DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD

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ROLL CALL HEARING

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IN THE MATTER OF:

Watergate Hotel Lessee,
LLC
t/a Watergate Hotel
2650 Virginia Avenue NW
License #ABRA-091162
Retailer CH
Application
Case #19-PRO-00032

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 2019

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The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board met in Alcoholic Beverage Control Hearing Room, Reeves Building, 2000 14th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., Ms. La Verne Fletcher, Agent, presiding.

PRESENT:

La Verne Fletcher, Alcoholic Beverage Control
Board Mediator
ALSO PRESENT:

Royal Collette
Christine Evans
Richard Gessner
Stephen O'Brien
Rina Paz
Barbara Rohde
Peter Sacco
AGENT FLETCHER: Would the parties in the matter of the Watergate Hotel, please come forward -- the parties in the matter of the Watergate Hotel?

This is case number 19-PRO-00032, Watergate Hotel, Lessee, LLC, 2650 Virginia Avenue Northwest, Unit Number H-1, License Number ABRA-091162. This is a retailer class CH license renewal.

The protest issues are adverse impact on peace, order, and quiet. My name is La Verne Fletcher, conducting the Roll Call Hearing as the Board's Agent, introductions beginning with the Applicant, please.

MR. O'BRIEN: Stephen O'Brien for the Applicant.

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you, Mr. O'Brien. And present on behalf of ANC 2A?

MR. SACCO: Peter Sacco, representing ANC 2A.
AGENT FLETCHER: Mr. Sacco, would you spell your last name?

MR. SACCO: Yes, Sacco, S-A-C-C-O.

AGENT FLETCHER: Is anyone present on behalf of the Group of Five? Anyone present on behalf of the Group of Five?

MR. SACCO: There is a Group of Five?

MS. ROHDE: Yes, we're here. I can barely hear.

AGENT FLETCHER: Maybe the microphone is out in the back. Maybe the microphone is out in the back, that's okay. If you're present just --

MS. ROHDE: We're all supposed to come sit up here?

AGENT FLETCHER: Yes. Initially, just state your name. There's a microphone right beside Mr. Sacco. If you would stand right there, and state your name, and spell it for the record.

MR. SACCO: Are you here for the Watergate Hotel Group?
MS. ROHDE: Yes.

MR. SACCO: Okay, great.

AGENT FLETCHER: You can just state your name right into the microphone and spell it for the record, just --

MS. ROHDE: And then we sign also, is that correct?

AGENT FLETCHER: Once we determine who your designated representative is going to be, the designated representative will sign.

MS. ROHDE: I see. My name is Barbara Rohde, R-O-H-D-E.

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

MS. PAZ: My name is Rina Paz, R-I-N-A P-A-Z.

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

MR. COLLETTE: My name is Royal Collette, C-O-L-E-T-T-E.

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you.

MR. GESSNER: Richard Gessner, last name is G-E-S-S-N-E-R.

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you very much.
MS. EVANS: I'm Christine Evans with a C-H first name, and then E-V-A-N-S.

AGENT FLETCHER: What's the last name, Christine?

MS. EVANS: Evans.

AGENT FLETCHER: Now Ms. Evans, I didn't see your name on the protest letter, did you sign the protest letter?

MS. EVANS: No.

AGENT FLETCHER: Okay, that means that you're not a Protestant, but you're free to support the protest as we move through the process. For example, if we have any hearings -- these are public hearings. You're welcome to come. If this matter goes forward for a protest hearing, you're welcome to come --

MS. EVANS: Okay.

AGENT FLETCHER: -- and just be present in support of the group.

MS. EVANS: Okay.

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you very much.

So of the individuals present today,
are either one of you going to be the designated representative for the group?

(No audible response.)

AGENT FLETCHER: Ms. Rohde, that's going to be you?

MS. ROHDE: I will be. I have a bit of a head cold, so you're going to have talk up if I'm going to hear you.

AGENT FLETCHER: Well, you know, it's probably -- did you say -- can you better hear now?

MS. ROHDE: I can hear better now, yes.

AGENT FLETCHER: Oh yeah, it's in the back. I'm sorry, the microphones aren't working back there.

