



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

2 11:29 a.m.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. We  
4 have a Fact-Finding Hearing for Christopher  
5 Brownlowe. It's a one day Temporary License G.  
6 The license number is 111351.

7 So can you -- could the parties,  
8 please, identify themselves for the record,  
9 please?

10 MR. BROWNLOWE: Christopher Brownlowe.

11 MS. YAP: Wuiping Yap, H Street.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry, I  
13 didn't hear the last name, ma'am?

14 MS. YAP: Wuiping Yap, H Street Main  
15 Street. Y-A-P.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yap, Ms. Yap.  
17 Yes?

18 MR. SALEEM: Anwar Saleem, H Street  
19 Main Street.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Saleem.

21 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Kevin Puente,  
22 ABRA Investigator.

1                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Puente.  
2 Mr. Puente, can you -- did you write a report  
3 regarding this one day license?

4                   INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yes, sir.

5                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Can you just  
6 bring us up to speed --

7                   INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yes, sir.

8                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- about what  
9 has occurred and then I'll ask Mr. Brownlowe to  
10 respond.

11                   INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: On October 13,  
12 during the H Street Festival, myself and a team  
13 of ABRA Investigators were monitoring the whole H  
14 Street Corridor.

15                   We observed a beer garden set up at  
16 1207 H Street, N.E., which was the Autozone  
17 parking lot. We observed people consuming  
18 alcohol. We observed MurLarkey brewing company  
19 from Virginia serving alcohol.

20                   We identified ourselves as ABRA  
21 Investigators. We asked to speak to the ABC  
22 Manager. The bartender had no idea what we were

1 talking about. He said I'll go get someone from  
2 Sticky Rice right across from the street. A few  
3 minutes later, an ABC Manager from Sticky Rice,  
4 Ms. Rene Norman came over and said that they were  
5 keeping an eye on the event.

6 I asked to see the one-day license  
7 that was issued. No one could find it for us.  
8 Nothing was posted at the event area. No warning  
9 signs. I told her we need to see the licensee  
10 holder. She went and got the owner of Sticky  
11 Rice, Mr. Jason Martin. He said he was trying to  
12 contact Mr. Brownlowe, but was -- said he was  
13 coming.

14 Approximately 30 minutes later, Mr.  
15 Brownlowe still didn't show up. The ABC Manager  
16 went and got a warning sign, but no one could  
17 produce the actual one-day license for us and we  
18 ultimately left, because no one came and met with  
19 us after about 30 minutes.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Brownlowe?

21 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes, sir.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You applied for

1 a one-day temporary license. It was issued to  
2 you, so can you -- what happened?

3 MR. BROWNLOWE: Well, I just want to  
4 put this into context. I was not there as a  
5 vendor and I was not there as an entrepreneur. I  
6 was there as a volunteer.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Mr. Brownlowe,  
8 you applied for a license.

9 MR. BROWNLOWE: I did.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: A license was  
11 issued in your name.

12 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Why did you  
14 apply for a license, sir?

15 MR. BROWNLOWE: On behalf --

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What does that  
17 mean to you?

18 MR. BROWNLOWE: On behalf of H Street  
19 Main Street, they needed a volunteer who could:  
20 A) Procure a license and was also willing to be  
21 there all day.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay.

1 MR. BROWNLOWE: Most of the licenses--  
2 most of the volunteers --

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Who was also  
4 willing to --

5 MR. BROWNLOWE: -- are not.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- be there all  
7 day.

8 MR. BROWNLOWE: That is correct.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay.

10 MR. BROWNLOWE: Because most of their  
11 volunteers come and go.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Who  
13 was --

14 MR. BROWNLOWE: And because the  
15 licensee needed to be there in case it -- to  
16 produce the license --

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

18 MR. BROWNLOWE: -- on demand as  
19 required, that person was required to be there  
20 for the entirety --

21 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

22 MR. BROWNLOWE: -- of the festival.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

2 MR. BROWNLOWE: Very few of their  
3 volunteers were actually there for the entirety  
4 of the festival, so I was willing to step up and  
5 do that.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

7 MR. BROWNLOWE: So this wasn't a money  
8 making operation for me. I have never done this  
9 before.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Sir, this is  
11 what you said to me.

12 MR. BROWNLOWE: I --

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: They are  
14 looking -- this is you --

15 MR. BROWNLOWE: Okay.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- you said  
17 this to me.

18 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You said they  
20 were looking for a volunteer --

21 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- who was

1 willing to be there all day.

