MR. WILSON: Nine months ago.

4 MEMBER JONES: Nothing?

5 MR. WILSON: Nine months ago.

6 MEMBER JONES: Nine months ago?

7 MR. WILSON: Yes.

8 MEMBER JONES: That's the last  
9 time you used?

10 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

11 MEMBER JONES: What was it?

12 MR. WILSON: Yes, last I used  
13 anything. Yes.

14 MEMBER JONES: What was it?

15 MR. WILSON: Cocaine.

16 MEMBER JONES: Cocaine?

17 MR. WILSON: Yes.

18 MEMBER JONES: And how much did  
19 you -- when you purchased it, how much did you  
20 buy?

21 MR. WILSON: When you're on --  
22 when you have a habit, sir, it's not --

1                   MEMBER JONES: The last time you  
2 purchased it, how much did you buy? How much  
3 did you pay for it?

4                   MR. WILSON: All depends on how  
5 much money I had in my pocket, sir.

6                   MEMBER JONES: Okay. So you  
7 bought all you could?

8                   MR. WILSON: I bought what I could  
9 get, yes.

10                  MEMBER JONES: Okay. So how did  
11 you manage to just all of a sudden just stop?

12                  MR. WILSON: The brakes were when  
13 I got locked up.

14                  MEMBER JONES: Okay.

15                  MR. WILSON: Because all the -- I  
16 needed a way out.

17                  MEMBER JONES: So when you got  
18 locked up, you were denied access to your  
19 addiction and that allowed you to see the  
20 light and then --

21                  MR. WILSON: For -- you want to  
22 call that 60 days that, yes, sir.

1 MEMBER JONES: Excuse me?

2 MR. WILSON: If you want to call  
3 60 days that, yes, sir, you can say -- you  
4 could say that.

5 MEMBER JONES: Okay.

6 MR. WILSON: I was denied. When I  
7 got out, I just -- you know, when you're in  
8 jail, the walls are closing behind you. And  
9 not just me. I mean, it's -- I'm -- this is  
10 -- and the wall's closing behind you, you say  
11 this is not the way I was raised. This is not  
12 right, you know? My whole life from say 19 to  
13 what, 35, 40, whatever was okay. And why  
14 would I take 4 from 40 to 48 now to mess up?  
15 It's just -- it's too much. I mean, you know,  
16 I've lived that. You know, why would I --  
17 that -- it didn't make sense.

18 MEMBER JONES: That's fine, sir,  
19 but we're looking at your recent history. All  
20 right?

21 MR. WILSON: Yes.

22 MEMBER JONES: So you can tell me

1       what you did 50 years. That's all fine and  
2       good.

3                   MR. WILSON: Yes.

4                   MEMBER JONES: I'm looking at what  
5       you did most recently. So to see that you  
6       have a drug issue as of less than 12 months  
7       ago brings about some level of concern.

8                   MR. WILSON: All right.

9                   MEMBER JONES: So I'm trying to  
10      get clarification on what changes, what you  
11      changed about the construct of your life that  
12      is going to allow you to stay clean. And  
13      that's just a fundamental question.

14                  MR. WILSON: I understand.

15                  MEMBER JONES: So I've heard that  
16      you say, hey, I've seen the light.

17                  MR. WILSON: Yes.

18                  MEMBER JONES: Hey, I care. But  
19      what happens if it goes dark tomorrow, or you  
20      stop caring tomorrow? Are you going to revert  
21      back to your habit? That's not something we'd  
22      like to facilitate as far as someone with an

1 ABC license. So help me understand, because  
2 you already denied the fact -- you indicated  
3 you're not relying on a support group.  
4 Correct?

5 MR. WILSON: Yes.

6 MEMBER JONES: You don't go to  
7 counseling?

8 MR. WILSON: No.

9 MEMBER JONES: So who's going to  
10 be that check and balance for you to make sure  
11 you stay clean?

12 MR. WILSON: That's a good  
13 question, sir. I haven't thought about it  
14 that far as an aspect. But, you know, it has  
15 to be me. It can't be anybody else but  
16 myself. You know, the fact of my association,  
17 who I hang around with and my Higher Power,  
18 which is Jehovah, that's who I believe in, has  
19 brought me this far. And I don't think if I  
20 -- I think if I continue doing what I'm doing  
21 now, I can't lose if I have Him first. I  
22 can't.



