

Capital Reporting Company  
In the Matter of: Abal, LLC t/a CherCher Ethiopian Restaurant 11-19-2012

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

MEETING

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IN THE MATTER OF: :  
 :  
Abal, LLC :  
t/a CherCher Ethiopian Restaurant :  
and Mart :  
1334 9th Street NW :  
Retailer CR : Roll Call  
License No. 090311 : Hearing  
Case No. 12-PRO-00080 :  
New Application :  
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November 19, 2012

The Alcohol Beverage Control

Board met in the Alcohol Beverage Control Hearing room,  
Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street, N.W., Washington  
D.C.,

PRESENT

LaVerne Fletcher, presiding.

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

2 9:50 a.m.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Would the parties in the  
4 matter of CherCher Ethiopian Restaurant and Mart please  
5 come forward with the protestants on this side and the  
6 applicant on the right, at the table on the right

7 MS. AMORUSO: Yes, ma'am. Good morning.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning. This is case  
9 number 12-PRO-00080, Abal, LLC t/a as CherCher  
10 Ethiopian Restaurant and Mart, 1334 9th Street, NW,  
11 License Number ABRA-090311. This is a Retailer CR new  
12 application.

13 The protest issues are adverse impact on  
14 peace, order and quiet, residential parking and  
15 vehicular and pedestrian safety and real property  
16 values.

17 My name is LaVerne Fletcher and I'll be  
18 conducting the roll call hearing as the board's agent,  
19 pursuant to D.C. Official Code 1601.2.

20 Introductions beginning with the applicant.  
21 Your name, sir?

22 MR. ABEBE: Alemayehu Abebe.

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1 MS. FLETCHER: And would you spell that for  
2 the court reporter, please?

3 MR. ABEBE: A-L-E-M-A-Y-E-H-U. Last name A-  
4 B-E-B-E.

5 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much. And how  
6 do you pronounce the last name?

7 MR. ABEBE: Abebe.

8 MS. FLETCHER: Mr. Abebe, would you please  
9 fill out that contact sheet on the --

10 MR. ABEBE: I did.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you very much.  
12 And for the protestant?

13 MS. AMORUSO: My name is Cristina Amoruso.  
14 Last name spelled A-M-O-R-U-S-O. I reside at 908 O  
15 Street, NW and I'm here to represent The Group of Five  
16 who is protesting.

17 MS. FLETCHER: And Ms. Amoruso, would you  
18 please spell your first name for the court reporter?

19 MS. AMORUSO: Sure. C-R-I-S-T-I-N-A.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you very much. And your  
21 name?

22 MR. RAYMOND: My name -- excuse me. My name

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1 is Matt Raymond, I'm commissioner for ANC 2F04. It's  
2 M-A-T- T, last name R-A-Y-M-O-N-D.

3 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Raymond.

4 Ms. Amoruso, you're representing the group of  
5 I counted eight, but it's more than five.

6 MS. AMORUSO: I apologize.

7 MS. FLETCHER: That's fine. I'm just trying  
8 to -- just for the record, making that note.

9 MS. AMORUSO: Yes, ma'am.

10 MS. FLETCHER: So, you're representing the  
11 group of individuals. Your protest letter does  
12 designate each person to represent it, so the fact that  
13 you're here is fine. The only thing I will ask you to  
14 do with your group is to choose just one person or  
15 maybe a back up to you. At this stage anyone of you  
16 can represent any of you at any hearing. We just need  
17 a person or two for contact purposes. If that --

18 MS. AMORUSO: Should I write it? Or I can  
19 tell you, Orestes Del Castillo, who is also here to  
20 represent.

21 MS. FLETCHER: Um hmm. Is there anyone else  
22 present from your group today?

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1 MS. AMORUSO: Yes.

2 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Well, then that's  
3 perfect. If you could just line up behind Ms. Amoruso  
4 and read your name into the record and spell it for the  
5 court reporter. Oh, there's the microphone right in  
6 the middle there.

7 MR. RAYMOND: Over here?

8 MS. FLETCHER: Yes. Um hmm.

9 MR. RAYMOND: My name is Orestes Del  
10 Castillo. It is spelled O-R-E-S-T-E-S, space D-E-L,  
11 space, C-A-S-T-I-L-L-O.

12 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Castillo. And  
13 you designate Ms. Amoruso to represent you?

14 MR. RAYMOND: Yes, I do designate her.

15 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you very much.

16 MR. RAYMOND: You're welcome.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Good morning.

18 MR. SALTER: Hi. I'm sorry. David Salter,  
19 S-A-L-T-E-R.

20 MS. FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. Salter. Is  
21 there anyone else present from the group today?

22 MR. RAYMOND: From the neighbors or the --

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1 MS. FLETCHER: From the neighbors group,  
2 yeah. From your group, Ms. Amoruso? Are both --

3 MS. AMORUSO: No, I don't -- I believe not.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Okay, that's fine. So there  
5 are three of you present today. That means that at the  
6 upcoming status hearing at least two more from your  
7 group will need to appear in order to maintain  
8 standing. Today conditional standing is going to be  
9 granted to your group. By the point of the status  
10 hearing the board needs to have seen at least five  
11 people, so there are three present today, at the  
12 upcoming status hearing two more need to appear who are  
13 not present today.

