

**January 11, 2023  
9200 Basil Court  
Largo, MD 20774  
Virtual Hearing**

**Present:**

Daphne Turpin-Forbes, Board Chair  
Armando Camacho, Vice Chairman  
Tammy Sparkman, Commissioner  
Dennis Smith, 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  
Keyanna Little, Administrative Aide  
Katrice James, Administrative Aide  
Alecia Hughes, Administrative Aide

**Start Time: 7:02 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 GQ Palace** – Patrick Nwaokwu, Managing Member, for a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor for the use of GQ Palace, LLC, **t/a GQ Palace**, 8833 Greenbelt Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770. – Request for a Special Entertainment Permit.  
Applicant does not have an attorney, acknowledge his right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.  
The plans for GQ Palace if granted a Special Entertainment Permit are to have a DJ, karaoke, and a live band.  
**Mr. Nwaokwu** presents a petition with signatures from customers in support of this application.  
**Corporal Juan Hunt (Prince George’s County Police Department)** testified that the number of officers working needed to be added to the application. Otherwise, security plan is adequate.  
**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to grant the Special Entertainment Permit to GQ Palace, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes**.  
**After Board vote, the motion carries.**
- 2. Baldevbhai M Patel**, President, **t/a Allentown Liquors**, 6321 Allentown Road Camp Springs, Maryland 20748. Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and RR No. 1 Sales to a minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at approximately 11 :00 am, one (1) underage female operative (18 yrs. old) and Inspector Glenn entered Allentown Liquors located at 6321 Allentown Road, Camp Springs, MD 20748. The operative retrieved a 4 pack Sutter Home Peach Tea Cocktails and proceeded to the cash register. The cashier (Anu Patel) did not check for ID and accepted payment for the purchase of the alcoholic beverage.  
Represented by **Robert Kim, Esquire**.  
**Inspector Glenn of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 2, 2022.  
**Mr. Kim** states we’re not in dispute of the charges. The I.D. wasn’t requested. Three Alcohol Awareness certificates have been submitted to the Board; training was completed on November 13,2022. This establishment has two scanners, and they’ve now instituted one hundred percent I.D. checks for anyone not a regular customer.  
**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Allentown Liquors in violation as charged with a fine of \$4,500, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes**.  
**This payment can be made over three equal installments for ninety days of \$1,500 a month.**  
**After Board vote, the motion carries.**
- 3. Grace Thume**, President, **t/a El Tejano Bar and Grill**, 6847 New Hampshire Avenue Takoma Park, Maryland 20912, Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and RR No. 1 Sales to a minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Wednesday, November 8, 2022, at

approximately 11 :00 am one (1) underage female operative (18 yr. old) and Inspector North entered El Tejano Bar and Grill located at 6847 New Hampshire Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. The operative ordered a Bottle Corona Beer and the server checked for ID and placed the 12 oz Bottle Corona Extra Beer in front of the minor operative. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire.**

**Inspector North of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 8, 2022.

**Ms. Carter** states she filed an exhibit book with eight relatively new TIPS cards. Moving forward, everyone will be Alcohol Awareness certified including cooks. The individual who received this violation was a new employee. Employees will not be able to serve alcohol until undergoing a certified state program. A staff meeting is held once a week.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a El Tejano Bar and Grill in violation as charged with a fine of \$4,500, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes.**

**This payment can be made over three equal installments for ninety days of \$1,500 a month.**

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

4. Delmy F. Buruca De Hernandez, President/Treasurer, Carlos Arnoldo, Secretary, **t/a El Paraiso Restaurant**, 6511-6513 New Hampshire Avenue Takoma Park, Maryland 20912, Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and RR No. 1 Sales to a minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Wednesday, November 8, 2022, at approximately 11 :25 am one (1) underage female operative (18 yr. old) and Inspector North entered El Paraiso Restaurant located at 6511-6513 New Hampshire Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. The operative ordered a Bottle Corona Beer and the server checked for ID and placed the 12 oz Bottle Corona Extra Beer in front of the minor operative. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Licensee does not have an attorney, acknowledge her right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

**Inspector North of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 8, 2022.

**Ms. Buruca's interpreter** states the individual who received the violation is one of the managers, she did the math and thought the underage operative was twenty-one years old. This establishment is now checking I.D.'s of any new customers.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a El Paraiso Restaurant in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500 and mandatory training for all employees, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes.**

