

BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS FOR BALTIMORE CITY
DOCKET – THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.
ROOM 215 – CITY HALL – 100 NORTH HOLLIDAY STREET

Please note: If you are interested in a particular case, please call (410) 396-4380 the day before these hearings to verify that a particular case is still scheduled for this date.

10:30 a.m.

I. Violations:

- 1. Michael Benevento and Julianne Hamilton, Current Clubhouse, LLC, T/a Current Clubhouse, 421 N. Howard Street – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Rule 3.12 – General Welfare – August 27, 2022** – On August 27, 2022, 311 complaint #22-00685407 arrived for the establishment for Disturbing the Peace/Front Door Open/Noise/Loud Music at approximately 9:10pm. Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Agent Inspector Cindy Tudhope and Inspector Rosalba Jordan responded to the 311 complaint and arrived on scene near the establishment at approximately 9:40pm. BLLC inspectors parked in the parking lot at the rear of the location, where Inspectors Tudhope and Jordan could hear the music playing at a high volume coming from the stage area at the rear of the building while seated inside their vehicle. Inspectors Tudhope and Jordan entered the establishment and made contact with the licensee, Mr. Michael Benevento and made him aware of the complaint. Mr. Benevento stated that the live music would end at 10:00pm, and that the establishment always ends any live music by 10:00pm. Inspector Tudhope then informed Mr. Benevento that he would be receiving a violation for the music being extremely loud. Establishment had previously been warned about the high volume of the loud music by Agent Chase on August 13, 2022, when she responded to 311 Complaint #22-00642482. Inspector Tudhope issued a violation for the loud music and both inspectors left without further incident.

- 2. Ronnie Player, New Club Thunderbird, Inc., T/a Club Thunderbird, 2201 E. Chase Street – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Alc. Bev. Art. 12-2004(c)(4) – November 5, 2022** – On November 4, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan, along with a detective from the Baltimore Police Department Vice Unit (BPD Vice) drove by the establishment at approximately 10:40pm on their way to a different assignment. As they passed, Inspectors observed there to be approximately 5 people standing outside the establishment and lights appeared to be on inside the establishment. Upon observing this and knowing the hours of operation for the establishment, Inspectors decided to return to the establishment later in the evening to confirm if they had closed.

At approximately 1:00am on November 5, 2022, Inspectors returned and parked directly in front of the establishment and heard voices and music emanating from inside. At this time, Inspectors decided to enter the establishment and found the front door leading into the packaged goods side to be open. Inspector Tudhope continued through and reached to open the door leading to the tavern and heard the door being locked from the inside. Inspector Tudhope proceeded to knock on the door loudly and identified herself as a BLLC Inspector. After several minutes of knocking, the door was opened, where Inspector Tudhope observed there to be approximately 10-14 people sitting and standing inside the bar. At this time, Inspector Tudhope made contact with the owner, Ms.

Rodnaya Shanelle Williams, identified by her Maryland Driver's License. Ms. Williams stated that they were having a private party. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Williams that the establishment was not permitted to stay open and operating past 10:00pm, as it states on the establishment's liquor license. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Williams that she would be issued a violation for operating past 10:00pm and was instructed to close the establishment for the night. Inspectors left without further incident.

Violation of Rule 4.05 – Prohibited Hours – November 5, 2022 – On November 4, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan, along with a detective from the Baltimore Police Department Vice Unit (BPD Vice) drove by the establishment at approximately 10:40pm on their way to a different assignment. As they passed, Inspectors observed there to be approximately 5 people standing outside the establishment and lights appeared to be on inside the establishment. Upon observing this and knowing the hours of operation for the establishment, Inspectors decided to return to the establishment later in the evening to confirm if they had closed.

At approximately 1:00am on November 5, 2022, Inspectors returned and parked directly in front of the establishment and heard voices and music emanating from inside. At this time, Inspectors decided to enter the establishment and found the front door leading into the packaged goods side to be open. Inspector Tudhope continued through and reach to open the door leading to the tavern and heard the door being locked from the inside. Inspector Tudhope proceeded to knock on the door loudly and identified herself as a BLLC Inspector. After several minutes of knocking, the door was opened, where Inspector Tudhope observed there to be approximately 10-14 people sitting and standing inside the bar. At this time, Inspector Tudhope made contact with the owner, Ms. Rodnaya Shanelle Williams, identified by her Maryland Driver's License. Ms. Williams stated that they were having a private party. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Williams that the establishment was not permitted to stay open and operating past 10:00pm, as it states on the establishment's liquor license. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Williams that she would be issued a violation for operating past 10:00pm and was instructed to close the establishment for the night. Inspectors left without further incident.

