

BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS

HEARING DISPOSITIONS

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020
WEBEX VIRTUAL HEARING
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND**

**Albert Matricciani, Jr., Chairperson
Aaron Greenfield, Commissioner
Robert E. Guye, Commissioner**

Violations Docket – Violation of Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12

11:00 AM

Jano Ethiopian Restaurant & Lounge, LLC, t/a Jano Ethiopia
34 S. Eutaw Street, Baltimore MD 21201

License # LB 073

11th Councilmanic District (Costello)

Attorney for Applicant: N/A

Alleged violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) when at approximately 12:30 a.m. on August 22, 2020 members of the BLLC along with the Social Club Taskforce conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with the Mary's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of food and/or beverages at 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor consumption to only 25% of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. Upon arriving at the location, the inspectors attempted to gain access to the establishment and found both the front and side doors of the location were locked. When members of the task force began knocking on the doors to gain entry, they noticed that individuals on the second floor bar area looking down. After unsuccessful attempts to gain entry, the chief inspector entered the carryout located next door which shared a common door with the establishment but the door was locked. However, they were able to speak with a patron on the other side of the locked door and was informed by the patron that they were locked in and could not leave. The task force contacted the Fire Marshall's office, to which they would respond to the location and gain entry via force to ensure the safety of the patrons locked inside the establishment. At approximately 12:45 a.m. the licensees of the establishment walked down the stairs from the second floor and opened the door, allowing access to the task force. Upon opening the door, the inspectors witnessed about 10 patrons leaving the establishment. When the inspectors asked the licensee why he was operating and why he did not let members of the taskforce inside, they stated they were not aware of the new restrictions and did not hear the inspectors knocking.

Alleged violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) when at approximately 12:30 a.m. on August 22, 2020 members of the BLLC along with the Social Club Taskforce conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with the Mary's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of

food and/or beverages at 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor consumption to only 25% of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. Upon arriving at the location, the inspectors attempted to gain access to the establishment and found both the front and side doors of the location were locked. When members of the task force began knocking on the doors to gain entry, they noticed that individuals on the second floor bar area looking down. After unsuccessful attempts to gain entry, the chief inspector entered the carryout located next door which shared a common door with the establishment but the door was locked. However, they were able to speak with a patron on the other side of the locked door and was informed by the patron that they were locked in and could not leave. The task force contacted the Fire Marshall's office, to which they would respond to the location and gain entry via force to ensure the safety of the patrons locked inside the establishment. At approximately 12:45 a.m. the licensees of the establishment walked down the stairs from the second floor and opened the door, allowing access to the task force. Upon opening the door, the inspectors witnessed about 10 patrons leaving the establishment. When the inspectors asked the licensee why he was operating and why he did not let members of the taskforce inside, they stated they were not aware of the new restrictions and did not hear the inspectors knocking.

Corporate Standing: Jano Ethiopian Restaurant, LLC is an active Maryland corporation not in good standing as of November 16, 2020.

Location Violation History: October 10, 2019 – Violation of Rule 4.01(a) (Sales to Minors), Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) and Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) – Fined \$2,625
February 7, 2019 – Violation of Rule 3.08(a) (Sanitation and Safety), Rule 3.12 (General Welfare), and Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) – Fined \$2,625
November 1, 2018 – Violation of Rule 4.01(a) (Sales to Minors) – Fined \$1,125

Witnesses: N/A

Disposition: This matter has been postponed for a future hearing date.

Violations Docket – Violation of Rule 4.05(a) and Rule 4.05(b)	11:00 AM
UZO, LLC, t/a Good Fellas Lounge	License # LB 241
4919 Belair Road, Baltimore MD 21206	2 nd Councilmanic District (McCray)
Attorney for Applicant: Melvin Kodenski	

Alleged violation of Rule 4.05(a) (Prohibited Hours) when at approximately 2:16 a.m. on September 13, 2020 members of the BLLC visited the location to conduct a routine inspection of the establishment. Upon their arrival, the inspectors were able to enter the establishment and observed it to be open and operating. Once on-premises, the inspectors observed music playing, patrons consuming alcoholic beverages, and patrons playing pool, having approximately 6-7 patrons in the establishment. At this time, the inspectors

informed management/licensee of the violation and instructed them to have the patrons leave the establishment. Once all patrons had exited, the inspectors left the establishment. Alleged violation of Rule 4.05(b) (Prohibited Hours) when at approximately 2:16 a.m. on September 13, 2020 members of the BLLC visited the location to conduct a routine inspection of the establishment. Upon their arrival, the inspectors were able to enter the establishment and observed it to be open and operating. Once on-premises, the inspectors observed music playing, patrons consuming alcoholic beverages, and patrons playing pool, having approximately 6-7 patrons in the establishment. At this time, the inspectors informed management/licensee of the violation and instructed them to have the patrons leave the establishment. Once all patrons had exited, the inspectors left the establishment. Corporate Standing: UZO, LLC is an active Maryland corporation not in good standing as of November 16, 2020.

