

1 GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
2 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATION ADMINISTRATION
3 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD
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6 IN THE MATTER OF: :
7 Fasil Ethiopian Restaurant, LLC:
8 ta Uptown Ethiopian Fusion Cuis:Case#16-PRO-
9 00027

10 1608 7th Street Northwest :

11 License #81849 :

12 Retailer Class CR :

13 ANC 6E :

14 Application to Renew License :

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16 Wednesday, June 15, 2016

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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.

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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NICK ALBERTI, BOARD MEMBER

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JAMES SHORT, BOARD MEMBER

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MIKE SILVERSTEIN, BOARD MEMBER

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ALSO PRESENT:

9

JEFF JACKSON

10

VALENTINE CASTANEDA

11

EFRAI SOLOMON

12

SISAY TASSEHAL

13

GEBRE KAHASSAI

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

2 PROTEST HEARING STATUS

3 Our next case, #16-PRO-00027, is Uptown
4 Ethiopian Fusion Cuisine, license #81849, would
5 the parties please approach. If you are here for
6 Uptown Ethiopian Fusion Cuisine, please come
7 forward, introduce yourself for the record.
8 There's a piece of paper to sign and then please
9 introduce yourself for the record.

10 MR. JACKSON: Jeff Jackson, agent
11 representative for the applicant.

12 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Good morning, sir.

13 MR. CASTANEDA: Valentine Castaneda.

14 MS. SOLOMON: Efraim Solomon.

15 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And who are you?

16 MS. SOLOMON: We're from [inaudible 2:52]
17 protestants.

18 MR. CASTANEDA: The protestors.

19 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay, can I have
20 everyone just introduce themselves for the record
21 please.

22 MR. TASSEHAL: Sisay Tassehal.

1 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: And who are you,
2 ma'am?

3 MS. TASSEHAL: The owner of the restaurant.

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: All right. Who are
5 you, sir?

6 MR. KAHASSAI: Gebre Kahassai.

7 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: I'm sorry --

8 MR. KAHASSAI: Last name Kahassai, first name
9 Gebre.

10 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Are you her husband?
11 Because you are also translating for her too?

12 MR. JACKSON: Are you translating for her?

13 MR. KAHASSAI: I'm trying.

14 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: No, I'm asking a
15 question because I see that I ask questions --

16 MR. JACKSON: He's translating for her.

17 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: -- for her, all right.
18 Are there any preliminary matters in this case?

19 MR. JACKSON: Well, we had a status hearing,
20 roll call hearing about last month, and we
21 reached a settlement agreement with 6C. And at
22 that time of the roll call hearing, the

1 protestant was there but their letter of protest
2 wasn't accepted at that time because they didn't
3 have standing. So, it was determined last --

4 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Turn your -- up. All
5 right, go ahead.

6 MR. JACKSON: It was determined last week
7 that they did have standing so I just received
8 notice yesterday about the status hearing today
9 so we really haven't had any dialogue with the
10 protestants concerning the matters.

11 CHAIRPERSON ANDERSON: Okay. All right,
12 fine. I know that the Board that issued a motion
13 and the Board did rule on that motion providing
14 them standing. The agency will provide you some
15 dates for mediation, so we'll do that. This
16 matter is scheduled for a protest hearing on July
17 27th at 4:30 p.m. July 27th at 4:30 p.m.

18 The purpose of a protest hearing -- and this
19 is for the protestant -- is to determine the
20 appropriateness of the establishment in the
21 section of the district where the establishment
22 is located. There are a few things I would like

1 to instruct the applicant and the protestants
2 about the protest hearing -- so that the protest
3 hearing is focused and addresses only those
4 issues that are being protested. The Board does
5 not intend to hear testimony in matters that are
6 not relevant to this case.

7 You should have received, and if you have not
8 you will receive shortly by electronic or regular
9 mail, a letter explaining the protest process, a
10 copy of the protest information form, a copy of
11 an exhibit form. If you do not have these
12 documents, please contact our assistant general
13 counsel, Ms. April Randall, following the hearing
14 and Ms. Randall is right here.

15 It is imperative that you review the rules
16 closely and adhere to them before and during the
17 protest hearing. You are also required to
18 complete and submit the protest information form,
19 PIP and the exhibit form seven days before the
20 date of the hearing. These two forms and
21 accompanying documents need to be submitted to
22 ABRA's legal division and to all opposing parties

1 in this matter. If we do not receive a copy of
2 your PIP, your application or your protest,
3 whichever side you're representing, may be
4 subject to dismissal.

5 Likewise, if we do not receive a copy of the
6 exhibit form and the exhibits themselves, your
7 exhibits may be excluded from the record upon a
8 finding that the opposing party has been
9 prejudiced or no good cause for failure to submit
10 has been shown. Likewise, witnesses other than
11 the party may also be subject to exclusion if not
12 identified in the PIP.

13 Accordingly, these forms are very important,
14 they greatly assist the Board in narrowing the
15 protest issues, facilitating the process and
16 keeping the parties on point during the hearing.
17 They likewise provide notice to opposing parties
18 enabling them to better prepare for the hearing.
19 We thank you greatly for your cooperation.

20 If you have any questions today or at any
21 time leading up to the hearing, please do not
22 hesitate to contact Ms. Randall at 202-443-4353.

1 Do you guys have any questions for me? All
2 right, so good luck with mediation. If not,
3 we'll see you on July 27, 2016 and, again, if
4 it's not mediated, if you are not here on July
5 27th at 4:30, either side, that the matter will
6 be dismissed. So, I need you to know that if
7 you're not here there's no case. All right? All
8 right, thank you.

9 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter was
10 concluded.)

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