

BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS FOR BALTIMORE CITY
DOCKET – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 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. Regular Items (New, Transfers, and Expansions):

- 1. John B. Coulson and Binod Uprety, Hare Ram, LLC, T/a Trade Name Pending, 501 W. Coldspring Lane – 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 §12-1609(b), 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 (1) minimum capital investment of \$500,000 for restaurant facilities, which may not include the cost of land or buildings; (2) 65% of food sales; and (3) a minimum seating capacity of 125 individuals. Under 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 outdoor table service.**
- ~~**2. Nancy Louise Hooff and Petula Lynette Caesar, Baltimore Unity Hall, Inc., T/a Baltimore Unity Hall, 1505 Eutaw Place – 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. WITHDRAWN**~~
- 3. Bryan Kevin McGlory and Robert Thomas Watson, 2900 O’Donnell Street LL, LLC T/a Zen Den, 2900-02 O’Donnell Street – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Amended application to transfer ownership with continuation of live entertainment and outdoor table service, requesting off-premises catering.**
- 4. Michelle Barnes, 2908 O’Donnell Street LL, LLC, T/a Trade Name Pending, 2908 O’Donnell Street – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership with continuation of live entertainment and outdoor table service.**
- 5. Bikash Thapa, K and K Group, LLC, T/a Everest Spice Bar & Grill, 1640 Aliceanna Street – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership with continuation of outdoor table service.**
- 6. Montree Wongchalee, The Dara of Baltimore, LLC, T/a The Dara, 906 S. Wolfe Street – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership requesting outdoor table service, off-premises catering and delivery of alcoholic beverages.**

~~7. Maurice Alexander, Digital Bay Center, Inc., T/a Trade Name Pending, 1229 Hull Street – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Amended application to transfer ownership with continuation of live entertainment, requesting off-premises catering and delivery of alcoholic beverages. POSTPONED~~

8. **Walter Rivera, OW 1400, LLC, T/a October, 1400 Light Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership with continuation of live entertainment and outdoor table service, requesting off-premises catering and delivery of alcoholic beverages.

9. **Sajeet Singh Thapa and Buddha M. Stojanovic, Prasanna, LLC, T/a Tutti Gusti, 3100 Fait Avenue** – Class “D” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Application to transfer ownership requesting delivery of alcoholic beverages.

II. Regular Items (180-day Hardship Requests):

10. **Kevin J. Boessel and Stephen Puzio, 1747 Belt Corporation, T/a Park Bench, 1747-49 Belt Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article § 12-2202.

11. **Nim Sahani and Pushpa Sharma, Sahani, Inc., T/a One Stop Shop Liquor, 4905 Frankford Avenue** – Class “A” Beer, Wine & Liquor License - Request for a hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article § 12-2202.

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

12. **Edwin Aguilar and Dany Lopez, O’Ryan, LLC, T/a O’Ryan’s Pub, 53-55 S. Kresson Street** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

13. **Michael H. Nolan, Mike’s Jim Dandy’s, LLC, T/a Mike’s Jim Dandy’s, 4810 Curtis Avenue** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

14. **Joshua M. Kil, Hyun & Sung, Inc., T/a Herling’s Grocery Basket, 115-17 N. Eutaw Street** – Class “A” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

15. **Benjamin P. Sudano, Jr., Sudano Family, LLC, T/a Germano’s, 300 S. High Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

16. **Christia Monique Scott and Leigh A. Hitz, LL Pro Hospitality Baltimore, LLC, T/a Revival at Mount Vernon Place, 612 Cathedral Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor (Hotel-Motel) License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

17. **Alexander Aaron and Benjamin Aaron, 1415 Washington, LLC, T/a Trade Name Pending, 1415 Washington Boulevard** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).
18. **Sean Andre Stephen and Gregory Miles Smith, Palance Roti Shop & Bar, LLC, T/a Trade Name Pending, 2031 E. Fairmount Avenue** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).
19. **Kim W. Thompson, ERS, Inc., T/a Steam Punk Alley, 870 Park Avenue** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Request for a transfer hardship extension under the provisions of the Alcoholic Beverages Article §12-1705(b).