1 MEMBER JONES: Okay. Thank you.

2 MR. WILSON: I didn't have that  
3 then.

4 MEMBER JONES: Thank you, Madam  
5 Chair.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Do you drink  
7 alcohol?

8 MR. WILSON: No, sir. No, ma'am.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So when was  
10 the last time you drank?

11 MR. WILSON: I don't drink. Well,  
12 I don't drink, smoke or anything now.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Same  
14 thing? Not since a year ago or --

15 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir. Yes,  
16 ma'am.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Oh,  
18 yes. Go ahead.

19 MEMBER NOPHLIN: One quick  
20 question. First of all, let me say this to  
21 you: It takes a lot to come before the Board  
22 and testify. That's what you're doing. So I

1 want you to feel at ease as best you can.

2 When you left CSOSA they provided  
3 you with certain services. For an example,  
4 they require you to seek employment.

5 MR. WILSON: Yes.

6 MEMBER NOPHLIN: And they also  
7 want you to stay clean, right?

8 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

9 MEMBER NOPHLIN: So in that  
10 process what did you do to make sure that  
11 happened?

12 MR. WILSON: Well, they got you --  
13 you know, it's just a lot of program that I  
14 still can get into now. My probation  
15 officer's working with me. He knows what I  
16 want to do.

17 MEMBER NOPHLIN: Okay.

18 MR. WILSON: He know I'm here as  
19 I'm speaking to you today and wished me well  
20 for that. But, you know, there's a lot of  
21 programs that's out there, but just at this  
22 point there's not a lot of jobs out there

1 really going for anybody, you know? And I'm  
2 just hoping that this could be a -- I'm not  
3 going to let it break me back, you know, break  
4 me down if it doesn't happen. But, you know,  
5 there's some stuff out -- it's small stuff out  
6 there right now. Ain't nothing big out there  
7 that you can go.

8           And you can get into a program and  
9 to get -- to do some painting and do some  
10 welding or what -- not painting. I said  
11 painting or some maintenance, but you need a  
12 company to hire you for it. It's not doing  
13 that, you know? That's where we're at right  
14 now in these type of programs we're in. You  
15 know, you get the program. You can get the  
16 work. I mean, the skills, but it's the work  
17 -- you know, if you can't get the work, you  
18 can't use the skills.

19           MEMBER NOPHLIN: No other  
20 questions for me.

21           CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank  
22 you. Yes, Ms. Mobley?

1 MEMBER MOBLEY: Good morning, Mr.  
2 Wilson.

3 MR. WILSON: Ma'am.

4 MEMBER MOBLEY: How long have you  
5 been a user of cocaine?

6 MR. WILSON: I used cocaine on and  
7 off -- I would say on and off about maybe  
8 about 9 or 10 years. Well, more than that.  
9 Maybe about -- I would say 9 or 10 years ago.

10 MEMBER MOBLEY: Okay. So you've  
11 been a user for 9 or 10 years?

12 MR. WILSON: Not like I -- not  
13 like -- nothing like what I fell in. I would  
14 do it on occasional basis when -- you know,  
15 not like I was. This is a -- once it takes  
16 control of you -- the question you asked me  
17 about, I would say -- 10-15 years, I would  
18 say.

19 MEMBER MOBLEY: Ten to fifteen  
20 years?

21 MR. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

22 MEMBER MOBLEY: Thank you for your

1 honesty around that. And so when you were  
2 arrested in 2010, it was then that CSOSA  
3 requested that you go into treatment?

4 MR. WILSON: Yes.

5 MEMBER MOBLEY: Okay. Help me  
6 understand, because I heard you say you  
7 weren't getting counseling. You were being  
8 tested twice a week.