Violation of Alc. Bev. Art. 12-2004(c)(4) – November 18, 2022 – On November 18, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan along with the Social Club Task Force (SCTF) consisting of the Baltimore Police Department Vice Unit (BPD Vice), Baltimore City Fire Marshal, Baltimore Housing inspectors and Baltimore City Health Department conducted an inspection at the establishment. Upon entry, BLLC Inspectors and SCTF members observed the business open and operating with approximately 5 customers seated at the bar drinking. Inspector Tudhope made contact with the bartender, Ms. Chanel Denise Cooley, as identified by her Maryland Driver's License. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Cooley that the establishment was not permitted to be open and operating past 10:00pm as stated on their liquor license. At this time, a male seated at the bar stated that they were all employees of the establishment. Upon hearing this information, Inspector Tudhope requested that Ms. Cooley provide her with employee records to verify that statement. The same male individual then instructed Ms. Cooley that she did not have to provide inspectors with any employee records and that they will give them only when the courts made them and that BLLC inspectors did not have the right to ask for this information and that they were harassing them. Inspector Tudhope then instructed Ms. Cooley that failure to provide employee records for her inspection would result in

another violation. Ms. Cooley then stated that the individual instructing her was the bar manager and in charge and that she did not know where the employee records were kept as she was just the bartender. At this time, Inspector Tudhope issued a violation and instructed the establishment to close. Throughout the duration of this SCTF visit, it was observed that numerous customers were attempting to enter the establishment. The SCTF then left without further incident. Upon subsequent and further investigation, it was determined that the manager that evening was identified as Mr. Darnell Lessane from previous violations.

Violation of Rule 4.05 – Prohibited Hours – November 18, 2022 – On November 18, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan along with the Social Club Task Force (SCTF) consisting of the Baltimore Police Department Vice Unit (BPD Vice), Baltimore City Fire Marshal, Baltimore Housing inspectors and Baltimore City Health Department conducted an inspection at the establishment. Upon entry, BLLC Inspectors and SCTF members observed the business open and operating with approximately 5 customers seated at the bar drinking. Inspector Tudhope made contact with the bartender, Ms. Chanel Denise Cooley, as identified by her Maryland Driver's License. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Cooley that the establishment was not permitted to be open and operating past 10:00pm as stated on their liquor license. At this time, a male seated at the bar stated that they were all employees of the establishment. Upon hearing this information, Inspector Tudhope requested that Ms. Cooley provide her with employee records to verify that statement. The same male individual then instructed Ms. Cooley that she did not have to provide inspectors with any employee records and that they will give them only when the courts made them and that BLLC inspectors did not have the right to ask for this information and that they were harassing them. Inspector Tudhope then instructed Ms. Cooley that failure to provide employee records for her inspection would result in another violation. Ms. Cooley then stated that the individual instructing her was the bar manager and in charge and that she did not know where the employee records were kept as she was just the bartender. At this time, Inspector Tudhope issued a violation and instructed the establishment to close. Throughout the duration of this SCTF visit, it was observed that numerous customers were attempting to enter the establishment. The SCTF then left without further incident. Upon subsequent and further investigation, it was determined that the manager that evening was identified as Mr. Darnell Lessane from previous violations.

Violation of Rule 3.03(c) – Records (Employees) – November 18, 2022 – On November 18, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan along with the Social Club Task Force (SCTF) consisting of the Baltimore Police Department Vice Unit (BPD Vice), Baltimore City Fire Marshal, Baltimore Housing inspectors and Baltimore City Health Department conducted an inspection at the establishment. Upon entry, BLLC Inspectors and SCTF members observed the business open and operating with approximately 5 customers seated at the bar drinking. Inspector Tudhope made contact with the bartender, Ms. Chanel Denise Cooley, as identified by her Maryland Driver's License. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Cooley that the establishment was not permitted to be open and operating past 10:00pm as stated on their liquor license. At this time, a male seated at the bar stated that they were all employees of the establishment. Upon hearing this information, Inspector Tudhope requested that Ms. Cooley provide her with employee records to verify that statement. The same male individual then instructed Ms. Cooley that she did not have to provide inspectors with any employee records and that they will give them only when the courts made them and that BLLC inspectors did not have the right to ask for this information and that they were harassing them. Inspector Tudhope

then instructed Ms. Cooley that failure to provide employee records for her inspection would result in another violation. Ms. Cooley then stated that the individual instructing her was the bar manager and in charge and that she did not know where the employee records were kept as she was just the bartender. At this time, Inspector Tudhope issued a violation and instructed the establishment to close. Throughout the duration of this SCTF visit, it was observed that numerous customers were attempting to enter the establishment. The SCTF then left without further incident. Upon subsequent and further investigation, it was determined that the manager that evening was identified as Mr. Darnell Lessane from previous violations.

