

**August 3, 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  
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide  
Alecia Hughes, Administrative Aide

**Start Time: 7:21 p.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:

1. **t/a The Hall**—Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.  
**Linda Carter, Esquire** is representing.  
**Mr. Steven Jennings** is sworn in.  
**Corporal Juan Hunt (Prince George’s County Police Department)** is sworn in.  
**Ms. Carter:** We have agreed with the city that we’ll amend the Property use agreement.  
**Ms. Suellen Ferguson (Attorney for City of College Park):** That is sufficient.  
**Corporal Hunt:** I conducted a site inspection, viewed the security camera, partially discussed that concern I had at the time I didn’t have the statute. The security plan is adequate.  
**No questions from Commissioners.**  
**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Special Entertainment Permit for to The Hall, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.  
**After Board vote, the motion carries.**
2. **t/a Aroma Ultra Lounge**—Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.  
**Eddie Pounds, Esquire** is representing.  
**Ms. Jemima Ablorh** is sworn in.  
**Mr. Perry Umoh (General Manager)** is sworn in.  
**Corporal Juan Hunt is reminded he is still under oath.**  
**Mr. Pounds:** We have been open since March 2022; we’re doing good. It’s an upscale restaurant. The entertainment will be standup comedy acts on Mondays, karaoke on Tuesdays, Live jazz, hookah and cigar night on Wednesdays, Live Rhythm and Blues on Thursdays, International night with a DJ on Fridays, Afrobeats night with a DJ on Saturdays, and Live Reggae performances on Sundays. A security officer will be on site from open to closing, along with Bowie police presence. There are nineteen digital cameras on the premises, they’re accessible to the City of Bowie police.  
**Mr. Umoh** states it’ll take approximately three months to receive a finalized U&O permit.  
**Mr. DeLoach:** We need to make sure on the record the licensee agrees not to operate on an expired U&O permit.  
**Ms. Ablorh agrees not to operate on an expired U&O permit.**  
**No questions from Commissioners.**  
**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Special Entertainment Permit to Aroma Ultra Lounge with the caveat that the U&O must be in place at all times, whether temporary or permanent, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.  
**After Board vote, the motion carries.**
3. **t/a Piano Keys Restaurant and Lounge** – Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.  
**Linda Carter, Esquire** is representing.  
**Mr. Christopher Feemster** is sworn in.  
**Corporal Juan Hunt is reminded he is still under oath.**

**Corporal Hunt:** I conducted a site inspection on July 29, 2022, took a tour of the restaurant, viewed the security cameras, and went over the rules and regulations. The security plan is adequate.

**Ms. Carter:** I submitted pictures of this restaurant to the Board. We would respectfully request the Board grants this Special Entertainment Permit.

**Commissioner Norman:** Their U&O was a temporary, what are the circumstances?

**Mr. Feemster:** DPIE informed us we can apply for extensions but they're stating those had to be completed for a Dancehall Permit and Special Entertainment.

**Ms. Carter:** DPIE doesn't want to issue a U&O permit until the Special Entertainment is granted.

**No further questions.**

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Special Entertainment Permit to Piano Keys Restaurant and Lounge with the caveat that the U&O must be in place at all times, whether temporary or permanent, seconded by **Commissioner Norman**.

**After Board vote, the motion carries.**

**Adjourned: 8:03 p.m.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

**Alecia L. Hughes**  
*Administrative Aide BOLC*