

BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS FOR BALTIMORE CITY
DOCKET – THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.
WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING

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.

11:00 a.m.

I. Protest of Renewal

- 1. Alexander Smith, Fells Point Venture, LLC, T/a Choptank Restaurant, 1641 Aliceanna Street, #105 – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Protest of Renewal**

II. Violations:

- 1. Tesfaye Birru and Fikremariam Worku, Jano Ethiopian Restaurant & Lounge, LLC, T/a Jano Ethiopia, 34 S. Eutaw Street – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Rule 4.16 Illegal Conduct – August 22, 2020 – At approximately 12:30 AM, Baltimore City Liquor Board Inspector Cindy Tudhope, Inspector Rosalba Jordan, Chief John Chrissomallis of the BLLC, as part of the Social Club Taskforce, conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young’s Executive Order issued August 7, 2020. Specifically, Mayor Young’s Executive Order issued August 7, 2020 prohibiting indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 pm and limited such indoor consumption to only 25% of the establishment’s maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. Upon arriving at the location, Inspectors attempted to gain access to the establishment and found both the front and side doors of the locations locked. Members of the Social Club Taskforce began knocking on the doors to gain entry. While knocking on the doors, Inspectors, on the Eutaw Side street of the establishment, observed individuals on the second-floor bar area looking down at members of the Social Club Task force. Inspectors on the Lombard Street side of the location observed approximately 10 patrons and 1 security guard located on the first floor of the establishment standing at the ground level bar area. After numerous attempts at trying to gain access by knocking on the doors of the establishment with no response, Chief Inspector Chrissomallis proceeded to a carryout located next door, which shared a common door with the establishment, and attempted to gain entry. At that time, he attempted to gain entry, but the door was locked. However, Chief Chrissomallis was able to speak with a patron who was on the other side of the locked common door and was informed by the patron that he was locked inside of the establishment and could not leave. Upon hearing this information, members of the Social Club Task Force contacted the Fire Marshall’s office. The Fire Marshall’s Office, stated it 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 AM, the licensee of the establishment, Mr. Fikremariam Worku, walked down the stairs from the second floor and opened the door allowing access to members of the Social Club Task Force. Upon opening the door, Inspectors witnessed about 10 patrons leaving the establishment. When asked why he was operating and why he did not let members of the Social Club Taskforce into the establishment, Mr. Worku stated he was not aware of the new restriction and did not hear the inspectors knocking.**

Violation of Rule 3.12 General Welfare – August 22, 2020 – At approximately 12:30 AM, Baltimore City Liquor Board Inspector Cindy Tudhope, Inspector Rosalba Jordan, Chief John Chrissomallis of the BLLC, as part of the Social Club Taskforce, conducted an inspection of the establishment to ensure that it was operating in compliance with Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young’s Executive Order issued August 7, 2020. Specifically, Mayor Young’s Executive Order issued August 7, 2020 prohibiting indoor consumption of food and/or alcoholic beverages after 10:00 pm and limited such indoor consumption to only 25% of the establishment’s maximum capacity rating as per the Baltimore City Fire Department. Upon arriving at the location, Inspectors attempted to gain access to the establishment and found both the front and side doors of the locations locked. Members of the Social Club Taskforce began knocking on the doors to gain entry. While knocking on the doors, Inspectors, on the Eutaw Side street of the establishment, observed individuals on the second-floor bar area looking down at members of the Social Club Task force. Inspectors on the Lombard Street side of the location observed approximately 10 patrons and 1 security guard located on the first floor of the establishment standing at the ground level bar area. After numerous attempts at trying to gain access by knocking on the doors of the establishment with no response, Chief Inspector Chrissomallis proceeded to a carryout located next door, which shared a common door with the establishment, and attempted to gain entry. At that time, he attempted to gain entry, but the door was locked. However, Chief Chrissomallis was able to speak with a patron who was on the other side of the locked common door and was informed by the patron that he was locked inside of the establishment and could not leave. Upon hearing this information, members of the Social Club Task Force contacted the Fire Marshall’s office. The Fire Marshall’s Office, stated it 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 AM, the licensee of the establishment, Mr. Fikremariam Worku, walked down the stairs from the second floor and opened the door allowing access to members of the Social Club Task Force. Upon opening the door, Inspectors witnessed about 10 patrons leaving the establishment. When asked why he was operating and why he did not let members of the Social Club Taskforce into the establishment, Mr. Worku stated he was not aware of the new restriction and did not hear the inspectors knocking.

~~2. Cheryl Hicks and Derek Young, D’s Sport Bar, LLC, T/a D’s Sport Bar, 45 N. Kresson Street – Class “D” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Rule 4.05(a) Prohibited Hours – February 16, 2020~~ – At approximately 12:43 AM, Baltimore City Police Detective Abraham Gatto, BLLC Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis, Agent Andy Perez, Inspector Kenyatta Washington, and Inspector Rosalba Jordan responded to the establishment and proceeded to conduct an investigation to determine if this establishment, which has a Class D Beer, Wine, and Liquor License that allows them to operate from 6 AM to 1 AM from Monday to Saturday, operated beyond its allowable hours of service. Upon arriving at the location, Inspectors Washington and Jordan entered the establishment and sat at the bar. Inspectors observed that at approximately 12:56 AM, a disc jockey was playing music, patrons were dancing, and alcoholic beverages were being served. At 1:01 AM, Inspector Washington was able to purchase an alcoholic beverage. At approximately 1:03 AM, Det. Gatto and Chief Chrissomallis entered the establishment. Chief Chrissomallis observed the that the “Open” sign was illuminated, music was being played, and there were patrons in the establishment drinking alcoholic beverages. At this time, Det. Gatto and Chief Chrissomallis met with Derek Young, the manager of the establishment, and informed him of the violations. All patrons were then instructed to leave the location and the establishment closed for the evening.