Location Violation History: May 17, 2018 – Protest of Renewal – 3-0 vote to renew license
April 5, 2018 – Violation of Rule 4.05(a) (Prohibited Hours) and Rule 4.05(b) (Prohibited Hours) – Fined \$1,125

Witnesses: Obiefule Uwadineke – Licensee, Darryl Clark – BLLC Agent Inspector, Cindy-Leigh Tudhope – BLLC Inspector, Rosalba Jordan – BLLC Inspector, Andy Perez – BLLC Agent Inspector, John Chrissomallis – BLLC Chief Inspector

Disposition: The Board has found that the licensee violated Rule 4.05(a) and Rule 4.05(b) on September 13, 2020 and imposed a fine of \$500 and an administrative fee of \$125, both payable within 30 days.

Violations Docket – Violation of Rule 4.16, Rule 3.12, Rule 4.16, and Rule 3.12 **11:00 AM**

Ecstasy Bar and Restaurant, LLC, t/a My Cousin Place License # LBD7 120
3925-27 E. Lombard Street, Baltimore MD 21224 2nd Councilmanic District (McCray)

Attorney for Applicant: Melvin Kodenski

Alleged violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) when at approximately 11:30 p.m. on August 16, 2020 members of the BLLC responded to a 311 call for service regarding loud music emanating from the establishment and violations of COVID-19 restrictions that were imposed by the Mayor’s Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor capacity to only 25% capacity of the establishment’s maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. Upon arrival at the establishment, the inspectors entered the location and observed people standing in the interior bar area. As the inspectors continued through the bar and made their way to the rear patio area, they observed the area to be overcrowded, people standing and consuming alcoholic beverages, and noticed that the extremely loud music could be heard from the rear exterior of the establishment. At this time, the inspectors informed the manager of the violations issued and instructed

the manager to reduce his crowd capacity, and lower the music. After the manager complied, the inspectors left the establishment.

Alleged violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) when at approximately 11:30 p.m. on August 16, 2020 members of the BLLC responded to a 311 call for service regarding loud music emanating from the establishment and violations of COVID-19 restrictions that were imposed by the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor capacity to only 25% capacity of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. Upon arrival at the establishment, the inspectors entered the location and observed people standing in the interior bar area. As the inspectors continued through the bar and made their way to the rear patio area, they observed the area to be overcrowded, people standing and consuming alcoholic beverages, and noticed that the extremely loud music could be heard from the rear exterior of the establishment. At this time, the inspectors informed the manager of the violations issued and instructed the manager to reduce his crowd capacity, and lower the music. After the manager complied, the inspectors left the establishment.

Alleged violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) when at approximately 12:10 a.m. on August 30, 2020 members of the BLLC responded to a 311 call for service regarding loud music emanating from the establishment and violations of COVID-19 restrictions that were imposed by the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor capacity to only 25% capacity of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. As the inspector approached the establishment in his vehicle, they could hear the music emanating from the establishment approximately a block away. Upon arrival, the inspectors observed the rear patio area to be overcrowded with people standing around, consuming alcoholic beverages, and not practicing social distancing, as the tables were not located at least 6-feet apart from each other. At this time, the inspectors informed the manager of the violations issued and instructed him to reduce the crowd capacity and lower the music. After the manager complied, the inspectors left the establishment.

Alleged violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) when at approximately 12:10 a.m. on August 30, 2020 members of the BLLC responded to a 311 call for service regarding loud music emanating from the establishment and violations of COVID-19 restrictions that were imposed by the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor capacity to only 25% capacity of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. As the inspector approached the establishment in his vehicle, they could hear the music emanating from the establishment approximately a block away. Upon arrival, the inspectors observed the rear patio area to be overcrowded with people standing around, consuming alcoholic beverages, and not practicing social

distancing, as the tables were not located at least 6-feet apart from each other. At this time, the inspectors informed the manager of the violations issued and instructed him to reduce the crowd capacity and lower the music. After the manager complied, the inspectors left the establishment.

Corporate Standing: Ecstasy Bar and Restaurant, LLC is an active Maryland corporation not in good standing as of November 16, 2020.

Location Violation History: May 23, 2019 – Violation of Rule 4.08(a) (Relations with Wholesalers) – Fined \$1,125
January 17, 2019 – Violation of Rule 4.01(a) (Sales to Minors) – Fined \$2, 625
June 14, 2018 – Violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare), Rule 3.12 (General Welfare), and Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) – Fined \$875

Witnesses: Blanca Pesquera – Licensee, Noe Norio – Manager, Terri Chase – BLLC Agent Inspector, Andy Perez – BLLC Agent Inspector, Darryl Clark – BLLC Agent Inspector, John Chrissomallis – BLLC Chief Inspector, Cindy-Leigh Tudhope – BLLC Inspector

Disposition: The Board has found that the licensee violated Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12 on August 16, 2020 and Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12 on August 30, 2020 and imposed a fine of \$600 and an administrative fee of \$125, both payable within 30 days.