2 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes. And I --

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That's what you  
4 said. I didn't tell you what you needed to do.

5 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yeah.

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So and I'm  
7 asking you why wasn't you -- you told me what --  
8 you told me what your responsibility was.

9 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So why then did  
11 you not fulfill your responsibility as what you  
12 just told me?

13 MR. BROWNLOWE: I was there at the  
14 festival all day. Apparently while this incident  
15 was happening, I had stepped away to get some  
16 lunch. Mr. -- Sticky Rice, Jason, Jason from  
17 Sticky Rice doesn't know me. He knows me -- knew  
18 at the time knew me by face, but didn't know my  
19 name. So when they asked for Mr. Brownlowe, he  
20 did not connect the two.

21 He made an attempt to contact me  
22 apparently, but the message was not given to me

1 while I was out at lunch. I was at the festival.  
2 I was two blocks away getting lunch. I was  
3 required to go that distance to get the lunch,  
4 because the lunch provided by H Street Main  
5 Street was only done at a particular vendor at  
6 the event.

7 When I came back, the folks from  
8 Sticky Rice were there, told me what had  
9 happened. I spent a good deal of time looking  
10 for the Inspector, but of course I didn't know  
11 what he looked like and the event was very  
12 crowded.

13 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, where was  
14 the license?

15 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yeah, he was supposed  
16 -- I was told he would return, so --

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So where was  
18 the license?

19 MR. BROWNLOWE: It was with me.

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: What do you  
21 mean with you?

22 MR. BROWNLOWE: My understanding was

1 that I was required to have the license to be  
2 able to produce it on demand. So I took that  
3 very seriously --

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

5 MR. BROWNLOWE: -- to make sure I had  
6 the license with me even on the street the entire  
7 day.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So who directed  
9 you to apply for this license?

10 MR. BROWNLOWE: I was requested by the  
11 organization.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Who?

13 MR. BROWNLOWE: The --

14 MR. SALEEM: Anwar Saleem.

15 MR. BROWNLOWE: -- Anwar Saleem.

16 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Now, and who  
17 are you, sir?

18 MR. SALEEM: Yes.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Who are you?

20 MR. SALEEM: I'm the Executive  
21 Director for H Street Main Street.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And what does

1 that mean?

2 MR. SALEEM: I host festival and we  
3 organize festivals.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And how long  
5 have you been doing this?

6 MR. SALEEM: 15 years.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: How many?

8 MR. SALEEM: 14 years.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: 14 years.

10 MR. SALEEM: Yes.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And how many  
12 temporary licenses have you requested?

13 MR. SALEEM: Many.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So this is not  
15 your first time on the rodeo, so --

16 MR. SALEEM: It's not my first time on  
17 the rodeo.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So why is it  
19 that an Investigator showed up, we have Mr.  
20 Brownlowe, who you directed or someone directed,  
21 as a volunteer to apply for a license. You --  
22 because you have been doing this for 15, 14 or 15

1 years, you have asked -- you have requested --  
2 required -- you have applied for license.

3 MR. SALEEM: Yes.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And you know  
5 that the license needed to be posted at the post.  
6 You know -- I'm sorry, you are saying you didn't  
7 know?

8 MR. SALEEM: No. We -- it was always  
9 you had to have the license on you. You always  
10 had the license on you. You never posted it.  
11 That was a rule to be able to get that license.

12 MS. YAP: The rule as stated, you have  
13 to post it if it's a permanent establishment.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry, that  
15 what?

16 MS. YAP: You have to post it if it's  
17 a permanent --

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

19 MS. YAP: -- establishment. You have  
20 the rules and the policies stated you have to  
21 have it.

22 MR. BROWNLOWE: It's --

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So let me ask  
2 a question. Where was this license issued for?

3 MR. SALEEM: Autozone, 1207 H Street.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Autozone. So  
5 what does that mean?

6 MS. YAP: It's a temporary license.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, no. So  
8 what does that mean? I'm asking you. You said  
9 that the location that you asked -- the location  
10 that you had asked for the license to be for was  
11 at the Autozone.

12 MR. SALEEM: I think the license  
13 should be somewhere around 1207 H Street.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And somebody  
15 should be at all times around 1207 H Street?

