

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 Langston Bar and Grill, LLC, : Fact-finding
7 t/a Langston Bar and Grille : Hearing
8 1831 Benning Road, NE :
9 License #ABRA-86271 : Case No.
10 Retailer Caterer : 15-251-00182
11 ANC-6A :
12 Request for a Fact-finding :
13 Hearing (MPD Letter Dated :
14 10/5/2015 - Fashion One) :

15 - - - - -X

16 Wednesday, December 2, 2015

17
18 Whereupon, the above-referenced matter
19 came on for hearing at the Alcoholic Beverage
20 Control Board, Reeves Center, 2000 14th Street,
21 N.W., Suite 400S, Washington, D.C. 20009.

22

1 CHAIRPERSON:

2 DONOVAN ANDERSON, Presiding

3

4 BOARD MEMBERS:

5 RUTHANNE MILLER

6 NICK ALBERTI

7 MICHAEL SILVERSTEIN

8 JAMES SHORT

9

10 ALSO PRESENT:

11 ANTONIO ROBERSON, Owner

12 On behalf of Langston Bar and Grille

13 JOSEPH CULLEN, Lieutenant

14 On behalf of Metropolitan Police Department,

15 First District

16 DUNCAN BEDLION, LIEUTENANT

17 On behalf of HSB, Metropolitan Police

18 Department

19 JOHN SUERO,

20 On behalf of ABRA

21

22

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

2 [3:56 p.m.]

3 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: All right. The next
4 case on our fact-finding agenda is Case No. 15-
5 251-00182, Langston Bar and Grille, License No.
6 86271.

7 Will the parties approach?

8 (Pause)

9 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Can you please state
10 your name for the record? State and spell your
11 name for the record, and there is also a sign-in
12 sheet. Sign your name and state your position.

13 MR. ROBERSON: Antonio Roberson, A-N-T-O-
14 N-I-O.

15 (Discussion off the record)

16 MR. ROBERSON: R-O-B-E-R-S-O-N.

17 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: And what's your
18 position, sir?

19 MR. ROBERSON: Owner.

20 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Okay.

21 (Discussion off the record)

22 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Mr. Suero?

1 (No response heard)

2 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Mr. Suero, can you
3 identify yourself?

4 MR. SUERO: Oh, I apologize.
5 Investigator John Suero, S-U-E-R-O, with the
6 Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration.

7 MR. CULLEN: Good afternoon. Joseph
8 Cullen, C-U-L-L-E-N, Lieutenant, First District.

9 LT. BEDLION: And Lieutenant Duncan
10 Bedlion, currently with HSB MPD.

11 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: You need to spell
12 your name for her, please.

13 LT. BEDLION: Sorry. B-E-D-L-I-O-N.

14 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: All right. Mr.
15 Suero, can you please provide us a report, if you
16 have it?

17 MR. SUERO: Of course.

18 The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation
19 Administration provided a letter from Chief
20 Lanier in early October, asking us to conduct a
21 fact-finding regarding Art Wino (phonetic), which
22 is located in 700 8th Street, North East,

1 relative to a shooting that resulted in a
2 homicide to the rear of that establishment.

3 On Saturday, October the 3rd, 2015, at
4 12:30 a.m., ABRA investigators were notified via
5 telephone from the Metropolitan Police Department
6 regarding an event that was being held at the art
7 gallery, and that alcohol was being sold there,
8 and they were concerned as to whether it was
9 appropriate for them to sell and serve alcohol.

10 And they had some concerns about the
11 crowd outside and security that was provided
12 inside. Myself and Investigator Puente responded
13 at about 12:30 in the morning. We met with
14 Lieutenant Bedlion at the scene, who advised us
15 that there was a large crowd outside of this art
16 gallery, and the crowd appeared to be somewhat
17 large for the size of the venue.

18 They were concerned about the security
19 that was inside, and also, that alcohol was being
20 provided inside at that location.

21 We entered the establishment, made
22 contact with a young lady who was at a bar,

1 basically -- a makeshift bar on the first floor,
2 and were able to determine that there was a
3 caterer at that location. She was part of that
4 business, and that was the Langston Bar and
5 Grille.

6 We spoke with her, ascertained that she
7 had a proper ABC license, and she did. We also
8 ascertained through -- the fire marshal's office
9 had two members of their agency there, as well,
10 who concluded that the venue was not over
11 capacity.