Violation of Rule 3.02 – Cooperation – November 18, 2022 – On November 18, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan along with the Social Club Task Force (SCTF) consisting of the Baltimore Police Department Vice Unit (BPD Vice), Baltimore City Fire Marshal, Baltimore Housing inspectors and Baltimore City Health Department conducted an inspection at the establishment. Upon entry, BLLC Inspectors and SCTF members observed the business open and operating with approximately 5 customers seated at the bar drinking. Inspector Tudhope made contact with the bartender, Ms. Chanel Denise Cooley, as identified by her Maryland Driver's License. Inspector Tudhope informed Ms. Cooley that the establishment was not permitted to be open and operating past 10:00pm as stated on their liquor license. At this time, a male seated at the bar stated that they were all employees of the establishment. Upon hearing this information, Inspector Tudhope requested that Ms. Cooley provide her with employee records to verify that statement. The same male individual then instructed Ms. Cooley that she did not have to provide inspectors with any employee records and that they will give them only when the courts made them and that BLLC inspectors did not have the right to ask for this information and that they were harassing them. Inspector Tudhope then instructed Ms. Cooley that failure to provide employee records for her inspection would result in another violation. Ms. Cooley then stated that the individual instructing her was the bar manager and in charge and that she did not know where the employee records were kept as she was just the bartender. At this time, Inspector Tudhope issued a violation and instructed the establishment to close. Throughout the duration of this SCTF visit, it was observed that numerous customers were attempting to enter the establishment. The SCTF then left without further incident. Upon subsequent and further investigation, it was determined that the manager that evening was identified as Mr. Darnell Lessane from previous violations.

- 3. Giatri Singh, Lal Jee, Inc., T/a Wilkens Tavern, 2696 Wilkens Avenue – Class "D" Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Rule 4.05 – Prohibited Hours – September 18, 2022** – On September 18, 2022, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspectors Cindy Tudhope and Rosalba Jordan conducted an inspection at the establishment for operating on a Sunday when not permitted by license class.

At approximately 9:10pm, Inspectors Tudhope and Jordan observed a person exiting through the front door of the establishment and observed the packaged goods side to be operating, with alcohol on display in the front counters and in the fridges behind the safety glass. Inspector Tudhope made contact with the operator, who did not have any form of identification, and asked to see his liquor license to confirm that he held a Class "D" tavern license, and not permitted to be opened on Sundays. While conducting their inspection, a patron entered through the front door and pointed at the alcohol on the shelf and the operator told him to leave and closed the front door. The operator subsequently called a person who he stated was the Licensee, a Mr. Gitari Singh, who

told Inspector Jordan that he believed he was allowed to sell candy and soft drinks on Sundays. Inspector Jordan informed him that he was not allowed to be open and operating on Sundays and Mr. Singh then instructed his employee by phone at that time to close. Inspectors issued a violation for operating during prohibited hours. Employee then closed the establishment, and inspectors left through the side door as there were people attempting to enter the establishment who appeared to be upset that it was closed. Inspectors left the area of the establishment around 9:28pm without further incident.