16 MR. SALEEM: We agree. I agree and  
17 but the thing is we never had an issue with this  
18 and someone stepping out for lunch and coming  
19 back. And I guess it wasn't clear to Mr.  
20 Brownlowe that, you know, we had -- we couldn't  
21 even leave for lunch. And we never had that  
22 issue in the past where somebody went to the

1 bathroom, somebody go to lunch and especially a  
2 block away. We never had that issue before.

3 I guess we were so focused on the  
4 operation and security that everything was done  
5 properly, we wanted to make sure that that was  
6 done. So I guess we must have erred when it came  
7 to that. But we -- our understanding was that a  
8 temporary license has to be on you, because of  
9 the way the event was organized.

10 MS. YAP: May I add?

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Just one moment,  
12 please.

13 MS. YAP: May I add?

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Yes, ma'am, go  
15 ahead.

16 MS. YAP: The one-day festival is one  
17 of the more substantial festival in the city and  
18 we actually had over 29, I think this year, 27 or  
19 29 alcohol licenses issued for the festival. And  
20 only two or three of them are temporary and  
21 everything else is substantial change.

22 And we take this very seriously. We

1 package and vet through every license that we do,  
2 because we intend to do this festival for the  
3 long-run. And we make sure everybody is in  
4 compliance at all times.

5 And as you can see, there is no  
6 infraction whatsoever for the past few years that  
7 we have tried to do this.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: No, that's not true.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on, hold  
10 on.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's not true.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right.

13 Hold on one minute.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's not true.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on, Mr.

16 Alberti. Go ahead, ma'am.

17 MS. YAP: Not that I -- not that we  
18 were involved, that --

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Ms. Yap?

20 MS. YAP: Yes?

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: You just told me that  
22 you take responsibility and make sure everybody

1 complies by the rules. Just two years ago, a  
2 year ago, we saw people walking through the --  
3 yeah, last year. Not the past year, but the year  
4 before we saw people walking through with  
5 alcoholic beverages through the festival.

6 You are now telling --

7 MS. YAP: Yes.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- no, wait. You are  
9 now telling me -- I'm sorry to be this way, but  
10 you are now telling me you are taking  
11 responsibility for making sure that all of the  
12 licenses, all 29 licenses abide by the law. And  
13 you then can't say well, I wasn't aware of it.  
14 You have to either own ownership or you don't.

15 MS. YAP: I do. We do. So what we do  
16 is we have streamline and make sure everybody has  
17 a license. Whereas when people walk down the  
18 festival, that is not -- I can't enforce anything  
19 and we are not told --

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, when your  
21 licensees are serving it --

22 MS. YAP: We have reported it.

1 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- when your  
2 licensees were serving it.

3 MS. YAP: One of the licensees inside  
4 the establishment, when they walk out, it's their  
5 licenses. They are a substantial license.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: So you aren't  
7 responsible for all 29 --

8 MS. YAP: I --

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- wait. So you  
10 aren't responsible for all 29?

11 MS. YAP: We are responsible in  
12 submitting the license at one-shot making sure  
13 everybody --

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right.

15 MS. YAP: -- do the proper paperwork--

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: All right. Okay.

17 MS. YAP: -- to do.

18 MR. SALEEM: And I think, in the past,  
19 it has been noted that if we seen the licensee  
20 who is in violation, we are very aware we saw  
21 licensees with the -- that had clients with  
22 alcohol walking around and we pointed it out to

1 Investigators.

2 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. Mr. Saleem, I  
3 jumped in because I'm -- you know, that's my  
4 neighborhood.

5 MR. SALEEM: Understand.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: And I'm a little  
7 concerned because I know that H Street Main  
8 Street has this year and in past years has had  
9 representatives, like Mr. Brownlowe, apply for  
10 alcohol beverages licenses.

11 So the problem that you tell me now  
12 that you at times don't have the licensee or ABC  
13 Manager supervising the things that you -- the  
14 beer gardens that you have asked for is very  
15 disturbing for me, because now I know that this  
16 probably happened in the past.

17 MR. SALEEM: No.

18 MEMBER ALBERTI: And it's just 15  
19 years now and I'm not -- I'm disappointed in you.  
20 I'll tell you, Mr. Saleem, I'm very disappointed  
21 in you that this happened and you did not make  
22 sure that -- you didn't -- you made sure that

1 someone was there at all times to be responsible.  
2 That's the bottom line. All right.

3 MR. SALEEM: And normally someone is  
4 there all the time and they are there all day.  
5 Like I said, you know, he went to lunch and --

6 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, but there  
7 are two errors that you made.