12 We advised the lieutenant of our
13 findings. We left approximately 10 minutes to 1
14 in the morning. We then received a call from the
15 Metropolitan Police Department -- excuse me --
16 I'm just trying to get the right time.

17 (Pause)

18 MR. SUERO: It was after 2:30 in the
19 morning. We were called and notified by the
20 Metropolitan Police Department of a shooting that
21 had occurred in an alley that runs behind the 700
22 block of 8th Street, North East.

1 We responded -- but we responded back to
2 that location. At that time, we spoke to
3 Lieutenant Charlan (phonetic), who advised that
4 at about 1:00 in the morning on the 3rd of
5 October, officers who were around the front of
6 that art gallery, the 700 block of 8th Street,
7 North East, had heard what they thought were
8 gunshots coming from the rear of the alleyway
9 located at the 700 block of 8th Street, North
10 East.

11 Upon responding to that location, they
12 found three individuals who had been apparently
13 shot. As a result of that shooting, one of those
14 individuals succumbed to his injuries and died.

15 (Pause)

16 MR. SUERO: On Monday, October the 5th,
17 in the afternoon, I contacted -- telephonically
18 contacted Mr. Roberson, the owner of Langston Bar
19 and Grille, and the caterer, who had catered the
20 event at Art Wino, to advise him of the incident,
21 and also, to obtain from him some documentation
22 as to his catering of the event at Art Wino.

1 As a result of my investigation, it was -
2 - the catered event itself had no connection
3 whatsoever to the shooting incident. In my
4 speaking with staff at the art gallery, they also
5 confirmed that there was no incident inside that
6 led to the incident outside.

7 All of the information that I have
8 regarding this incident, whether from the
9 Metropolitan Police Department or from Mr.
10 Roberson or the Art Wino staff, indicates that
11 there was no incident inside that led to the
12 incident outside.

13 I don't know if they've had any further
14 investigative information referenced to that, but
15 at the time of this writing, there was nothing
16 further regarding that incident, and no nexus
17 whatsoever.

18 (Discussion off the record)

19 MR. SUERO: That's, in a sense, what I
20 have about this incident.

21 (Pause)

22 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Officer Dillon

1 (phonetic), do you have anything to add?

2 LT. CULLEN: I had responded to the
3 shooting. I wasn't there for the first call, for
4 the first visit. When I responded to the scene,
5 around 2:30 a.m., I knew that there were
6 approximately two dozen people immediately
7 outside of the establishment on the corner, kind
8 of at the mouth of the alley.

9 It was -- several were definitely -- had
10 been drinking. I didn't see anyone that was you
11 know, significantly over the influence or falling
12 down or anything, so, it was a little difficult
13 to get into the alley where the shooting
14 occurred. The shooting was immediately in the
15 rear of the location.

16 The gentlemen there in the back that had
17 been shot were either attending or had just
18 attended the event -- the (Inaudible portion)
19 event at that location.

20 And I think that due to the overall size,
21 they had retired or gone back around the corner
22 to the alley, and had been drinking prior to the

1 shooting. So, I didn't handle anything directly
2 in the establishment, nor did I speak to anybody
3 in the establishment prior to or immediately
4 after the event.

5 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: And Officer Bedlion?

6 LT. BEDLION: Yes, Lieutenant Bedlion.
7 I'm the one that spoke to the ABRA investigator
8 and met him on the scene that night at 700 H,
9 Henry Street, North East.

10 My concerns initiated once I was driving
11 down the area, after 9:00 p.m., and observed a
12 large crowd outside of the art gallery. It's
13 typically not open, except for special events,
14 and I noticed there were at least 50 people
15 waiting outside, and as the night continued, the
16 crowd also grew. At one point, I'd say reaching
17 close to 200, certainly over a hundred.

18 The challenge that I saw with the crowd
19 was that they were not able to enter the premises
20 swiftly, and that they were blocking the door
21 surrounding the entrance.

22 I immediately attempted to make contact

1 with the gallery owners and the security staff.
2 The gallery owners that were there were very
3 cooperative, and they seemed eager to try and
4 mediate the problem.

5 The challenge I found was dealing with
6 the security personnel, and I'm not sure if they
7 worked for the catering company, or were they
8 hired outside by the gallery staff. But there
9 was no individual that was keeping a count for
10 the inside, which led to my call for a D.C. fire
11 inspector to assess for over capacity.

