

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

2 10:35 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Would the parties in
4 the matter of Addis Paris Café please come
5 forward, the parties in the matter of Addis Paris
6 Café. This is Case No. 19-PRO-00096, Hemen, LLC.
7 The address is 3103 Mount Pleasant Street,
8 Northwest, License No. ABRA-110083.

9 This is a Retailer Class CR
10 substantial change, class change from Class CR to
11 Class CT. The protest issues are adverse impact
12 on peace, order and quiet. My name is LaVerne
13 Fletcher conducting the roll call hearing as the
14 Board's agent. Introductions beginning with the
15 Applicant, please, if you could just state your
16 name and spell it for the record.

17 MS. SOLOMON: Sure, Hemen Solomon.
18 The first name is H-E-M-E-N, last name is
19 S-O-L-O-M-O-N.

20 MS. CLAY: Michelle Clay,
21 M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E C-L-A-Y, attorney for Ramona
22 Arias.

1 MS. FLETCHER: Excuse me. Your name,
2 ma'am?

3 MS. ARIAS: Ramona Arias, R-A-M-O-N-A
4 A-R-I-A-S.

5 MS. FLETCHER: I'm going to need some
6 clarity regarding the protest letter that was
7 filed before I make a decision about this case.
8 Ms. Clay, you filed the protest letter and you
9 signed it.

10 MS. CLAY: Yes.

11 MS. FLETCHER: At the end of the
12 protest letter, you mention that we ask the Board
13 to deny the petition for substantial change to
14 the liquor license.

15 MS. CLAY: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: But only you signed the
17 letter.

18 MS. CLAY: That is correct, on behalf
19 of Ramona Arias.

20 MS. FLETCHER: That was not stated in
21 your protest letter. Let me say this, first of
22 all. You cannot be considered a protestant, Ms.

1 Clay. Was your intention for you to personally
2 file a protest or not?

3 MS. CLAY: No, ma'am.

4 MS. FLETCHER: That was not your
5 intention.

6 MS. CLAY: No, ma'am.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Clay, you're not
8 granted standing as a protestant, but that wasn't
9 your intention in the first place.

10 MS. CLAY: That is correct.

11 MS. FLETCHER: I have to address that
12 issue because you signed the letter and say we.
13 You signed the protest letter and said that we
14 request that the Board deny. That's why I wanted
15 to clear that up first.

16 MS. CLAY: Not me.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Yes, okay, so we
18 cleared that up. Ms. Arias, you didn't sign a
19 protest letter. Your intention was to file a
20 protest?

21 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Any particular reason

1 why you didn't sign a protest letter?

2 MS. ARIAS: No, I didn't thought that
3 I need to sign it.

4 MS. FLETCHER: You didn't think you
5 needed to sign the protest letter?

6 MS. ARIAS: I contacted my lawyer, who
7 represented me. I don't think that I need to do
8 that (Simultaneous Speaking).

9 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, so -- mm-hm. So
10 the letter did not say that you were representing
11 Ms. Arias. I guess there's an implication, but
12 the letter does not say that you're representing
13 Ms. Arias. The letter does say that you, Ms.
14 Arias, were opposed to the application. I'm
15 taking a last-minute look at the letter.

16 If you file a protest, a protest
17 letter has to be signed. Ms. Arias, you actually
18 didn't sign the protest letter, but you didn't
19 think you had to because Ms. Clay filed the
20 protest letter, you thought, on your behalf.

21 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: The protest letter says

1 that, Ms. Arias, that you are located on the
2 second floor, above the establishment.

3 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Are you located
5 directly above? Does your floor touch the
6 ceiling of the establishment?

7 MS. SOLOMON: Yes, it does.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Is that correct?

9 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

10 MS. FLETCHER: That's a very important
11 factor. Your floor touches the ceiling of the
12 establishment.

13 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

14 MS. FLETCHER: Here's what I'm going
15 to do. These are just technicalities. Ms. Clay,
16 your protest letter does not say that you're
17 representing the beauty salon. It doesn't say
18 that. What I'm going to do -- but at the same
19 time, Ms. Arias, you intended to file a protest.
20 That's why you're here today.