8 MR. SALEEM: Yes.

9 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. The  
10 license states that, it says that, "The law  
11 requires that license to be posted in a  
12 conspicuous place on the premises." It can't be  
13 on the person. It has to be posted. So  
14 therefore, you applied for a license for a  
15 specific location, so, therefore, it should be  
16 posted.

17 I should not be walking. I shouldn't  
18 be looking for Mr. Brownlowe, because he has a  
19 license in his pocket.

20 Now, you -- I -- since you have been  
21 doing this, so the license should be there and  
22 there should be always someone supervising, so

1 there should be an ABC Manager or the owner of  
2 the license should always be there.

3 MR. SALEEM: We had an ABC Manager  
4 there.

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, Sticky  
6 Rice.

7 MR. SALEEM: We may have -- by walking  
8 away and not having it posted and we will make  
9 sure that is done in the future. We stand to be  
10 corrected.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But you said  
12 you had a manager, who was there? Who was there  
13 supervising?

14 MS. YAP: So there are other  
15 bartenders and managers that have licenses and  
16 experience running, it's just they are not the  
17 person on the record, which is Mr. Brownlowe who  
18 took a little break to get lunch.

19 The management of the bar saw there is  
20 nobody working over there, that he would suggest  
21 that we put two names, three names. The thing is  
22 that --

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Hold on.

2 MS. YAP: -- the application only  
3 allows one formal name.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Let  
5 me ask you a question. Mr. Puente, what happened  
6 when you -- tell me again, when you went there,  
7 what happened? When you went to this location,  
8 what happened?

9 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: I approached the  
10 bartenders and asked them for their ABC Manager  
11 licenses, both individuals said they had no idea  
12 what I'm talking about. They are from Virginia,  
13 from a brewing company. They went across the  
14 street to Sticky Rice got the female, who  
15 identified herself as an ABC Manager, Ms. Rene  
16 Norman, and said they were watching over the  
17 event.

18 I advised her that Sticky Rice can't  
19 be overseeing it. Either the licensee or an ABC  
20 Manager from Sticky Rice has to be at the  
21 location at all times, that's when she went and  
22 got the owner, Jason Martin, from Sticky Rice who

1 said he was going to place Ms. Norman there the  
2 rest of the day as well as try to find Mr.  
3 Brownlowe.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, so who  
5 was the ABC Manager? I mean, that's what I'm  
6 saying. The license wasn't posted. Mr.  
7 Brownlowe stepped away. So who was the ABC  
8 Manager? The Investigator went there to say  
9 okay, who is the licensee or who is the ABC  
10 Manager? He spoke to the bartenders, it's like I  
11 don't know. I don't know what you are talking  
12 about.

13 So there was no manager. There was no  
14 one in charge.

15 MR. SALEEM: I think as Mr. Brownlowe  
16 mentioned earlier that the person who was there,  
17 didn't know him.

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Who? No, but  
19 he wasn't there.

20 MR. SALEEM: Yeah, he left for a few  
21 minutes.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That's what I'm

1 saying. He wasn't there, so if he wasn't there,  
2 Mr. Brownlowe got the bad -- that something  
3 happened, there is an emergency, he has to leave.

4 MR. SALEEM: And we may --

5 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And I'm not --  
6 this is not Mr. Brownlowe. Mr. Brownlowe is  
7 sitting there with an innocent look on his face,  
8 that's like I'm just a volunteer. They asked me  
9 to do this, so this is not about you, Mr.  
10 Brownlowe. This is about the larger issue with  
11 the organization, who put you in a position  
12 without explaining to you what it means by asking  
13 you to apply for a liquor license.

14 MR. SALEEM: We made attempts to find  
15 the respective -- when I inquired about it, I was  
16 told the Inspector was coming back.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But it doesn't  
18 matter, but it's not -- the bottom line is that  
19 when -- if you are selling and serving alcohol  
20 when we get there, because we are not always  
21 there.

22 MR. SALEEM: Right.

1                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I don't know  
2 when you are there. If I show up today at 5:00  
3 and you are saying to me that okay, I went to go  
4 -- I went down the street to go buy some ice and  
5 people, you know, they just stepped out to go to  
6 the bathroom, they had an emergency, is this just  
7 one specific time or does it happen every day?  
8 We are not there 24/7. I'm just saying.

9                   So therefore, when we show up and if  
10 you are not there, it's irrelevant what the  
11 excuse is, because since we are not there 24/7,  
12 we don't know if its an isolated incident or if  
13 it's something that occurs always.