12 And I also had a hard time identifying
13 who, exactly, was in charge of their security
14 staff. There was no indication that they had a
15 backup plan to deal with the crowd that was
16 forming, and the main challenge that I found was
17 that there were tickets that were sold before the
18 event, and that they were oversold. And there
19 were also additional people that were showing up
20 that were allowed to buy tickets.

21 So, that created a concern for me, that
22 Howard homecoming, large amount of people in the

1 area and then coming out of the area were going
2 to be able to come, but not given access to the
3 event. And they were concerned for improvised
4 events, like drinking in the alley. And
5 unfortunately, you know, my premonitions came
6 true. We had a serious incident.

7 Again, I had no information, as the ABRA
8 investigator stated, that the dispute led -- was
9 initiated inside the establishment, but I do
10 believe that there was a nexus as far as them not
11 being able to gain entry, and then having their
12 own gathering outside in the rear of the alley.

13 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Thank you.

14 Mr. Roberson?

15 MR. ROBERSON: This is the first time
16 that I've heard that there was supposedly a
17 connection between the incident outside in the
18 alley and --

19 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Can you speak up?
20 There is a major --

21 (Simultaneous discussion)

22 MR. ROBERSON: So today, at this moment,

1 is the first time I've heard that there was some
2 kind of nexus between the people who were inside
3 or outside waiting to come in, and the incident
4 in the rear of the alley.

5 You know, given my research and given my
6 conversations with both (Inaudible) ABRA
7 inspectors, from what I understood through the
8 news, there was a verbal (Inaudible portion).

9 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Let me --

10 MR. ROBERSON: This is the first time I'm
11 hearing about there being a connection between
12 them.

13 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Let me ask you a
14 question, because I'm also new to this, too. Why
15 are you here today?

16 MR. ROBERSON: (Laughter) Because I've
17 been requested to be here.

18 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: So, why -- I'm not
19 being facetious, because I'm also new to this.
20 So, why were you requested to come here?

21 MR. ROBERSON: I guess -- you know, I
22 know very little to no -- answer to that. I

1 think we -- as far as my company is concerned, I
2 think we did everything according to the
3 requirements for that night, and we had --

4 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: So, why don't you
5 tell us about that night, as far as you were
6 concerned, and what were your requirements --

7 (Simultaneous discussion)

8 MR. ROBERSON: One incident -- I was not
9 at the --

10 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: No, not necessarily
11 the incident. I mean, the -- you provide
12 catering for an event, so --

13 MR. ROBERSON: Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: -- that's what I'm
15 saying. Just talk about that event and what is
16 it that you did.

17 MR. ROBERSON: We got contacted by a
18 potential contact. We have done work for them on
19 one other occasion. My normal questions to my
20 customer is where is the event? Do you have a
21 CFO? What's your capacity? You know, are you
22 going to have live entertainment? Do you have

1 security?

2 I got answers to all of those. I got a
3 copy of a CFO. From what I understand, he was
4 well below his capacity during that event. He
5 paid us a fee to have my ABRA manager there, to
6 use the license to purchase alcohol, to purchase
7 food, and we provided those services to him.

8 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Were you involved
9 with the security?

10 MR. ROBERSON: Not at all.

11 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: So, your job was just
12 to provide what, the food and the liquor, or --

13 MR. ROBERSON: ABRA manager, license,
14 food and liquor, yes.

15 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Yes?

16 MR. SUERO: I just want to add, if it's
17 not clear, that this art gallery is not an ABRA
18 establishment. I just want to make sure that's
19 clear.

20 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Well, I'm reading a
21 letter from the chief, and --

22 MR. SUERO: Okay (Laughter).

1 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: -- the chief -- it's
2 addressed fashion (?) one and nine. I don't
3 think they're a Fashion One (Laughter), so our --
4 I tend -- this fact-finding was requested prior
5 to my seating on the board, so I will defer to
6 the board members who agreed to this fact-
7 finding.

8 So, if they have questions about the
9 establishment -- yes, Mr. Short?

10 MR. SHORT: Basically, Mr. Chair, my
11 understanding as a board member is that a
12 caterer's license is to someone who is registered
13 with ABRA, who has permission to sell alcohol in
14 Washington, D.C.

15 Normally, that caterer is -- it's been
16 explained to us, provides the alcohol, the ABC
17 license management, in case they're not there,
18 themselves. But also, the caterer has a
19 responsibility to make sure that the supplies
20 don't run out, and that the ABRA laws (Inaudible)
21 violate.