IV. Violations:

1. **Jeremy Bratton and Laurie A. Davidow, 1715 Thames Licensee, LLC, T/a Pendry Hotel, 1715 Thames Street** – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor Hotel-Motel License – **Violation of Rule 3.02 – Cooperation – June 24, 2023** – On June 24, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis was on duty working with the Baltimore City Fells Point Deployment. At approximately 2:30am, Baltimore Police Department (BPD) Major Saunders notified Chief Chrissomallis that a white male with a large knife had slashed the tires of the BPD wagon that was in the area. The wagon was parked directly across from the establishment. When Major Saunders approached the security manager and asked to view the exterior cameras so she could get a better description of the suspect running around with the large knife, she was told to get a subpoena. Major Saunders conveyed this information to Chief Chrissomallis. Chief Chrissomallis then went to the establishment and asked to speak to the manager on duty. Mrs. Janice Williams came out and Chief Chrissomallis explained to her that the outdoor security footage needed to be reviewed, because there was a suspect in the area with a large knife and potentially under the influence of some substance running around with a large knife. Mrs. Williams stated to Chief Chrissomallis that just as she told the Major, she was not willing to allow the footage to be viewed unless a subpoena or a warrant was provided. Chief Chrissomallis made Mrs. Williams aware that per the BLLC Rules and Regulations on the liquor license, the establishment was under an obligation to cooperate with representatives of the Board, the Police Department and other city, state, or federal agencies on official business and that a failure to do so would result in a violation being issued for non-cooperation. At that time, Mrs. Williams stated that she was following company rules and would not share footage. Chief Chrissomallis made her aware that he would be writing her a violation and left the establishment without any further incident.
2. **Claudia Castro and Diana Rodriguez, Wendy’s Bar, Inc., T/a Byzantio Café Bar, 4616-18 Eastern Avenue** – Class “BD7” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – **Violation of Rule 3.12 – General Welfare (Cutting) – June 11, 2023** – On June 11, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Agent Andy Perez and Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis responded to the establishment for a report of an assault involving a bar patron and a security guard (bouncer). Upon arrival at approximately 12:00am, BLLC staff learned that one of the bouncers was cut on his face while attempting to remove an unidentified bar patron from the establishment. By the time of BLLC staff arrival, the bouncer had already been taken to Bayview Hospital for treatment. The bouncer could

not be identified, and no employee records for his employment at the establishment could be produced by the licensee, Ms. Claudia Castro.

During the course of further investigation, BLLC staff determined that security personnel working at the establishment are hired through Halal Protective Service LLC (Halal). Ms. Castro has been notified previously on multiple occasions—including at a prior violation hearing before the Board on 4/13/2023—that Halal is not licensed by the Maryland State Police as a security company, and that the establishment is liable for the actions of their bouncers. Ms. Castro had stated that all bouncers on her premises are employees of Halal; however, the signed contract she provided to BLLC Staff does not state such.

Violation of Rule 3.03(c) – Records (Employees) – June 11, 2023 – On June 11, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Agent Andy Perez and Chief Inspector John Chrissomallis responded to the establishment for a report of an assault involving a bar patron and a security guard (bouncer). Upon arrival at approximately 12:00am, BLLC staff learned that one of the bouncers was cut on his face while attempting to remove an unidentified bar patron from the establishment. By the time of BLLC staff arrival, the bouncer had already been taken to Bayview Hospital for treatment. The bouncer could not be identified, and no employee records for his employment at the establishment could be produced by the licensee, Ms. Claudia Castro.

During the course of further investigation, BLLC staff determined that security personnel working at the establishment are hired through Halal Protective Service LLC (Halal). Ms. Castro has been notified previously on multiple occasions—including at a prior violation hearing before the Board on 4/13/2023—that Halal is not licensed by the Maryland State Police as a security company, and that the establishment is liable for the actions of their bouncers. Ms. Castro had stated that all bouncers on her premises are employees of Halal; however, the signed contract she provided to BLLC Staff does not state such.

- 3. Xianting Charles Cao and Jason Jose Acevedo Rosario, Castle Seafood, Inc., T/a Castle Seafood Restaurant, 3720 Potee Street – Class “B” Beer, Wine & Liquor License – Violation of Rule – 4.14(a) – Live Entertainment without Authorization – June 17, 2023** – On June 17, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspector Rosalba Jordan received 311 Complaint #23-00456576 for the establishment describing “illegal outdoor entertainment, illegal outdoor bar.” At approximately 10:15, Inspector Jordan arrived at the establishment in response to the 311 complaint.