14                   So therefore, if Mr. Brownlowe is not  
15 going to be there or if any of the volunteers  
16 that you asked to apply for these licenses, if  
17 they are not going to be there for the extent of  
18 the festival, there should be a manager. There  
19 should be someone there with a manager's.

20                   So therefore, when we come, we say who  
21 is the ABC Manager or the owner? If one of the  
22 bartenders had said I'm the ABC Manager, we

1 wouldn't have an issue. We don't have an issue  
2 because the license wasn't posted, but I  
3 shouldn't have had difficulty -- if you are  
4 serving, there is -- I assume there is a bar,  
5 since there is -- why can't the license be posted  
6 on the wall behind it? We shouldn't come and ask  
7 for it. It should be, as it says, conspicuous.

8 MR. SALEEM: It's not a wall. We will  
9 make arrangements.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But it can't be  
11 conspicuous in somebody's person and property.

12 MR. SALEEM: I agree. And we accept  
13 it.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So the first  
15 issue is that it has to be posted. And the  
16 second issue is that someone has to be in charge.  
17 So therefore if he is not going to be there, if--  
18 then maybe you guys need to hire bartenders. I  
19 don't know who hires the bartenders but the  
20 bartenders who are ABC Managers.

21 So therefore when we show up, the  
22 license is there. We see the license. And we

1 ask the question and someone will say well, Mr.  
2 Brownlowe, the owner is not here, but I am the  
3 ABC Manager and everything is okay.

4 And I'm not sure if poor Mr. Brownlowe  
5 will ever volunteer to do this again.

6 MR. SALEEM: But we have to make some  
7 changes, correct.

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: You have to  
9 make some --

10 MR. SALEEM: This is a good example --

11 MS. YAP: So that --

12 MR. SALEEM: -- where something fails  
13 and we have to correct that.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And this is not  
15 the first time I have seen you, sir, here, in  
16 front of me applying for a license.

17 MR. SALEEM: No, but --

18 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: That's why I'm  
19 saying this is not the first time I'm seeing  
20 you --

21 MR. SALEEM: Right.

22 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- here --

1 MR. SALEEM: That's correct.

2 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- applying for  
3 a license. So that's one --

4 MR. SALEEM: We have never been in a  
5 situation where we had violated something while I  
6 was here.

7 MEMBER ALBERTI: Can I?

8 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Go ahead, Mr.  
9 Alberti.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: So Mr. Saleem, just  
11 this may be sort of off topic, but Mr. Brownlowe  
12 -- Mr. Brownlowe, you were the volunteer. So  
13 this wasn't a money making operation for you,  
14 right?

15 MR. BROWNLOWE: That's correct. My --

16 MEMBER ALBERTI: Who did the proceeds  
17 go to?

18 MR. BROWNLOWE: The proceeds went to  
19 offset the cost of putting on the festival.

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: So they went to H  
21 Street Main Street?

22 MR. BROWNLOWE: Yes.

1                   MEMBER ALBERTI: So I just want to  
2 make sure. It's important that H Street Main  
3 Street has to have ownership of the whole --

4                   MR. SALEEM: Oh, it's -- no.

5                   MS. YAP: Yes, that's why we are  
6 sitting here.

7                   MEMBER ALBERTI: How many -- Mr.  
8 Saleem, how many of these did you sponsor? Not  
9 independent licenses, the permanent license, but  
10 how many of these beer gardens did you sponsor  
11 for this festival this year?

12                  MR. SALEEM: About two.

13                  MS. YAP: Two.

14                  MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay. And last year  
15 how many?

16                  MS. YAP: Two.

17                  MR. SALEEM: Two.

18                  MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

19                  MS. YAP: Yeah, so the thing is that  
20 everybody else, even the bar managers that we  
21 have, are like Mr. Brownlowe. They are all  
22 volunteers. So to the best of our ability of

1 training our volunteers, saying that, you know,  
2 you tag-team. You have to be here. This is --  
3 we do it and we provide the training and the  
4 information, but we can't 100 percent control  
5 their movement. If they decide to step out at  
6 the --

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: But yes, you  
8 can, yes, you can. Yes, you can.

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: I'm just going to put  
10 this out there. I'm just going to put this out  
11 there. Either you -- Mr. Saleem, you understand  
12 where I'm going --

13 MS. YAP: Yes.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- because you know  
15 me.

16 MR. SALEEM: Yes, I know. We have --

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: If you stepped out in  
18 the future and you do that and you own  
19 responsibility --

20 MR. SALEEM: No, we will have backup.

21 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- or you don't get  
22 licenses in the future.

