

**September 27, 2022
9200 Basil Court
Largo, MD 20774
Virtual Hearing**

Present:

Daphne Turpin-Forbes, Board Chair
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman
Tammie Norman, Commissioner
Dennis Smith, Commissioner
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner
Jason DeLoach, Esquire, Counsel
Terence Sheppard, Director
Robert Clark, Chief Liquor Inspector
Johnny Toles, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Christian Mendoza, Deputy Chief Liquor Inspector
Leonard Vauss, Administrative Assistant
Patricia Bell, Administrative Manager
Katrice James, Administrative Aide
Alecia Hughes, Administrative Aide

Start Time: 10:10 a.m.

Commissioner Forbes: This is an open meeting for the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners. Welcome to our House. To ensure compliance with the law (Maryland Open Meetings Act) and our goal of transparency, to please identify yourself when speaking and speak audibly. As a professional courtesy, when not speaking, please mute your device. If someone from the public that is not providing testimony as a witness today, I will recognize you in the hearing and give you an opportunity for your voice to be heard. Everyone's voice matters at the BOLC. We understand that some of you may be passionate about what you have to say and that passion, in this regard, is permissible. What is not permissible is if truth, facts, and respect are not grounded in your voice. Thank you in advance for being truthful, respectful, and honest during the entire proceeding.

Director Sheppard: During a typical hearing, there would be an exchange between the Board and the attorneys to exchange information as exhibits. Because this hearing is now virtual, we have implemented a 10-day rule to give those individuals here today, 10-days from today's date to add to the official record. I would ask that you email myself or the administrative staff of the BOLC. You may add information to the record long as it is information that has been discussed in this hearing.

REGULAR SESSION:

TRANSFER

1. Ashvinkumar R. Patel, President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of District Heights Spirits, Inc., **t/a District Heights Liquors**, 6136 Marlboro Pike, District Heights, 20747 transfer from District Heights Spirits, Inc., t/a District Heights Liquors, 6136 Marlboro Pike, District Heights, 20747, Mitchell David, President/Secretary/Treasurer.

Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

The applicant, Mr. Ashvinkumar Patel, previously held a liquor license at Penn Station Liquors, this business was sold in 2017.

During his tenure as a license holder, the establishment received a violation for selling to a minor.

Mr. Kim asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question. A copy of the Alcohol Awareness certificate has been submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class A license for t/a District Heights Liquors, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. Surjit Ram, Member-Manager, for a Class B+, Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Charlie's One, LLC, **t/a Charlie's Liquor & Restaurant**, 5711 Silver Hill Road, District Heights, 20747 transfer from Charlie's One, LLC, t/a Charlie's Liquor & Restaurant, 5711 Silver Hill Road, District Heights, 20747, Kiranjit Kaur, President.

Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.

Mr. Kim asked the standard questions typically used to qualify the transfer of the license. Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question. A copy of the Alcohol Awareness certificate has been submitted to the Board.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the transfer of the Class B+ license for t/a Charlie's Liquor & Restaurant, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS B(BLX), BEER WINE AND LIQUOR

1. Cornell Lee Davis, President, Theresa Marie Benish, Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer, for a Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of 505 Lounge, Inc., **t/a 505 Lounge**, 505 Hampton Park Blvd, Suite J, Capitol Heights, 20743.

Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Two amendments have been made to the application.

Amendment to the application to change the corporation's name from 505 Lounge to Midnight Entertainment Inc.

No objections. The desired action is approved.

Amendment to the application to change the opening hours from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. seven days a week, the closing hours will remain the same.

No objections. The desired action is approved.

Mr. Davis managed a bar in Waldorf, there were no violations during his tenure.

Ms. Carter asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license.

Including what are the six acceptable forms of I.D., and the legal age to purchase and sell alcohol. The applicant was able to answer each question.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to approve the Class B, BLX, license for t/a Midnight Entertainment Inc., seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

After Board vote, the motion carries.

2. Ashley Drake, Member, for a Class B(BLX), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Clout Southern Cuisine & Lounge, LLC, t/a **731 Clout Southern Cuisine & Lounge**, 731 Cady Drive, Fort Washington, 20744.

Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge her right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

Chief Robert Clark gave a maps presentation.

Commissioner Forbes states the Board is familiar with the applicants, this establishment, and the history of this establishment serving alcohol without a license.

Ms. Drake states she worked for the former owner, as the HR manager to help with the onboarding process from June 2021-July 2021. She didn't have any formal or informal responsibilities after July 2021.

Ms. Drake became the owner of 731 Clout Southern Cuisine & Lounge in July 2022.

Commissioner Forbes asked the standard questions typically used to qualify this type of license. In addition, the Chair questioned the applicant's current role, other investors, and her responses to questions on the affidavit.

Ms. Drake states she is the one hundred percent CEO, thirty-three percent owner but there are several other investors including Mr. David Roundtree and Mr. Edward Reynolds.

There were some responses on Ms. Drake's affidavit that confused the Board.

Ms. Drake asked for a postponement because she felt that her attorney should be present to assist her in responding to some of the Board's questions.

Commissioner Camacho makes a motion to deny the Class B, BLX, license for t/a Clout Southern Cuisine & Lounge, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

No objections to withdraw the motion.

Board Attorney Jason DeLoach states that the motion had to be withdrawn to allow **Ms. Drake** the opportunity to wrap-up her testimony.

Ms. Drake states she is a ten percent owner of the restaurant 1865 on Georgia Avenue in Washington, DC.

Mr. Michael Bozeman (Nehemiah Program) testified in favor of this application. He states that he is workforce development partners with 731 Clout Southern Cuisine &

Lounge. The Nehemiah Program is for individuals returning to society after being incarcerated.

Ms. Kristen Washington (Fort Washington Resident) testified in favor of this application. She states she has been a patron of this restaurant and goes there to feel safe, and to enjoy good food and live entertainment. She will be partnering with this establishment to get juvenile males on the right path.

Commissioner Smith makes a motion to continue this case, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

Commissioner Camacho and Commissioner Forbes voted against the motion. After Board vote, the motion carries.

NEW- CLASS C(CLV), BEER WINE AND LIQUOR

1. Clarence Gatling, Commander, Felicia A. Powell, 1st Vice Commander, Roger S. Lowery, Sr., 2nd Vice Commander, for a Class C(CLV), Beer, Wine and Liquor for the use of Glenarden Post No. 275, Inc., t/a **Glenarden American Legion Post #275**, 8201 Martin Luther King Highway, Glenarden, 20706.

Mr. Roger Lowery, Sr. was not present on the virtual hearing.

To move forward with granting this license, all three applicants must be present.

The Board will grant a continuance for October 25, 2022, hearing.

Adjourned: 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alecia L. Hughes
Administrative Aide BOLC