14 MR. RAYMOND: Ms. Fletcher, this might be  
15 mooted, but we actually have a -- arrived at a  
16 voluntary agreement that the three parties you see here  
17 will be signing.

18 MS. FLETCHER: Oh, well then, yes, Mr.  
19 Raymond. Thank you. That changes everything.

20 MR. RAYMOND: Okay.

21 MS. AMORUSO: Sorry, I didn't know when I  
22 should --

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1 MS. FLETCHER: That's fine.

2 MR. RAYMOND: Yeah. Didn't want to  
3 interrupt.

4 MS. FLETCHER: No problem. Thank you. And  
5 so I won't schedule a status hearing, I won't schedule  
6 a protest hearing. I will accept your signed voluntary  
7 agreement and submit that to the ABC Board for review.

8 MR. RAYMOND: Okay.

9 MS. FLETCHER: So, I won't schedule any  
10 future proceedings.

11 MR. RAYMOND: Are you able to provide us with  
12 the executed copy or should I --

13 MS. FLETCHER: Yes.

14 MR. RAYMOND: -- take this and scan it?

15 MS. FLETCHER: What you can do, today, Mr.  
16 Raymond, I won't be able to -- I could get copies to  
17 you, but it would have to be after roll call.

18 MR. RAYMOND: That's fine.

19 MS. FLETCHER: But otherwise, I will scan it  
20 to you.

21 MR. RAYMOND: That's fine.

22 MS. FLETCHER: So, if you all sign it and

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1 give it to me. I have your email addresses, I will  
2 scan a copy to you and give the original to the ABC  
3 Board for review.

4 MR. RAYMOND: Great.

5 MS. FLETCHER: But just for the record, the  
6 Group of Eight that you represent does have conditional  
7 standing today. If there is going to be a status  
8 hearing, for some reason, then those two additional  
9 people would need to show up. And ANC 2F also has  
10 standing as a protestant. Again, this is just for the  
11 record.

12 MR. RAYMOND: So, at this point you don't  
13 need to schedule the status hearing --

14 MS. FLETCHER: No.

15 MR. RAYMOND: -- we'll just wait.

16 MS. FLETCHER: Not at all.

17 MR. RAYMOND: Okay.

18 MS. FLETCHER: I don't need to schedule  
19 mediation, a status hearing or a protest hearing. I'm  
20 just going to make a note that you submitted that  
21 today.

22 MR. RAYMOND: Should I --

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1 MS. FLETCHER: Voluntary agreement today for  
2 board review and that'll be that.

3 MR. RAYMOND: Okay.

4 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you very much.  
5 And I'll scan this to you.

6 MS. AMORUSO: Thank you very much.

7 MS. FLETCHER: If I recall correctly, Ms.  
8 Amoruso, I have your email address -- do I have your  
9 email address already?

10 MS. AMORUSO: Yes, ma'am, you do.

11 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.

12 MS. AMORUSO: And it's also here.

13 MS. FLETCHER: Perfect. I'll scan a copy of  
14 this to you today.

15 MS. AMORUSO: Thank you.

16 MR. RAYMOND: Thank you.

17 MS. FLETCHER: Okay. The roll call here is  
18 concluded. Thank you.

19 (The hearing concluded at 10:07 a.m.)

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1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC

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3 I, ANDREW KNOUS, the officer before whom the  
4 foregoing hearing was taken, do hereby certify that the  
5 testimony appearing in the foregoing pages was recorded  
6 by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my  
7 direction; that said transcription is a true record of  
8 the testimony given by said parties; that I am neither  
9 counsel for, related to, nor employed by any of the  
10 parties to the action in which this hearing was taken;  
11 and, further, that I am not a relative or employee of  
12 any counsel or attorney employed by the parties hereto,  
13 nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome  
14 of this action.

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ANDREW KNOUS

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Notary Public in and for the

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District of Columbia

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSCRIPTION

I, SUSAN LaPOOH, hereby certify that I am not the Court Reporter who reported the proceeding and that I have typed the transcript of the proceeding using the Court Reporter's notes and recordings. The foregoing/attached transcript is a true, correct and complete transcription of the proceedings.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

SUSAN LaPOOH

Transcriptionist

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border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>9:50 2:2                  908 3:14                  9th 1:7 2:10</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">A</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <p>a.m 2:2 9:19                  Abal 1:5 2:9                  ABC 7:7 8:2                  Abebe 2:22                  3:3,7,8,10                  able 7:11,16                  ABRA-090311                  2:11                  accept 7:6                  action 10:10,14                  actually 6:15</p>	<p>additional 8:8                  address 9:8,9                  addresses 8:1                  adverse 2:13                  agent 2:18                  agreement 6:16                  7:7 9:1                  Alcohol 1:2,12,13                  Alemayehu 2:22                  A-L-E-M-A-Y-E-                  H-U 3:3                  already 9:9                  am 10:8,11 11:3                  Amoruso 2:7                  3:13,17,19                  4:4,6,9,18                  5:1,3,13 6:2,3,21                  9:6,8,10,12,15                  A-M-O-R-U-S-O                  3:14                  ANC 4:1 8:9                  ANDREW 10:3,18                  anyone 4:15,21                  5:21                  apologize 4:6                  appear 6:7,12                  appearing 10:5                  applicant 2:6,20                  application 1:9                  2:12                  arrived 6:15                  attorney 10:12</p> <hr style="border: 0; 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