II. Regular Items (New, Transfers, and Expansions):

1. **Ammar Chhantyal, Mandali, Inc., T/a Mount Everest, 600 E. Pratt Street, Suite 105** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application for a new Class “B” Beer, Wine and Liquor restaurant license under the provisions of Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1604(c)(2)(ii) requiring \$700,000 in capital investment in restaurant fixtures and facilities, 65% of food sales, and seating capacity for a minimum of 150 people, requesting off-premises catering and delivery of alcoholic beverages.
2. **Yonatan Gebrezibher, The Garden Rooftop, LLC, T/a The Garden, 411 N. Paca Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application for a new Class “B” Beer, Wine and Liquor restaurant license under the provisions of Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1603(c)(1)(ii) requiring \$200,000 in capital investment in restaurant fixtures and facilities and seating capacity for a minimum of 75 people, requesting live entertainment and off-premises catering.
3. **Randall Jovan Matthews, September Trees, LLC, T/a Rize & Rest Café, 3100 E. Baltimore Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application for a new Class “B” Beer, Wine and Liquor restaurant license under the provisions of Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-903(c)(2)(i) requiring \$500,000 in capital investment in restaurant fixtures and facilities, 51% of food sales, and seating capacity for a minimum of 75 people but not more than 150 individuals.
4. **Michelle Faulkner Forson and Jessica L. Henkin, Baltimore Improv Group, Inc., T/a Baltimore Improv Group Theater, 1727 N. Charles Street** – Class “C” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application for a new Class “C” Beer, Wine and Liquor club license under the provisions of Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1603(C)(5) allowing the Board to issue a Class “C” Beer, Wine, and Liquor license to a club in the area bounded by Charles Street on the West, East Lafayette Street on the North, North Lovegrove Street on the East, and East Lanvale Street on the South in the 45th alcoholic beverages district; requesting live entertainment.
5. **Kevin Curley, GT Storm, LLC, T/a The Greene Turtle, 3803 Boston Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application for a new Class “B” Beer, Wine and Liquor restaurant license under the provisions of Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1604(c)(2)(i), the Board may issue an additional Class “B” Beer, Wine and Liquor license to a current Class “B” Beer, Wine and Liquor license holder if the new establishment has a minimum capital investment of \$700,000 for restaurant facilities, which may not include the cost of land or buildings; 65% of food sales; and a minimum seating capacity of 150 individuals. Pursuant to Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1609(e), the Board may waive the minimum capital investment requirement and the minimum seating capacity requirements if the Board holds a public hearing and reviews the business practice of the license applicant and determines the license holder is in good standing and has a reputable business practice. The applicant is also requesting live entertainment and outdoor table service.

6. **Krishna Chhetri, Fishtail Spirits, LLC T/a Fishtail Spirits, 3800 E. Lombard Street, #13** – Class “A” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Amended application to transfer ownership and location of a Class “A” BWL license presently located at 628-30 S. Broadway to 3800 E. Lombard Street, #13.
7. **Andrew Gaddis, All TRD, LLC, T/a Vision House, 134-36 W. 25th Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership from a contract purchaser requesting delivery of alcoholic beverages.
8. **Navneet Kaur, Bibz Enterprise, Inc., T/a Ace Liquor & Grocery, 500 Maude Avenue** – Class “A” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership.
9. **Kristin Deardorff and Jose Lorenzo Centano, Mi Comalito Restaurant, LLC, T/a Mi Comalito, 2101 N. Charles Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership.
10. **Young Yim and Kyle Skinner, CNY Enterprise, LLC, T/a Mt. Vernon Liquor, 815-17 N. Charles Street** – Class “A” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership.
- ~~11. **Jagroop Sandu, Bar & Discount Liquors, Inc., T/a Trade Name Pending, 1801 Ramsay Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership. POSTPONED~~
12. **Paul Xavier Mincarelli, Our Sunday Gravy, LLC, T/a Café Campli, 4801 Harford Road, Suite S2** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership.
13. **Protasi Sengayimana, CLB 2101, LLC, T/a Doc’s L & P Liquors, 2101 W. Lexington Street** – Class “A-2” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership requesting delivery of alcoholic beverages.
- ~~14. **Candice Green, Bmore Management, LLC, T/a Let’s Brunch Café, 300 W. 30th Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership with continuation of outdoor table service, requesting off premises catering. POSTPONED~~
15. **Latoya Jones, The Crazy Crab Bag, LLC, T/a The Crazy Crab Bag, 1739-41 Light Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership from a contract purchaser with continuation of outdoor table service, requesting off-premises catering and delivery of alcoholic beverages.
16. **Julie Gochar, Inkworks, Inc., T/a Coppermine, 5736 Falls Road** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Amended application to transfer ownership requesting delivery of alcoholic beverages.

III. Regular Items (90-day Transfer Hardship Requests):

17. **Ripjeet Singh Gill and Gregory Miller, Slim’s Liquor Hub, LLC, T/a Slim’s Liquor Hub, 4200 Belair Road** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

18. **Gopal Bishwakarma and Junu Bishwakarma, Shristi, LLC, T/a Ambassador Dining Room, 3811 Canterbury Road** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).
19. **Michelle Brandenburg, Baylis Holdings, LLC, T/a Trade Name Pending, 708 S. Baylis Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).
20. **Jason Harkinish, JWH Bars, LLC, T/a Lighthouse Tavern, 1224-26 S. Clinton Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).
21. **Casey Taylor Linthicum and Nancy Meredith Lewis, Luigi, LLC, T/a GameOn, 902 S. Charles Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).