21 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: Because your intention

1 was to file a protest. What I'm going to ask you
2 to do, Ms. Arias, is to send us a statement
3 designating Ms. Clay to represent -- as your
4 attorney, representing you in this case. We
5 don't have anything from you, at all. We have
6 the letter from Ms. Clay.

7 She didn't indicate that she's filing
8 a protest on your behalf, and you didn't submit
9 anything. Just to complete this record, if you
10 would send a statement designating Ms. Clay as
11 the attorney representing you in this matter, so
12 that we have something from you, with your
13 signature. Can you do that within -- by the end
14 of the week?

15 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Solomon, do you
17 have any questions about anything I'm saying so
18 far?

19 MS. SOLOMON: No. She wrote an
20 affidavit to approve for me to get, in the first
21 place, the liquor license, so I don't know why,
22 now, she has a problem.

1 MS. FLETCHER: You mean when you
2 initially got the liquor license?

3 MS. SOLOMON: Yes. She owns the
4 building.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Who owns the building?

6 MS. SOLOMON: She does.

7 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Arias owns the
8 building.

9 MS. SOLOMON: She does.

10 MS. FLETCHER: I understand you're
11 saying that initially, she was okay with you
12 having it.

13 MS. SOLOMON: Yes.

14 MS. FLETCHER: This application is to
15 change the license class from a CR, restaurant,
16 to a CT, tavern. That's not an issue that we
17 address today. I just wanted to point out that
18 based on what you're saying, Ms. Arias was in
19 support of your new application when you first
20 opened.

21 MS. SOLOMON: Yes.

22 MS. FLETCHER: But she's opposed to

1 the class change.

2 MS. SOLOMON: Okay.

3 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Am I correct?

5 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

6 MS. FLETCHER: Ms. Arias, I've made a
7 note that you're going to -- there's my card,
8 right there, on the table. Your attorney, Ms.
9 Clay, just took the card. Please send that
10 statement by the end of the week. I'm going to
11 go ahead and grant standing to you as a
12 protestant, but we have to have something to
13 indicate that this was your intention.

14 Ms. Clay, she did file the protest.
15 It said we deny the petition, but your signature
16 is not anywhere. We have to have your signature
17 somewhere. We need to set a date for mediation,
18 a status hearing, and a protest hearing. I'll
19 give you the dates for the status hearing and
20 protest hearing first. Make sure you don't touch
21 the microphone, the paper. It makes -- yes. The
22 status hearing is scheduled for September 25, at

1 9:30. That's September 25, at 9:30, for the
2 status hearing. The protest hearing is set for
3 November 6, at 4:30. That's November 6, at 4:30,
4 for the protest hearing. I'll give you the next
5 available date for mediation.

6 MS. SOLOMON: September 25th, what is
7 for, again?

8 MS. FLETCHER: I'm sorry, Ms. Solomon,
9 what was that?

10 MS. SOLOMON: September 25th, what is
11 it for, again?

12 MS. FLETCHER: September 25, at 9:30,
13 that's for the status hearing. September 25, at
14 9:30, is the status hearing. The protest hearing
15 is November 6, at 4:30. That's the protest
16 hearing. The mediation is scheduled as an
17 alternative to going forward with the protest
18 hearing. If the matter can be resolved in some
19 way, a protest hearing won't be necessary.

20 MS. CLAY: The mediation hearing is
21 set for what date?

22 MS. FLETCHER: I'm going to give you

1 a couple of dates to consider for the mediation.
2 The next available day is September 11th. That's
3 on a Wednesday, September 11, at any time in the
4 morning, up until 2:00 in the afternoon. Ms.
5 Solomon, we can keep moving if that's not a good
6 day for you.

7 MS. SOLOMON: No, that's not a good
8 day for me. Thank you.

9 MS. FLETCHER: No problem. What about
10 Wednesday, September 18, same thing, any time of
11 morning or afternoon. Is that --

12 MS. SOLOMON: That's good for me.

13 MS. FLETCHER: -- okay with you Ms.
14 Clay and Ms. Arias? That's Wednesday, September
15 18. It can be at 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30,
16 11:00.