As Inspector Jordan approached the establishment, she could hear loud music being played by a DJ who was set up in the outdoor courtyard as seen in the photograph attached to her Violation Report for this incident. Upon further inspection, Inspector Jordan confirmed that a bar was also set up in the courtyard. Inspector Jordan spoke to a male individual who was in charge, identified as Mr. Acevedo, who volunteered to immediately close the outdoor bar, admitting he was in violation of his BLLC license. Mr. Acevedo, however, stated that he was under the impression that he was permitted outdoor live entertainment. Inspector Jordan explained to him that live entertainment was not permitted outside and instructed Mr. Acevedo to relocate the live entertainment to the interior of the building, where it was permitted.

Inspector Jordan then issued Mr. Acevedo a violation, and departed the establishment without further incident.

Violation of Rule – 4.16 – Illegal Conduct (Violating BMZA Resolution #240-04 – No Jukebox, or Other Form of Live Entertainment) – June 17, 2023 – On June 17, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspector Rosalba Jordan received 311 Complaint #23-00456576 for the establishment describing “illegal outdoor entertainment, illegal outdoor bar.” At approximately 10:15, Inspector Jordan arrived at the establishment in response to the 311 complaint.

As Inspector Jordan approached the establishment, she could hear loud music being played by a DJ who was set up in the outdoor courtyard as seen in the photograph attached to her Violation Report for this incident. Upon further inspection, Inspector Jordan confirmed that a bar was also set up in the courtyard. Inspector Jordan spoke to a male individual who was in charge, identified as Mr. Acevedo, who volunteered to immediately close the outdoor bar, admitting he was in violation of his BLLC license. Mr. Acevedo, however, stated that he was under the impression that he was permitted outdoor live entertainment. Inspector Jordan explained to him that live entertainment was not permitted outside and instructed Mr. Acevedo to relocate the live entertainment to the interior of the building, where it was permitted.

Inspector Jordan then issued Mr. Acevedo a violation, and departed the establishment without further incident.

Violation of Rule – 4.18 – Alterations (Outdoor Bar) – June 17, 2023 – On June 17, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspector Rosalba Jordan received 311 Complaint #23-00456576 for the establishment describing “illegal outdoor entertainment, illegal outdoor bar.” At approximately 10:15, Inspector Jordan arrived at the establishment in response to the 311 complaint.

As Inspector Jordan approached the establishment, she could hear loud music being played by a DJ who was set up in the outdoor courtyard as seen in the photograph attached to her Violation Report for this incident. Upon further inspection, Inspector Jordan confirmed that a bar was also set up in the courtyard. Inspector Jordan spoke to a male individual who was in charge, identified as Mr. Acevedo, who volunteered to immediately close the outdoor bar, admitting he was in violation of his BLLC license. Mr. Acevedo, however, stated that he was under the impression that he was permitted outdoor live entertainment. Inspector Jordan explained to him that live entertainment was not permitted outside and instructed Mr. Acevedo to relocate the live entertainment to the interior of the building, where it was permitted.

Inspector Jordan then issued Mr. Acevedo a violation, and departed the establishment without further incident.

Violation of Rule – 4.16 – Illegal Conduct (Violating BMZA Resolution #240-04 – No Outdoor Bar) – June 17, 2023 – On June 17, 2023, Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) Inspector Rosalba Jordan received 311 Complaint #23-00456576 for the establishment describing “illegal outdoor entertainment, illegal outdoor bar.” At approximately 10:15, Inspector Jordan arrived at the establishment in response to the 311 complaint.

As Inspector Jordan approached the establishment, she could hear loud music being played by a DJ who was set up in the outdoor courtyard as seen in the photograph attached to her Violation Report for this incident. Upon further inspection, Inspector Jordan confirmed that a bar was also set up in the courtyard. Inspector Jordan spoke to a male individual who was in charge, identified as Mr. Acevedo, who volunteered to immediately close the outdoor bar, admitting he was in violation of his BLLC license. Mr. Acevedo, however, stated that he was under the impression that he was permitted outdoor live entertainment. Inspector Jordan explained to him that live entertainment was not permitted outside and instructed Mr. Acevedo to relocate the live entertainment to the interior of the building, where it was permitted.

Inspector Jordan then issued Mr. Acevedo a violation, and departed the establishment without further incident.