Violation of Rule 4.05(b) Prohibited Hours – February 16, 2020 – At approximately 12:43 AM, Baltimore City Police Detective Abraham Gatto, BLLC Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis, Agent Andy Perez, Inspector Kenyatta Washington, and Inspector Rosalba Jordan responded to the establishment and proceeded to conduct an investigation to determine if this establishment, which has a Class D Beer, Wine, and Liquor License that allows them to operate from 6 AM to 1 AM from Monday to Saturday, operated beyond its allowable hours of service. Upon arriving at the location, Inspectors Washington and Jordan entered the establishment and sat at the bar. Inspectors observed that at approximately 12:56 AM, a disc jockey was playing music, patrons were dancing, and alcoholic beverages were being served. At 1:01 AM, Inspector Washington was able to purchase an alcoholic beverage. At approximately 1:03 AM, Det. Gatto and Chief Chrissomallis entered the establishment. Chief Chrissomallis observed that the “Open” sign was illuminated, music was being played, and there were patrons in the establishment drinking alcoholic beverages. At this time, Det. Gatto and Chief Chrissomallis met with Derek Young, the manager of the establishment, and informed him of the violations. All patrons were then instructed to leave the location and the establishment closed for the evening. **POSTPONED**

3. **Shanell Wright, Civil, LLC, T/a The Civil, 518 N. Charles Street – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Rule 4.16 Illegal Conduct – November 30, 2020** – At approximately 7:50 PM, Baltimore City Liquor Board Agent Terri Chase and Agent Darryl Clark responded to two (2) 311 calls for service (#20-00808003 and #20-00808045) regarding loud music emanating from the establishment. Upon arrival at the establishment, BLLC inspectors observed a line of patrons attempting to enter the establishment and could hear unreasonably loud music emanating from the establishment. As inspectors entered the establishment they observed that the establishment was over its 25% capacity (45 persons) as allowed as per Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young’s Executive Order issued November 12, 2020. BLLC Inspectors performed a head count and observed there to be approximately 75 people inside of the establishment. As per the Fire Department Permit issued to the establishment, the maximum occupancy of the location is 180. At this point, BLLC Inspectors contacted the manager on premises, Mr. Camung, and informed him of the violation. In response to BLLC Inspectors’ question as to why he was violating capacity restrictions as per Mayor Young’s Executive Order, Mr. Camung stated that “he did not have an effective way to control the crowd” and further stated he would “just take the violation.” BLLC Inspectors instructed Mr. Camung to not allow anymore patrons into the establishment. A security guard soon appeared on scene to limit patrons entering the establishment. BLLC Inspectors issued a violation and left the scene.

Violation of Rule 3.12 General Welfare – November 30, 2020 – At approximately 7:50 PM, Baltimore City Liquor Board Agent Terri Chase and Agent Darryl Clark responded to two (2) 311 calls for service (#20-00808003 and #20-00808045) regarding loud music emanating from the establishment. Upon arrival at the establishment, BLLC inspectors observed a line of patrons attempting to enter the establishment and could hear unreasonably loud music emanating from the establishment. As inspectors entered the establishment they observed that the establishment was over its 25% capacity (45 persons) as allowed as per Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young’s Executive Order issued November 12, 2020. BLLC Inspectors performed a head count and observed there to be approximately 75 people inside of the establishment. As per the Fire Department Permit issued to the establishment, the maximum occupancy of the location is 180. At this point, BLLC Inspectors contacted the manager on premises, Mr. Camung, and informed him of the violation. In response to BLLC Inspectors’ question as to why he was violating capacity restrictions as per Mayor Young’s Executive Order, Mr. Camung stated that “he did not have an effective way to control the crowd”

and further stated he would “just take the violation.” BLLC Inspectors instructed Mr. Camung to not allow anymore patrons into the establishment. A security guard soon appeared on scene to limit patrons entering the establishment. BLLC Inspectors issued a violation and left the scene.

Violation of Rule 4.16 Illegal Conduct – December 10, 2020 – At approximately 6:35 PM, Baltimore City Liquor Board Inspector Cindy Tudhope and Inspector Walter Robinson responded to a 311 call for service (#20-00834490) regarding loud music emanating from the establishment. Upon arrival at the establishment, BLLC inspectors could hear unreasonably loud music emanating from the establishment’s open front door. Inspectors contacted Mr. Paul Thomas, who claimed to be the owner of the establishment. BLLC Inspectors informed Mr. Thomas of the violation and instructed him to lower the music and close the front door. Mr. Thomas complied. BLLC Inspectors issued the violation and left the scene.

Violation of Rule 3.12 General Welfare – December 10, 2020 – At approximately 6:35 PM, Baltimore City Liquor Board Inspector Cindy Tudhope and Inspector Walter Robinson responded to a 311 call for service (#20-00834490) regarding loud music emanating from the establishment. Upon arrival at the establishment, BLLC inspectors could hear unreasonably loud music emanating from the establishment’s open front door. Inspectors contacted Mr. Paul Thomas, who claimed to be the owner of the establishment. BLLC Inspectors informed Mr. Thomas of the violation and instructed him to lower the music and close the front door. Mr. Thomas complied. BLLC Inspectors issued the violation and left the scene.