22 So, I guess, Mr. Suero, were any ABRA

1 violations found?

2 MR. SUERO: No.

3 MR. SHORT: No ABRA. That's all I have,
4 Mr. Chair.

5 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Any other members?
6 Yes, Mr. Alberti?

7 MR. ALBERTI: So, Mr. Suero, you said
8 that you observed food.

9 MR. SUERO: I did.

10 MR. ALBERTI: On the tables were -- can
11 you describe for me what you saw?

12 MR. SUERO: There was a large table,
13 people around it -- it's like buffet style. It
14 was a lot of food trays, and all kinds of --

15 MR. ALBERTI: What do you mean by -- a
16 little bit more detail?

17 MR. SUERO: Oh, well, when I walked in,
18 to my left was a table. There was an ABRA
19 caterer's license hung on the wall. There were
20 three people behind the table, where there was
21 some liquor.

22 There was another table where there was

1 food items throughout the table. It appeared to
2 be buffet style.

3 MR. ALBERTI: So, was it cold food, hot
4 food?

5 MR. SUERO: I didn't walk up to take a
6 look close enough, but it was a lot of food on
7 the table.

8 MR. ALBERTI: A lot of food.

9 MR. SUERO: Yes, sir. Absolutely.

10 (Simultaneous discussion)

11 MR. ALBERTI: More than just like, say,
12 heavy hors d'oeuvres, would you say?

13 MR. SUERO: It looked like more than to
14 me, maybe. Chicken wings, different things.
15 Yeah.

16 MR. ALBERTI: Okay. So, Mr. Roberson?

17 MR. ROBERSON: Yes.

18 MR. ALBERTI: Your contract with this
19 company -- first of all, you said you contracted
20 with this company once before?

21 MR. ROBERSON: Yes.

22 MR. ALBERTI: At this location?

1 MR. ROBERSON: Yes. With the
2 (Inaudible).

3 MR. ALBERTI: With who?

4 MR. ROBERSON: The day before.

5 (Simultaneous discussion)

6 MR. ALBERTI: No, you said you had
7 another contract at some point in the past with
8 the same company?

9 MR. ROBERSON: The day before the
10 incident. So whatever that -- October --

11 MR. ALBERTI: Oh, you actually had an
12 event the day before this?

13 MR. ROBERSON: Yes.

14 MR. ALBERTI: Okay. Had you contracted
15 with this company in the past before this?

16 MR. ROBERSON: No.

17 MR. ALBERTI: And your contract called
18 for you to provide food for a hundred people?

19 MR. ROBERSON: For 150. We sent over six
20 hotel pans worth of food. Normally, they don't
21 put all the food out at one time. We keep it in
22 a cambreau (phonetic) to keep it hot.

1 And then, as the food runs out, we
2 replenish it.

3 MR. ALBERTI: So, what time did the event
4 start?

5 MR. ROBERSON: I don't recall. If I had
6 to guess, I would say it was 8:00. But I don't
7 recall.

8 MR. ALBERTI: And did you have people
9 there serving food? Who handled -- who made sure
10 that the food got put out?

11 MR. ROBERSON: No. My only staff person
12 was the ABC manager who actually worked the bar,
13 and the staff for the venue actually managed the
14 food.

15 MR. ALBERTI: So, you had no one there to
16 manage food?

17 MR. ROBERSON: Not to distribute it.

18 (Pause)

19 MR. ALBERTI: Would you be willing to
20 show -- to provide for the contract of -- a copy
21 of the contract?

22 MR. ROBERSON: I really didn't have a

1 contract with them. We sent out -- we had an
2 email agreement. I think I forwarded it to --

3 (Discussion off the record)

4 MR. ROBERSON: Well, normally, what I do
5 is either -- for small events like that, it's an
6 estimate that they approve of, or it was -- they
7 approve, and they pay prior to the event.

8 (Pause)

9 MR. ALBERTI: I mean, I've got to tell
10 you, I'm a little perplexed, almost amused, but
11 in a bad way. When I see these contracts where
12 one of your items is the use of your license.
13 That's not (Inaudible) for the caterer.

14 You have a license which allows you to
15 serve alcohol at a catered event, but you aren't
16 allowed to lend your license for a fee. You are
17 responsible for control. You're not really
18 lending your license.

19 I mean, I'll take this with a grain of
20 salt here, but you know, that raises red flags
21 with people, and so, you should be careful in the
22 future how you contract with people, because that

1 always raises a red flag with this board.