9 MR. WILSON: Yes.

10 MEMBER MOBLEY: What type of  
11 treatment are you getting. And tell me what  
12 facility. Where are you getting this  
13 treatment?

14 MR. WILSON: No, ma'am, I'm not  
15 getting any treatment --

16 MEMBER MOBLEY: Okay.

17 MR. WILSON: -- at all.

18 MEMBER MOBLEY: You're not getting  
19 anything?

20 MR. WILSON: I'm not getting any  
21 treatment. Only thing I can't -- only -- and  
22 it's based on your urine, you know? Lot of

1 people says that, you know, it's -- that's  
2 basically the test. I've never come up  
3 positive for any of my tests, you know? Which  
4 if I did, that's when CSOSA says, okay, you  
5 keep coming up positive. Let's see what we  
6 can do to help you with this. We're going to  
7 put you in another monitor program. We're  
8 going to put you into this type of program,  
9 you know?

10 But, you know, I haven't come up  
11 positive to be -- I just have to make my two  
12 urines, you know, and try to make this program  
13 that they have to help monitor your job  
14 service and stuff like that.

15 MEMBER MOBLEY: So where are you  
16 going for to be tested?

17 MR. WILSON: I'm going to Martin  
18 Luther King Avenue, S.E.

19 MEMBER MOBLEY: Okay. So if  
20 you're being a cocaine user for 15 years you  
21 don't see the benefit of actually -- since you  
22 said that you're trying to turn over your

1 life, you don't see the benefit of actually  
2 trying to get counseling and a support system  
3 like Board Member Jones' question?

4 MR. WILSON: I understand that  
5 question and it sounds good. You know, I  
6 don't -- I just -- you know, all I can stick  
7 with and -- is that a person has to want to  
8 stop, you know? And if you don't want to do  
9 it, you're not going to do it, you know? And  
10 that's easier said than done. I mean, don't  
11 get me wrong. It's -- and it's not -- it's a  
12 everyday thing for me to -- when I smoke  
13 cigarettes -- I used to smoke cigarettes. I  
14 smoked cigarettes, coke. I see people  
15 everyday smoking cigarettes. Well, I mean, I  
16 can be around the area. I don't hang around  
17 people who does that, but you know, for me to  
18 stay clean as I am now, you know, you see it  
19 everyday.

20 MEMBER MOBLEY: So, Mr. Wilson,  
21 over the 15 years were there ever times when  
22 you wanted to be --

1 MR. WILSON: Everyday.

2 MEMBER MOBLEY: Everyday?

3 MR. WILSON: Every -- yes, and I  
4 don't have to lie to you. Everyday. Once an  
5 addict, always an addict.

6 MEMBER MOBLEY: Okay.

7 MR. WILSON: Everyday. It's not a  
8 day don't go past that I don't think or want  
9 to go back, because it's something that I  
10 liked.

11 MEMBER MOBLEY: Okay. So my point  
12 is for the last 15 years when you were a  
13 cocaine user, you're saying that everyday you  
14 wanted to be clean, you wanted to change your  
15 life around, but you weren't able to?

16 MR. WILSON: I just didn't have  
17 the willpower. I didn't want --

18 MEMBER MOBLEY: So willpower. So  
19 the question for me is then if you never had  
20 the willpower in the last 15 years and you  
21 continued to use cocaine, what is reassurance  
22 that we as Board members have that you won't



1 go back to cocaine when you're admitting that  
2 you are not getting any type of treatment  
3 other than going to be tested twice a week?

4 MR. WILSON: Having my family  
5 back. Having my sanity. Not looking over my  
6 head. Not running from some bullet that's  
7 flying down the street. Being able to have  
8 money in my pocket everyday, you know? And,  
9 you know, and having my Higher Power, Jehovah,  
10 No. 1, which I didn't have.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I'm sorry,  
12 what was the last thing you said? Having your  
13 -- what was the last thing?