1 MR. SALEEM: No, we will have backup  
2 from now on. I understand what is going on. I  
3 see what is going on. I see what it looks like.  
4 Now, I'll make sure we have a backup manager.

5 MR. BROWNLOWE: It's not that hard.

6 MEMBER ALBERTI: It's not that hard.

7 I mean, you --

8 MR. SALEEM: I mean, we did everything  
9 we all supposedly had done in regards to security  
10 and everything else, but we screwed up on this.

11 MEMBER ALBERTI: Okay.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I know Mr.  
13 Puente, this is -- were there -- since we are  
14 here, although it's not necessarily with this  
15 license, but generally on the H Street Festival,  
16 I mean, were there any other violations that --  
17 for any other establishment that was -- that you  
18 were aware of? I mean --

19 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yes. Offhand --

20 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- since he is  
21 here and it's their festival, maybe it could be  
22 instructive for --

1                   INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yes. Offhand I  
2 know there is four or five establishments that  
3 were found in violation mainly for allowing  
4 people to leave with alcoholic drinks from the  
5 establishment onto H Street.

6                   MS. YAP: We put in a call a week  
7 after the festival to the Licensing Department.

8                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Right.

9                   MS. YAP: With Mr. Sean Gordy and we  
10 ask if there were any infractions. We haven't  
11 got any reports from anybody. They kept telling  
12 us there is nothing, because we do an after event  
13 report with the Special Events Task Force as  
14 well, so we would appreciate some information on  
15 our part, so that we know that these  
16 establishments have that.

17                   MR. SALEEM: No, each year, we want to  
18 know what the violations are. If we receive  
19 violations, we will hunt you guys down and say  
20 this is what's going on. We have done that in  
21 the past. And we want to know what the  
22 violations are, so we can fix it. We can correct

1 it ourselves. This time it was on us. You're  
2 correct.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: But I'm more -- I'm  
4 sorry, Ms. Yap just told me we had no violations  
5 in the past. And you are telling me now we want  
6 to know. So for 15 years we have been  
7 proactively finding out who --

8 MS. YAP: Well --

9 MEMBER ALBERTI: Wait, wait. And I  
10 can tell you over those 15 years, almost every  
11 year there is at least one violation.

12 MS. YAP: -- I cannot speak for all 15  
13 years.

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: So I am disappointed  
15 that I'm not getting honest answers and honest  
16 information. That's my problem.

17 MR. SALEEM: I didn't know. If I know  
18 -- if I knew, I would say that --

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: You didn't know that  
20 your -- two years ago it happened? And years  
21 previous to that we have had violations?

22 MR. SALEEM: No, it's --

1                   MEMBER ALBERTI: Look, look, all  
2 right, it's no reflection on this festival when  
3 violations happen. We inform the licensees. We  
4 hold them accountable and hopefully they won't do  
5 it again. And you should know, but to say that  
6 you seek information and don't know is -- you  
7 can't be looking too hard, because that  
8 information is there.

9                   If you call the director, six months  
10 after the festival, he will give you all of that  
11 information.

12                  MR. SALEEM: Well, we asked.

13                  MS. YAP: We asked.

14                  MR. SALEEM: We don't get it.

15                  CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Well, what I --  
16 I think what we are stating is that you are not  
17 going to get a response, it's not like the next  
18 week. It takes a while for the reports to be  
19 generated. So therefore, maybe six -- three to  
20 six months after, maybe you need to have a  
21 conversation with the Agency to find out were  
22 there any violations. And how -- what is it that

1 we need to do to make the festival -- and I think  
2 that's one of the reasons why routinely we will  
3 bring you in if you are making changes.

4 I don't remember the last time you  
5 were here. I don't remember when. Maybe a year  
6 or so ago, that from time-to-time we will bring  
7 you in just to, you know, have a face-to-face.  
8 We know that is an event that occurs every year.  
9 And it is routine, but just from time-to-time, if  
10 we see any changes, we want to touch base with  
11 you to say this is what is going on.

12 So go ahead, Mr. Puente. Just  
13 generally, you don't necessarily have to talk  
14 about the establishment, but what are some of the  
15 violations that you saw, so they can go back to  
16 their licensee, their participants to say that  
17 these were some of the problems that occurred and  
18 so, therefore -- and you will have a general  
19 conversation to all the licensees that  
20 participate in H Street Festival to say this is  
21 what I'm being told by ABRA. And if this  
22 continues, then we can't allow you to participate

1 in it.