Violations Docket – Violation of Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12

11:00 AM

Kali's Court, LLC, t/a Kali's Court
1602-08 Thames Street, Baltimore MD 21231

License # LBD7 298
1st Councilmanic District (Cohen)

Attorney for Applicant: Peter Prevas

Alleged violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) when at approximately 1:45 a.m. on August 15, 2020 members of the BLLC along with members of the Social Club Task force conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020. Upon arrival, the inspectors observed a large number of patrons at the outdoor bar area consuming alcoholic beverages without practicing social distancing. In addition, the inspectors observed many of the patrons standing while consuming such beverages and that tables for patrons were not set 6-feet apart from each other. At that time, the inspectors met with the manager and advised them of the violations and instructed him to bring his operations into compliance. Once the manager complied, the inspectors left the establishment.

Alleged violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) when at approximately 1:45 a.m. on August 15, 2020 members of the BLLC along with members of the Social Club Task force conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020. Upon arrival, the inspectors observed a large number of patrons at the outdoor bar area consuming alcoholic beverages without practicing social distancing. In addition, the inspectors observed many of the

patrons standing while consuming such beverages and that tables for patrons were not set 6-feet apart from each other. At that time, the inspectors met with the manager and advised them of the violations and instructed him to bring his operations into compliance. Once the manager complied, the inspectors left the establishment.

Corporate Standing: Kali's Court, LLC is an active Maryland corporation not in good standing as of November 16, 2020.

Location Violation History: November 21, 2019 – Violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) and Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) – Fined \$325
October 10, 2019 – Violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) – Fined \$475

Witnesses: Vasilios Koramidas – Manager, Andy Perez – BLLC Agent Inspector, Darryl Clark – BLLC Agent Inspector, John Chrissomallis – BLLC Chief Inspector

Disposition: The Board has found that the licensee violated Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12 on August 15, 2020 and imposed a fine of \$200 and an administrative fee of \$125, both payable within 30 days.

Violations Docket – Violation of Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12

11:00 AM

Noir Restaurant and Lounge, LLC, t/a Noir Restaurant
5716 York Road, Baltimore MD 21212

License # LB 016
4th Councilmanic District (Henry)

Attorney for Applicant: Melvin Kodenski

Alleged violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) when at approximately 10:57 p.m. on August 28, 2020 members of the BLLC along with members of the Social Club Task Force conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor capacity to only 25% capacity of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. On August 16, 2020, inspectors of the BLLC had provided a final warning to the establishment due to a prior violation of the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020. Upon entering the establishment on August 28, 2020, the inspector observed approximately 8 staff members and 25 patrons eating food and consuming alcoholic beverages. A review of the maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department indicated that their maximum capacity was 75. Thus, the total number of patrons and staff members allowed exceeded the 25% threshold (19 persons) stipulated by the Mayor's Executive Order. Upon verifying this information, the establishment was then closed by a member of the Baltimore City Health Department. Patrons cleared the location and the Social Club Task Force left the area.

Alleged violation of Rule 3.12 (General Welfare) when at approximately 10:57 p.m. on August 28, 2020 members of the BLLC along with members of the Social Club Task Force conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020 which prohibited indoor

consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 p.m. and limited indoor capacity to only 25% capacity of the establishment's maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. On August 16, 2020, inspectors of the BLLC had provided a final warning to the establishment due to a prior violation of the Mayor's Executive Order issued on August 7, 2020. Upon entering the establishment on August 28, 2020, the inspector observed approximately 8 staff members and 25 patrons eating food and consuming alcoholic beverages. A review of the maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department indicated that their maximum capacity was 75. Thus, the total number of patrons and staff members allowed exceeded the 25% threshold (19 persons) stipulated by the Mayor's Executive Order. Upon verifying this information, the establishment was then closed by a member of the Baltimore City Health Department. Patrons cleared the location and the Social Club Task Force left the area.

Corporate Standing: Noir Restaurant and Lounge, LLC is an active Maryland corporation in good standing as of November 16, 2020.

Location Violation History: October 10, 2019 – Violation of Rule 4.16 (Illegal Conduct) –

Fined \$375

May 3, 2018 – Violation of Rule 4.01(a) (Sales to Minors) – Fined \$875

Witnesses: Antonio Foster – Licensee, Andy Perez – BLLC Agent Inspector, John Chrissomallis – BLLC Chief Inspector

Disposition: The Board has found that the licensee violated Rule 4.16 and Rule 3.12 on August 28, 2020 and imposed a fine of \$200 and an administrative fee of \$125, both payable within 30 days.