14 MR. WILSON: Higher Power.  
15 Jehovah.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, okay.

17 MR. WILSON: The one that I serve.  
18 Yes.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.  
20 Yes, yes, yes. Okay.

21 MEMBER MOBLEY: No further  
22 questions, Madam Chair.

1 Thank you, Mr. Wilson.

2 MR. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: With respect  
4 to your last statement, do you go to church or  
5 you just --

6 MR. WILSON: Yes, I go to the  
7 Kingdom Hall.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

9 MR. WILSON: Jehovah Witnesses,  
10 yes.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Because I was  
12 just wondering. Sometimes meetings are like  
13 support groups.

14 MR. WILSON: Well, our meetings --

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And so do you  
16 get support elsewhere, like in the church?

17 MR. WILSON: Yes, our meetings are  
18 on Thursdays and Sundays. I get a lot -- go  
19 ta lot of support there, you know.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thursdays and  
21 Sundays --

22 MR. WILSON: Thursdays and

1 Sundays.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: -- you go to  
3 a church group?

4 MR. WILSON: Every Thursday and  
5 Sunday. I don't miss it. I don't care what  
6 goes on. I don't miss it.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Is that  
8 different from before this eight-month period?

9 MR. WILSON: Most definitely.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

11 MR. WILSON: I wouldn't go.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Did you say  
13 you -- did you quit cigarettes also?

14 MR. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

15 Everything. Everything.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Great.

17 All right. Any other questions? Mr. Brooks?

18 MEMBER BROOKS: No, nothing.

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: No? Okay.

20 MR. WILSON: I came up here --  
21 matter of fact the day -- a week before and I  
22 seen -- just to sit in here. I seen the

1 gentleman, Mr. Stielberg, Silverton. I  
2 remember seeing Mr. Silverton.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: So what the  
4 procedure is going to be is we're going to go  
5 into a closed meeting and to talk about this  
6 with counsel.

7 MR. WILSON: Yes.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And then  
9 we'll come back out. Is there anything else  
10 you want to tell us? I think we've heard a  
11 lot from you, but if there's -- I'm sorry. My  
12 mic was off. Could you hear me?

13 MR. WILSON: Yes, ma'am, I could  
14 hear you.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Is  
16 there anything else you want to tell us before  
17 we go into the closed session? I think we've  
18 heard a lot from you, but if there is  
19 something else that you haven't told us that  
20 you want to tell us now, feel free.

21 MR. WILSON: No, I just hope that  
22 I've satisfied any of your questions.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

2 MR. WILSON: Okay. Thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.

4 So I'm going to read the closed meeting  
5 instructions and then we'll be back.

6 MR. WILSON: Okay.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: If you need  
8 to take a quick break, go, you know, and come  
9 back in 5 or 10 minutes.

10 MR. WILSON: I would like to use  
11 the bathroom, please.

12 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes, exactly.  
13 Okay. Okay. As Chairperson of the Alcoholic  
14 Beverage Control Board for the District of  
15 Columbia and in accordance with Section 405 of  
16 the Open Meetings Amendment Act of 2010, I  
17 move that the ABC Board hold a closed meeting  
18 on a manager's application for Mr. Ronnie  
19 Wilson for the purpose of seeking legal advice  
20 from our counsel on the matters identified  
21 with respect to the application.

22 Is there a second?

1 MEMBER MOBLEY: Second.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I'll take a  
3 roll call. Mr. Nophlin?

4 MEMBER NOPHLIN: I agree.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Brooks?

6 MEMBER BROOKS: I agree.

7 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Alberti?

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: I agree.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Miller  
10 agrees.

11 Mr. Silverstein?

12 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: I agree.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Mobley?

14 MEMBER MOBLEY: I agree.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Jones?

16 MEMBER JONES: I agree.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Then the vote  
18 is 7-0-0 to go into a closed meeting on this  
19 application.

20 (Whereupon, at 10:48 a.m. off the  
21 record until 11:13 a.m.)

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. We're

1 back on the record and we have before us  
2 consideration of a manager's application for  
3 Mr. Ronnie Wilson. And we've had the  
4 opportunity to hear from Mr. Wilson and ask  
5 questions.