2 MS. YAP: Okay.

3 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Go ahead.

4 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Going back to  
5 find out about violations, Mr. Gordy would not  
6 have that answer. You need to contact the Chief  
7 of Enforcement, Mr. John Suero. An ABRA  
8 Investigator after every event or festival, we  
9 have to compile an After Action Report. And that  
10 report is done usually the next day or within the  
11 next several days and it lists all the  
12 violations.

13 Mr. Gordy would not know anything  
14 about that in the Licensing Division, so when you  
15 guys next year follow-up with the Enforcement  
16 Division and we can get that information to you.

17 Mainly, I report H Street Festival the  
18 last three years. Two years ago we had an  
19 establishment having people with pineapples just  
20 walk out with full of liquor. This year, we have  
21 had places after we told them that people were  
22 walking off their sidewalk cafes with alcohol,

1 they didn't do anything about it and they still  
2 allowed it.

3 Other establishments were walking out  
4 and giving out free samples of shots. And  
5 mainly, off-premise consumption as well as over-  
6 crowded is the two biggest things every year.

7 MS. YAP: Can I get the contact  
8 information for the Enforcement, because I did  
9 speak to Mr. -- on the front end of licensing is  
10 who we deal with. Our front end, every year.  
11 And we make sure that all the establishments  
12 knows of events.

13 And we actually call in a few when we  
14 see those things and we know who it is. The  
15 issue is that it's hard to -- do you know that at  
16 11:00 we have a briefing on the bus?

17 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: We do. See,  
18 when they monitor, we -- see, we didn't know  
19 about that. If you tell us about that, we will  
20 come out to that meeting and talk with you guys  
21 and enforce it.

22 MS. YAP: Especially --

1                   INVESTIGATOR PUENTE:  There is usually  
2                   a team of us and we split up H Street, because  
3                   it's generally large, and have us take sections  
4                   of H Street.  We monitor the establishments.  
5                   Like 1207 was in my quadrant, so I saw that.

6                   MS. YAP:  We don't coordinate that.  
7                   Special Events Task Force do.

8                   INVESTIGATOR PUENTE:  Um-hum.

9                   MS. YAP:  And they have always tried  
10                  to look for you guys, but they don't have the  
11                  contact and I only have one contact to give them,  
12                  so they try to call you every time.  At 11:00,  
13                  all the agencies are there, so fire --

14                  INVESTIGATOR PUENTE:  Yes, because --

15                  MS. YAP:  -- you know, everybody.

16                  INVESTIGATOR PUENTE:  -- we check in  
17                  with the Command Post when we get there.

18                  MS. YAP:  Yeah, the Command Post.

19                  INVESTIGATOR PUENTE:  Well, that's  
20                  what --

21                  MS. YAP:  11:00 is always before the  
22                  festival begin and because they need a contact

1 information when we see the violation, I can only  
2 tell the Command Post, because I don't have  
3 contact for -- you have a lot of people.

4 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Um-hum.

5 MS. YAP: So there is no one point of  
6 an Inspector.

7 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yeah.

8 MS. YAP: Perhaps if you have a  
9 liaison that is on the bus itself that we can  
10 report, and they can contact everybody else.  
11 Because the cell phone doesn't really work as  
12 well on that day. We are all using walkie-  
13 talkies.

14 So and command -- we have tried to  
15 narrow this down to a science as best as we can  
16 to manage the safety of 150,000 people. Mr.  
17 Alberti, rest assured, nothing else matters  
18 except for safety on that day.

19 MEMBER ALBERTI: Well, I get that.

20 MS. YAP: So but I -- like we try our  
21 very best --

22 MEMBER ALBERTI: That's why we are

1 here.

2 MS. YAP: -- to be responsible.

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: And I'm in awe of how  
4 well it is run. All right.

5 MS. YAP: Just -- if I can control  
6 everybody all day long and have them on ankle  
7 monitors or something, that would be great.

8 MEMBER ALBERTI: Right.

9 MS. YAP: I would, but I can't.

10 MEMBER ALBERTI: But I don't -- I  
11 guess what I -- I don't want excuses. I want you  
12 to take lessons --

13 MS. YAP: That's what --

14 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- from this. All  
15 right?