2 MR. ROBERSON: Yeah. I think I've had
3 three or four conversations with Ms. Jenkins
4 about what we could or could not charge for. I
5 have not talked to her about that, but if that's
6 your interpretation of --

7 MR. ALBERTI: Can I see it?

8 (Discussion off the record)

9 MR. ALBERTI: Yeah, I really -- it raises
10 red flags, because you're not lending out your
11 license.

12 MR. ROBERSON: Well, you know --

13 MR. ALBERTI: You have a license to
14 provide to -- you were responsible for the
15 service of alcohol. Obviously, you had an ABRA
16 license manager that night. Is that correct?

17 MR. ROBERSON: Mm-hmm.

18 MR. ALBERTI: I heard you say that.
19 Right?

20 MR. ROBERSON: Mm-hmm.

21 MR. ALBERTI: So, you took that
22 responsibility. I mean, you lived up to that

1 responsibility. So, I'm just -- in a way, I'm
2 trying to be helpful.

3 MR. ROBERSON: Oh, I understand. I
4 understand.

5 MR. ALBERTI: Because you really don't
6 want people looking at contracts and going, well,
7 wait a second. What's this guy doing? And just
8 give me a moment. I'm looking at --

9 So, 150 people?

10 MR. ROBERSON: That's what I recall, yes.
11 I quizzed my --

12 (Simultaneous discussion)

13 MR. ALBERTI: So, you're providing food
14 for an evening at the cost of \$3 a head?

15 MR. ROBERSON: If that's what the number
16 is.

17 (Discussion off the record)

18 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Do you have a
19 question, Mr. Short?

20 MR. SHORT: No. I am -- I'm with Mr.
21 Alberti. I'd just like to go over this chapter,
22 caterer's licenses.

1 MR. ALBERTI: Then we can talk before --
2 (Simultaneous discussion)

3 MR. SHORT: Okay. And then we'll come
4 back.

5 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: All right. Do you
6 have any questions (Inaudible) -- we're going to
7 take a five minute break. Okay? So, we'll be
8 back shortly. Okay?

9 MR. ALBERTI: All right, thanks.

10 [OFF THE RECORD - 4:18 p.m.]

11 [ON THE RECORD - 4:39 p.m.]

12 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: All right. We're
13 back on the record. We had a quorum.

14 (Pause)

15 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Mr. Roberson?

16 MR. ROBERSON: Yes?

17 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: I mean, I asked you
18 earlier if you recognized why were you here,
19 because we had a -- the purpose is, the chief of
20 police had requested a fact-finding hearing
21 because of some incidents that occurred at an
22 event that you catered, that you provided food.

1 And it's to inform you of the -- the ABRA
2 investigator, basically found no ABRA violations,
3 that you -- because since the establishment had
4 not exceeded its capacity; that the liquor was
5 being served and an ABC manager was on duty; that
6 you did what you were supposed to do.

7 However, the board is very concerned, in
8 the sense of the nature of the agreement that you
9 had with the establishment. And I am also new to
10 this. I have to rely on my other board members
11 for support.

12 However, you need clearly review the
13 rules and regulations regarding having a
14 caterer's license, because it's my understanding,
15 as the law reads, is that the purpose of having
16 the license is to serve food, and alcohol should
17 be an incidental aspect of serving food.

18 Board members are very concerned about
19 the -- I would say the contract. You said this
20 in an email, but the contract you had, because
21 there is an imbalance between the amount of food
22 that was served and the alcohol, but -- based on

1 the priced that was quoted in it.

2 And so therefore, it is something that
3 board members are very concerned that it did not
4 appear for this event, that alcohol was an
5 incidental aspect of the service that you
6 provided.

7 So, that's something that you need to
8 review, the rules and regulations regarding your
9 license, and what you can or can't do, because
10 although the chief of police had requested this
11 fact-finding for Fashion One, Fashion One is not
12 here, and you're the one who is here.

13 And there is not much that ABRA can do
14 regarding Fashion One, but there is a lot that
15 ABRA can do regarding your license, and that's
16 something that you have to be more careful of the
17 agreements that you sign with these
18 establishments; that if you are at a catering
19 event, that serving alcohol should be incidental
20 to the food that is provided.