MS. ROHDE: Is the microphone on? Can everybody hear --

PARTICIPANT: I can hear.

MS. ROHDE: -- everybody else? It's just my head, I guess.

AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Well, I can
still speak louder.

MS. ROHDE: Thank you.

AGENT FLETCHER: ANC 2A has standing as a Protestant. The Group of Five is granted conditional standing as a Protestant. What that means is, four of you are present today. You're granted conditional standing until at the upcoming Status Hearing one more person appears.

The Board has to see five faces in order to grant full standing, but you're going to be granted conditional standing today. So we'll just move forward --

MS. ROHDE: Okay.

AGENT FLETCHER: -- the way we would if you were granted full standing.

At the upcoming Status Hearing, you're going to receive a Status Hearing date. Once you get that date, one person who's not here today needs to appear, Donna Barbisch is the only person who must appear. You can appear also Ms. Rohde --

MS. ROHDE: Yes.
AGENT FLETCHER: -- as the designated representative for the group. You may come to the Status Hearing along with Ms. Barbisch.

MS. ROHDE: Okay, do we know what date that is yet?

AGENT FLETCHER: No, we don't know the date yet. Normally, I have Status and Protest Hearing days on the date of the Roll Call Hearing, but the person that provides those dates has not yet returned from leave. So today, I don't have a Status Hearing date.

MS. ROHDE: Donna is a retired two-star General, and she travels a great deal. So as soon as we could -- that's why she's not here today. As soon as we could get that date, that would be helpful.

AGENT FLETCHER: You will get that date, you're going to receive an official hearing -- you're going to receive an official hearing notice. That hearing notice is going to have the Status Hearing date in it.

Once you get that notice, you can --
if that's not a good day for Ms. Barbisch, you
can ask the Board to reschedule the Status
Hearing date. But if you do that, you need to
copy Mr. O'Brien --

MS. ROHDE: Okay.

AGENT FLETCHER: -- who's the attorney
for the hotel --

MS. ROHDE: Okay.

AGENT FLETCHER: -- to let him know.

MS. ROHDE: Very good.

AGENT FLETCHER: And so the Group of
Five is granted conditional standing. Any other
questions about that?

(No audible response.)

AGENT FLETCHER: Okay. Thank you.

Did you sign on the -- put your information on
the contact sheet?

(No audible response.)

AGENT FLETCHER: Thank you. We need
to set a date for mediation. I'll give you the
next available day. The next available day for
mediation is June 10 at 1:00 or 2:00 in the
afternoon, or June 20.

MR. O'BRIEN: June 10 at 1:00 would be fine with me.

AGENT FLETCHER: Does that work for you, Mr. Sacco?

MR. SACCO: One of our commissioners will be handling it, Commissioner Smith, and I'm sure he can make that work.

MS. ROHDE: We will try. Absolutely. June 10 at 1:00 p.m., correct?

AGENT FLETCHER: Yeah, June 10 at 1:00 p.m., that's on a Monday.

And Ms. Rohde if, you know, anything changes on your end, if you have the request to change any dates just always contact Mr. O'Brien first to --

MS. ROHDE: Do you have a card?

MR. O'BRIEN: Yes, I do.

MS. ROHDE: Thank you.

AGENT FLETCHER: And one other thing, Ms. Rohde, if you have the need to request a change of any date, you will send that request to
Martha Jenkins our, General Counsel. Her name is
spelled Martha, M-A-R-T-H-A.

MS. ROHDE: Yes.

AGENT FLETCHER: Dot Jenkins, J-E-N-K-I-N-S, at DC --

MS. ROHDE: At ABRA?

AGENT FLETCHER: At dc.gov.

MS. ROHDE: Okay.

Martha.Jenkins@dc.gov?

AGENT FLETCHER: Yes.

AGENT FLETCHER: So mediation is set for 1:00 on Monday, June 10. Any questions at all?

Okay. Thank you very much. Roll call is concluded. Thank you for coming.

(Whereupon, the Roll Call Hearing was concluded at 10:07 a.m.)
CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Watergate Hotel

Before: DCABRA

Date: 05-28-19

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.

[Signature]

Court Reporter