

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
+ + + + +
ROLL CALL HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF: :
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Kat, LLC, :
t/a Cloud Restaurant & :
Lounge Sports Bar :
1919 9th Street, NW :
License #ABRA-93572 :
Retailer Class CT :
ANC 1B :
Case #20-PRO-00016 :
 :
(License Renewal) :

Monday
September 14, 2020

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
met via Video Teleconference, LaVerne Fletcher,
Board's Agent, presiding.

PRESENT:

LAVERNE FLETCHER, ABRA Board's Agent

ALSO PRESENT:

TESFIT KIFLU, Applicant
PIERSON STOECKLEIN, Protestant, Westminster
Neighborhood Association

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

2 10:29 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning, everyone.

4 Thank you for joining the Alcoholic Beverage
5 Regulation Administration's public roll call
6 hearing. My name is LaVerne Fletcher conducting
7 the roll call hearing as the Board's agent.

8 Today's hearing is being conducted
9 through a WebEx account provided by the D.C.
10 Office of Open Government. There are five cases
11 scheduled for today. Once your case is called, I
12 will elevate the rights of each party to enable
13 their camera and microphone. Then, and only
14 then, will you have the ability to enable your
15 equipment. If your case is not being heard, you
16 will remain mute and your camera will be
17 disabled.

18 At the conclusion of each case, the
19 parties will have the option to leave. If the
20 party chooses to stay, all cameras and
21 microphones for the concluded case will be
22 disabled.

23 Should you have any questions or
24 require technical assistance during the hearing,
25 please submit them using the Q&A feature or email

1 simone.andrews2@dc.gov.

2 I will now take a moment to elevate
3 the rights for each party of this case, and
4 enable their camera and microphone. Good
5 morning, everyone.

6 MR. KIFLU: Good morning.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Excuse me, one moment
8 please. Who is present on behalf of Cloud?

9 MR. KIFLU: Tesfit Kiflu.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you very
11 much. And present on behalf of the Westminister
12 Neighborhood Association?

13 MR. STOECKLEIN: Pierson Stoecklein.
14 Mr. Kiflu, are you the owner of the Cloud Lounge?

15 MR. KIFLU: Yes, sir.

16 MR. STOECKLEIN: Thank you.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much.
18 The Westminister Neighborhood Association has
19 standing as a protestant. We are now going to
20 schedule a mediation.

21 Under normal circumstances, we would
22 be scheduling a status and a protest hearing
23 right now, but we're not going to do that today.
24 We're going to give you those dates at a later
25 day once I become aware of the Board's

1 availability for status in a protest hearing.
2 But, today we'll go ahead and schedule the
3 mediation.

4 I'm going to give you the next dates
5 available for mediation. The next available date
6 for mediation is Tuesday, September 29. That's
7 Tuesday, September 29 at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 1:00
8 or 2:00 in the afternoon. That's on Tuesday,
9 September 29.

10 MR. STOECKLEIN: Would 9:00 a.m. be
11 feasible?

12 MS. FLETCHER: That would work on this
13 end.

14 MR. KIFLU: That's okay with me.

15 MS. FLETCHER: That's okay with you?

16 MR. KIFLU: Yes, ma'am.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Mediation is set for
18 September 29 at 9 o'clock a.m.

19 MR. STOECKLEIN: Thank you, Ms.
20 Fletcher.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you, very
22 much. Any questions at all?

23 MR. STOECKLEIN: No, ma'am.

24 MR. KIFLU: I have a question. How
25 can I contact you guys?

1 MS. FLETCHER: You can contact -- you
2 mean me, contact me?

3 MR. KIFLU: How is going to work the
4 mediation, ma'am?

5 MS. FLETCHER: You don't know what
6 mediation, did you say you don't --

7 MR. KIFLU: Yes.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Oh, I can tell you
9 that. Mediation is an alternative to the protest
10 hearing. Mediation allows the parties an
11 opportunity to meet with the Board's mediator in
12 an effort to negotiate a settlement to resolve
13 this matter as an alternative to going through a
14 protest hearing.

15 If you're able to enter into a
16 settlement agreement to resolve the community's
17 concerns and any concerns that you may have, then
18 you sign a settlement agreement. If the Board
19 approves it, the protest hearing is canceled, and
20 the terms of the settlement agreement because a
21 condition of the license and the terms are
22 enforceable by the Board.

23 (Simultaneous speaking.)

24 Mediation is an alternative to a
25 protest hearing. It gives you an opportunity to

1 resolve the matter to your mutual satisfaction.

2 MR. KIFLU: Okay.

3 MR. STOECKLEIN: Mr. Kiflu, this is
4 Pierson Stoecklein on behalf of the Neighborhood
5 Association. If you have an email address you
6 can provide us, we'll be happy to speak with you
7 in advance of the mediation as well.

8 MR. KIFLU: Please.

9 MR. STOECKLEIN: If that's something
10 you're interested in doing.

11 MR. KIFLU: Sure. My email address is
12 T as in Tom, then my last name, K-I-F as in
13 Frank, L-U @ yahoo.com.

14 MR. STOECKLEIN: At Yahoo?

15 MR. KIFLU: Yes, at yahoo.com.

16 MR. STOECKLEIN: Okay, we will email
17 you then so that we can speak.

18 MR. KIFLU: Sure, thank you.

19 MR. STOECKLEIN: Thank you.

20 MS. FLETCHER: And if you're able to
21 resolve this matter without coming to mediation,
22 if you're able to enter into a settlement
23 agreement without coming to mediation, you can do
24 that as well, and just submit the settlement
25 agreement to the Board for review. If that

1 happens, I'll cancel the mediation.

2 MR. KIFLU: Sure.

3 MR. STOECKLEIN: Thank you, Ms.

4 Fletcher.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, you're very
6 welcome. Okay, well I'm going to sign out now.
7 I'm going to log you out. Take care. See you
8 soon, maybe.

9 MR. STOECKLEIN: You as well.

10 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, take care. Bye.

11 MR. KIFLU: Bye-bye.

12 (The above-entitled matter went off
13 the record at 10:37 a.m.)

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<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>a.m 2:2 4:10,18 7:13 ability 2:14 able 5:15 6:20,22 above-entitled 7:12 ABRA 1:17 ABRA-93572 1:8 account 2:9 address 6:5,11 Administration's 2:5 advance 6:7 afternoon 4:8 agent 1:15,17 2:7 agreement 5:16,18,20 6:23,25 ahead 4:2 Alcoholic 1:2,14 2:4 allows 5:10 alternative 5:9,13,24 ANC 1:9 Applicant 1:19 approves 5:19 assistance 2:24 Association 1:20 3:12 3:18 6:5 availability 4:1 available 4:5,5 aware 3:25</p>	<p>concerns 5:17,17 concluded 2:21 conclusion 2:18 condition 5:21 conducted 2:8 conducting 2:6 contact 4:25 5:1,2 Control 1:2,14 CT 1:8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">K</p> <p>K-I-F 6:12 Kat 1:6 Kiflu 1:19 3:6,9,9,14,15 4:14,16,24 5:3,7 6:2,3 6:8,11,15,18 7:2,11</p>	<p>Pierson 1:20 3:13 6:4 please 2:25 3:8 6:8 present 1:16,18 3:8,11 presiding 1:15 protest 3:22 4:1 5:9,14 5:19,25 protestant 1:20 3:19 provide 6:6 provided 2:9 public 2:5</p>
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C E R T I F I C A T E

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Cloud Restaurant

Before: DCABRA

Date: 09-14-20

Place: teleconference

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.



Court Reporter

NEAL R. GROSS

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