6 I basically what to say that there  
7 is some drug abuse that gives the Board pause  
8 and there is some other issue. I think  
9 there's -- I think this is still a closed  
10 meeting. Let me just pause for a second.

11 So, thank you. So I'd ask that  
12 those who aren't in this matter to clear the  
13 room. We're not going to be very much longer.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: We'll be very  
15 brief.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. So now  
17 that the room has been cleared -- anyway, so,  
18 you know, when we have an application like  
19 yours, it certainly gives the Board pause  
20 because dealing with alcohol and the public is  
21 a big responsibility.

22 That being said, we basically, you

1 know, could approve, deny or conditionally  
2 approve for a period of time. And I'm going  
3 to move that we approve your application  
4 conditionally for a six-month period. I, you  
5 know, am impressed by, you know, the efforts  
6 you are making; and I'll let others speak to  
7 any concerns or whatever, but I'm moving that  
8 it be conditional so that we can make sure  
9 that you're staying on the right path.

10 Okay. That being said, I would  
11 move that we approve Ronnie Wilson's manager's  
12 application for a six-month period. Do I have  
13 a second?

14 MEMBER MOBLEY: Second.

15 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Any comments  
16 on the motion at this time? Mr. Alberti?

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Mr. Wilson?

18 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir?

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: When I consider  
20 this, not only your drug use and your history  
21 there with addiction, but I look at the whole  
22 person.



1 MR. WILSON: Yes.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Your willingness  
3 to perpetrate a fraud just nine months ago, I  
4 mean, that wasn't just a small fraud. I mean,  
5 you had to think about that and knowingly go  
6 into someone else's property and set up house.  
7 That's pretty serious to me. The fact that  
8 you are telling us that you don't need  
9 counseling is a huge red flag for me. It says  
10 to me that you're not ready to really take  
11 control, to admit to yourself that -- what is  
12 necessary for you to move forward.

13 And because of that, I don't think  
14 you're ready for this responsibility, let  
15 alone the responsibility, as you indicated to  
16 us, that you would be in charge day-to-day of  
17 an establishment that's selling alcohol in a  
18 neighborhood that has its own set of problems  
19 with drugs. I'm just astounded that anyone  
20 thinks that you're responsible for this --  
21 rise to the level of responsibility for this  
22 privilege. That's it. I'm done.

1 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Other

2 comments? Yes, Mr. Silverstein?

3 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Mr. Wilson, I  
4 feel very uncomfortable with this because  
5 whatever I vote here will be wrong. Our  
6 responsibility to the public is to protect the  
7 public. Our responsibility to you, such as it  
8 is, is to give you a chance and not throw you  
9 out on the street and not say we don't want to  
10 offer you a life.

11 We can't tell you to -- we can't  
12 order you to go into a program anymore than I  
13 could order you to go to church, or anymore  
14 than I could order you to not go out and play  
15 on the freeway --

16 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir.

17 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: -- even  
18 though I may know that you would be hit by  
19 car. But I can sure ask you, if we're going  
20 to take a risk with you and it's absolutely a  
21 risk, and everybody in this room knows it,  
22 don't mess up. We're putting ourselves out on

1 the line simply because we don't want -- we  
2 want to give you this one chance. And drug  
3 problems are bigger than you are. The idea  
4 that somehow or other you're stronger than  
5 that, we all know that's not the case. We all  
6 need help whenever we have situations like  
7 that. Don't mess up.

8 MR. WILSON: Yes, sir. Okay.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Anybody else?

10 MEMBER MOBLEY: Yes, Madam Chair.

11 Mr. Wilson, I thought long and hard about this  
12 and like the other Board members stated, I  
13 have grave reservations about approving this  
14 license. But at the same time, in looking at  
15 the humane part of it, I do believe in trying  
16 to support individuals who are trying to turn  
17 their lives around, a second chance.