17 MS. CLAY: Can we do it the following
18 week, after the 24th?

19 MS. FLETCHER: We can have the
20 mediation -- the status hearing is the 25th. We
21 can have the mediation after the status hearing,
22 but you need to still show up for the status

1 hearing and just let the Board know that the
2 mediation date is coming up. I'm going to move
3 to the first week in October. What about
4 Tuesday, October 1st or the 3rd. Either one is
5 okay on the calendar.

6 MS. SOLOMON: Either one is fine, as
7 long as it's after 10:00.

8 MS. FLETCHER: As long as it's after
9 10:00? Okay, we can go with Tuesday, October 1.
10 You want 11:00?

11 MS. SOLOMON: Yes, perfect.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Does that work for you,
13 Ms. Clay and Ms. Arias?

14 MS. CLAY: Yes.

15 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

16 MS. FLETCHER: 11:00 on Tuesday,
17 October 1. Any questions at all? Okay, thank
18 you. Ms. -- is it Arias? Am I pronouncing it
19 correctly?

20 MS. ARIAS: Yes.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Just saying one more
22 time, get that document in. We have to have your

1 signature on something. I've made a note, and
2 you can send it to me. However it gets here,
3 make sure you sign something designating Ms. Clay
4 as your representative.

5 MS. CLAY: She will.

6 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, thank you, Ms.
7 Clay. Thank you very much. The roll call
8 hearing is concluded. Thank you.

9 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
10 went off the record at 10:49 a.m.)

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<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p>A-R-I-A-S 3:4 a.m 2:2 13:10 above-entitled 13:9 ABRA 1:18 ABRA-110083 1:8 2:8 Addis 1:6 2:4,5 address 2:7 4:11 8:17 adverse 2:11 affidavit 7:20 afternoon 11:4,11 agent 1:16,18 2:14 ahead 9:11 Alcoholic 1:2,14,15 alternative 10:17 ANC 1:8 Applicant 1:20 2:15 application 5:14 8:14 8:19 approve 7:20 Arias 1:22 2:22 3:3,3,19 4:18,21 5:2,6,11,13 5:14,17,21 6:1,3,9,13 6:19,21 7:2,15 8:7,18 9:3,5,6 11:14 12:13 12:15,18,20 attorney 2:21 7:4,11 9:8 August 1:13 available 10:5 11:2</p>	<p>11:14,17 12:13,14 13:3,5,7 clear 4:15 cleared 4:18 COLUMBIA 1:1 come 2:4 coming 12:2 complete 7:9 concluded 13:8 conducting 2:13 consider 11:1 considered 3:22 contacted 5:6 Control 1:2,14,15 correct 3:18 4:10 6:8 9:4 correctly 12:19 Counsel 1:21 couple 11:1 CR 1:8,11 2:9,10 8:15 CT 1:11 2:11 8:16</p>	<p>forward 2:5 10:17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <p>give 9:19 10:4,22 grant 9:11 granted 4:8 guess 5:11</p>	<p>10:20 11:1,20,21 12:2 mention 3:12 met 1:15 Michelle 1:21 2:20 microphone 9:21 Monday 1:12 morning 11:4,11 Mount 1:7 2:7 move 12:2 moving 11:5</p>
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		<p style="text-align: center;">L</p> <p>last-minute 5:15 LaVerne 1:16,18 2:12 lawyer 5:6 letter 3:6,8,12,17,21 4:12,13,19 5:1,5,10 5:12,13,15,17,18,20 5:22 6:16 7:6 license 1:8 2:8 3:14 7:21 8:2,15 liquor 3:14 7:21 8:2 LLC 1:6 2:6 located 6:1,4 long 12:7,8 look 5:15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">M</p> <p>M-I-C-H-E-L-L-E 2:21 ma'am 3:2 4:3,6 matter 1:5 2:4,5 7:11 10:18 13:9 mean 8:1 mediation 9:17 10:5,16</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: Addis Paris Cafe

Before: DCABRA

Date: 08-26-19

Place: Washington, DC

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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