21 The floor is open for other board members
22 who might want to make --

1 MR. ROBERSON: Can I comment on it? I
2 also would like to comment on that.

3 MALE SPEAKER: Sure.

4 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Sure. Go ahead, sir.

5 MR. ROBERSON: I've had conversations
6 with your staff about what it means -- what
7 incidental means. I haven't gotten any clarity
8 on that, to tell you the truth.

9 As far as the food is concerned, I made
10 mention to my --

11 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Can I say something?
12 You're on the record. So, carefully think about
13 what you are saying (Laughter), because you're on
14 the record. Okay? I just want you to know that
15 you are being recorded. Okay?

16 MR. ROBERSON: All right.

17 So, I mentioned to my customer, to the
18 client, Fashion One, that if you don't monitor
19 the food, you don't have somebody who is going to
20 distribute the food, it's going to go a lot
21 faster than if you have somebody who is actually
22 distributing food. That's just the nature of --

1 free food is free food.

2 But when you have somebody who is saying,
3 you know, two meatballs, one piece of chicken --

4 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: I don't think that's
5 the -- that's not the concern. The concern is
6 that the contract that you provided the board, I
7 think it stated that alcohol was something like
8 2,000, and the food was 400.

9 And so, there is a major imbalance there.
10 It should be the food is 2,000 and the alcohol is
11 400. I'm just saying, that is a -- that's where
12 the board is coming from. So, that's one of the
13 reasons why -- I'm saying that you're on the
14 record, so maybe you don't say anything if you
15 don't think it's going to help your case.

16 I'm just being open. And after the
17 hearing, ask for further guidance from the
18 general counsel about what it is that you can or
19 can't do with your license.

20 MR. ALBERTI: Mr. Roberson, my concern
21 goes beyond what you did here this night. All
22 right? I mean, you served a lot more alcohol

1 than you did food, which I find to be a problem.
2 But my concern goes to the fact that Fashion One,
3 that location, I know has many events.

4 And my concern is, is that they're using
5 you. They're using caterers like you to throw a
6 party that features alcohol more than it features
7 food. All right? And so, they're as much at
8 fault as you are. All right?

9 But you are facilitating their bad
10 behavior (Laughter), and you don't want to get
11 caught up in that. Right? You need to be
12 careful with them and with others that you don't
13 get caught up in facilitating someone else's bad
14 behavior. All right?

15 Because a caterer is responsible for --
16 the primary focus of a caterer is to service his
17 food. So, when I see a bill that has \$400 in
18 food and \$2,000 in alcohol, I know for sure that
19 the focus was alcohol, and not food. And that's
20 a concern to me.

21 So, I ask you, do not only yourself a
22 favor, but the district and us, and don't

1 facilitate these other people's bad behavior.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Yes, Mr. Short?

4 MR. SHORT: Mr. Roberson, how are you
5 doing?

6 MR. ROBERSON: Good.

7 MR. SHORT: Great. Do you have a copy of
8 the ABRA laws?

9 MR. ROBERSON: No, I do not.

10 MR. SHORT: I suggest you might want to
11 do that. In chapter 20 -- it deals directly with
12 what a caterer should do or a catering license
13 can do or cannot do. And here's the bottom line:
14 If you go to that every now and then, even though
15 your business (Inaudible), you will find out it
16 will help you stay out of a lot of problems and
17 stay out of here.

18 You have a lucrative business there.
19 There's not many businesses on Benning Road
20 (phonetic) that can even compete with you. So,
21 we don't want to see you anymore, Mr. Roberson.

22 We want to see that you get into this

1 book and you can keep going with that wonderful
2 menu you have over there at Langston Bar and
3 Grille, and that you take Mr. Alberti's advice
4 about, when you're doing these catering events,
5 be careful.

6 Again, people will use you if they can,
7 to do things that kind of circumvent the law. We
8 know you don't run that kind of show. Get the
9 book, and good luck to you.

10 MR. ROBERSON: Thank you. I appreciate
11 it.

12 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Are there any other
13 board members who would like to comment?

14 I'll just -- I'll make a motion that we
15 take no further action on this matter. Is there
16 a second?

17 MR. SHORT: Second.

18 MALE SPEAKER: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Those in favor, say
20 aye.

21 ALL: Aye.

22 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: Five, zero, zero.

1 So, you are on notice, sir.

2 MR. ROBERSON: Okay, thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN ANDERSON: All right, thank you.

4 [Whereupon, at 4:47 p.m. the
5 above-entitled matter concluded.]

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