16 MS. YAP: I understand.

17 MEMBER ALBERTI: Then that's really  
18 where we are --

19 MS. YAP: Ankle monitors --

20 MEMBER ALBERTI: -- where I'm going  
21 with this.

22 MS. YAP: -- on everybody is what we

1 are going for. But if we can get some sort of  
2 direction or a separate representative on the  
3 bus, it will be really helpful.

4 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yes, see, we are  
5 not going to be assigned to the bus. That's Kay  
6 Seema. We check in from our cell phone numbers.  
7 If you guys -- see, we didn't know about this  
8 meeting you guys have every year at 11:00 a.m.  
9 We will show up to that meeting and give you our  
10 information direction.

11 MR. SALEEM: Okay.

12 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: So you can  
13 contact us then.

14 MS. YAP: Right. If there is one  
15 Chief Investigator that we can reach out to  
16 then --

17 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: Yes, there is  
18 usually a lead Investigator who oversees.

19 MS. YAP: Right. That person --

20 INVESTIGATOR PUENTE: So they are --

21 MS. YAP: -- needs to be -- we need to  
22 know who that person is, because nobody does.

1                   CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Oh, one of the  
2 things that we will ask you to do is that you can  
3 call into the Agency and talk -- and call for the  
4 head of enforcement and find out who is it that  
5 the Chief Investigator for the H Street Festival  
6 is. So you can put that on your list to say that  
7 this is what we need to contact ABRA to contact  
8 the Enforcement Division so we will have a  
9 contact person.

10                   We know that Investigators are always  
11 going to be there. Who is the main Investigator  
12 that we need to be in contact with so we can have  
13 this person participate in our 11:00 meeting. So  
14 this is -- so it is on you. Now you know that  
15 it's now on you to contact the Agency to make  
16 sure that this person is there.

17                   Now, if the person does not show up,  
18 and if we have not -- then it's -- you can say  
19 that we alerted the Agency. We asked for a  
20 representative and the Agency did not provide a  
21 representative. Okay? All right.

22                   Mr. Brownlowe, thank you for being a

1 volunteer. Volunteers, I think that, normally --  
2 I just show up to volunteer and I thought I was  
3 doing a good thing and now my name is all in the  
4 mud. But unfortunately you stepped up. The  
5 license is in your name and I'm not sure if you  
6 were here for the earlier hearing that I had  
7 where this man sold his business. He has moved  
8 on. Six months ago, he has moved on.

9 But as I told him, because his name is  
10 the only name that we have here, so he is  
11 responsible. And so because your name is on the  
12 license, you are responsible.

13 And sir, yes, sir, you can take a  
14 bathroom break and so you don't have to be --  
15 because you are volunteering -- okay, you don't  
16 have to stand there the entire 24/7. The folks  
17 who are asking you to volunteer, then they need  
18 to -- they are ultimately -- well, in this  
19 particular case, you are ultimately responsible,  
20 but the folks you volunteer with, they need to  
21 make sure that the law says that the license has  
22 to be posted in a conspicuous manner and that

1 either you or an ABC Manager has to be within the  
2 vicinity of this license at all times.

3 And it can't be in someone's pocket.  
4 It has to be posted. We shouldn't -- when we  
5 show up, it should be seen. I'll say this to  
6 you, prior to being on this Board, I had no idea  
7 what an ABC Manager or license was or that I --  
8 the license was. But now that I go into all  
9 these establishments, I'm not looking for it, but  
10 that's the first thing I see. I see the license.  
11 I see the pregnancy sign. I never paid attention  
12 to that before, because now that you -- and so  
13 this is what -- that's what leads to -- and so  
14 I'm glad that -- I appreciate the fact that you  
15 came to represent Mr., poor, Brownlowe, but yes,  
16 the license is in his name. Yes, he is  
17 responsible, but I like the fact that you came to  
18 take responsibility for the larger festival.

19 So with that, I'll make a motion that  
20 we take no further action on this. Is there a  
21 second?

22 MEMBER SILVERSTEIN: Second.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. But  
2 it's -- all those in favor say aye.

3 ALL: Aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Those opposed?  
5 All right. I think there are five us now.

6 MS. YAP: Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So --

8 MS. YAP: We will leave one of our own  
9 behind after.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: So it's NFA.

11 So thank you very much for being here.

12 MR. BROWNLOWE: Thank you, sir. Thank  
13 you.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. Thank  
15 you. We are off the record.

16 (Whereupon, the Fact-Finding Hearing  
17 was concluded at 12:01 p.m.)

18

19

20

21

22

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