18 Having worked a lot in the  
19 community myself with ex-offenders and  
20 different individuals, I strongly encourage  
21 you, I strongly encourage you to seek  
22 treatment. Now, is that going to help? I

1 don't know. But at least it will show a good  
2 faith effort on your part and you will get the  
3 support that you need over and above the two  
4 days that you're spending at church.

5 So like Board Member Silverstein  
6 said, we're putting a lot of faith in you.  
7 And so one thing I will leave you with is a  
8 saying by someone that says if it's to be,  
9 it's up to me.

10 MR. WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

11 MEMBER MOBLEY: And so I'm  
12 encouraging you to walk straight and do what  
13 it is that you feel that you need to do and  
14 want to do for your children.

15 MR. WILSON: Thank you. Yes,  
16 ma'am.

17 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Anything  
18 else?

19 (No audible response.)

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: That was  
21 really beautifully well said. So I'm just  
22 going to say that, you know, I recognize how

1 well you have been doing in eight months and  
2 I think the concern is, you know, it's a rough  
3 world out there. And so we want to make sure  
4 that you're doing everything possible so you  
5 can keep on doing as well as you're doing.

6 Okay. If there are no other  
7 comments, I will call the vote to approve the  
8 application for a six-month period. I think  
9 I had a second.

10 MEMBER MOBLEY: Second.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Yes. Okay.

12 All those in favor, say aye? Aye.

13 MEMBER NOPHLIN: Aye.

14 MEMBER MOBLEY: Aye,

15 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Aye.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All those

17 oppose?

18 (No audible response.)

19 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All those

20 abstaining?

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: I oppose.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I think --

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm sorry, I --

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: I think --

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Yes, let's do a  
4 roll call, please.

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Nophlin?  
6 Okay. Let's start with Mr. Nophlin on the  
7 vote to grant the application for a six-month  
8 period.

9 MEMBER NOPHLIN: I agree to grant  
10 the application.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Mr.  
12 Brooks?

13 MEMBER BROOKS: I disagree.

14 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Alberti?

15 MEMBER ALBERTI: I disagree.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Miller  
17 agrees.

18 Mr. Silverstein?

19 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: I agree.

20 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Ms. Mobley?

21 MEMBER MOBLEY: I agree.

22 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And Mr.

1 Jones?

2 MEMBER JONES: I disagree.

3 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Then  
4 the vote is 4-3 on the motion to grant the  
5 application for a six-month period.

6 Okay. So we'll see you again in  
7 six months and see how you're doing.

8 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Board.  
9 Thank you very much.

10 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: You'll have  
11 to reapply at the end of the six-month period.

12 MR. WILSON: Okay.

13 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. If you  
14 have any other questions, you can ask them of  
15 the staff.

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Mr. Wilson, I  
17 will tell you that you will not get a  
18 reminder, so it's your responsibility to  
19 remember. And if you let it expire and don't  
20 reapply in six months, it's not going to be in  
21 your favor when you come back.

22 MR. WILSON: Okay.

1                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Hopefully my  
2 fellow Board members will look at that very  
3 closely.

4                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: That's all I  
5 have, Mr. Wilson.

6                   MR. WILSON: Thank you all very  
7 much.

8                   CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Thank you for  
9 coming in.

10                  CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr. Nophlin?

11                  MEMBER NOPHLIN: Yes, let me say  
12 this, and I want to echo the Board's concern,  
13 and certainly I wish you well. Please,  
14 whatever you do, don't go back to where you  
15 were. You know, don't fall. Because this is  
16 an opportunity for you in your life and your  
17 daughters'. Please don't go back to what you  
18 were doing before. Okay? Thank you very  
19 much.

20                  CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Mr.  
21 Silverstein?

22                  MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: August 15th.



1 MR. WILSON: Oh, August 15th.

2 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Before then,  
3 right?

4 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Yes, before  
5 then, August 15th. The staff will help you.  
6 The staff will take care of you today.

7 MR. WILSON: Okay. Thank you,  
8 all.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Thank  
10 you.

11 (Whereupon, the hearing was  
12 concluded at 11:23 a.m.)

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