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

5. Valery Azeh, Member, Njukang Asong, Member, **t/a Spectrum Lounge**, 10601 Baltimore Avenue Beltsville, MD 20705, Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of R.R No.#7 Consumption of Bottled goods on licensed premises (Bottle Service) of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County, Maryland. To wit; on Friday, November 4, 2022, at approximately 11:20 pm, while conducting Entertainment inspections, Inspectors Tredway and Johnson entered Spectrum Lounge, located at 10601 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705. While inside, Inspector Johnson noticed a bottle of liquor higher than 15.50% of alcohol on a table in front of customers. A bottle of Cognac was confiscated for evidence. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Licensees do not have an attorney, acknowledge their right to an attorney, and agree to move forward without representation.

**Inspector Treadway of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 4, 2022.

**Mr. Azeh** states there was a new manager working that day, this was a mistake. We've done more training because it's unacceptable. We hosted a zoom to make sure it doesn't happen again.

**Mr. Asong** apologizes to the Board and states they have done their part in correcting this mistake.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Spectrum Lounge in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes**.

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

**Our agency attorney advised the Board they can move forward with the no show cases, considering they were properly summons and a summons was signed by a manager or licensee. The Board did not object to moving forward with the no show cases.**

6. John Tabatabaian, President/Secretary/Treasurer, **t/a Topolino Restaurant**, 6320 Old Branch Avenue, Camp Springs, Maryland 20748, Class BL(R) Beer, Wine, and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and RR No. 1 Sales to a minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Wednesday November 2, 2022, at approximately 11 :50 am one (1) underage female operative (18 yrs. old) and Inspector Glenn entered Topolino Restaurant, located at 6320 Old Branch Avenue, Camp Springs, MD 20748. The operative asked the bartender for a margarita. The bartender did not check the underage operative's ID and placed a glass containing margarita in front of the minor. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

**There were no licensees present for this case. Staff from the BOLC contacted the licensee and was told that licensee did not know that he had to appear.**

**Inspector Glenn of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 2, 2022.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Topolino Restaurant in violation as charged with a fine of \$1,500 and mandatory training for all employees, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes**.

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

7. Vera Nikolaeva, President/Secretary/Treasurer, Sergey Nikolaev, Stockholder, **t/a DRINX MARKET**, 1409 Ritchie Marlboro Road Capitol Heights, Maryland 20743, Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and R.R No. 1 Sales to a minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit; on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at approximately 11:10 am one (1) underage female operative (18 yr. old) and Inspector North of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered DRINX MARKET located at 1409 Ritchie Marlboro Road, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. While Inspector North observed, the operative took a 24 oz Bottle of White Claw Mango Seltzer from a refrigerator and proceeded to the register. The cashier did not check for ID and accepted payment and made the sale of the alcoholic beverage to the minor operative. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire**.

**Inspector Glenn of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 2, 2022.

**Ms. Carter** states that she filed an exhibit book with fourteen TIPS cards. The cashier and assistant manager are no longer with the establishment. The cash register has been changed; cashiers can no longer manually enter a birth date. You must scan the I.D. or call a manager to do it.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Drinx Market in violation as charged with a fine of \$4,500, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes**.

**This payment can be made over three equal installments for ninety days of \$1,500 a month.**

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

8. Dinah Ok Min Chin, Director, Unsuik Chin, President, Nicholas Chin, Vice President, **t/a Central Avenue Liquors**, 6115 Central Avenue Capitol Heights, Maryland 20743 Class A, Beer, Wine and Liquor, is summonsed to show cause for an alleged violation of Maryland Annotated Code 6-304 selling alcoholic beverages to an individual under the age of twenty-one and R.R No. 1 Sales to a minor of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County. To wit: On Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at approximately 11 :50 am one (1) underage female operative, Ms. Posada-Mejia (18 yr. old) and Inspector North of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners entered Central Avenue Liquors located at 6115 Central Avenue, Capitol Heights, MD 207 43. While Inspector North observed, the operative ordered (1) 12pk of Simply Spike Lemonade, the cashier (Derrick D. Alston) did not check for ID

and accepted payment and sold the 12pk of Simply Spike Lemonade to the minor operative. The licensee is subject to all potential penalties identified in the Alcoholic Beverage Article, Rule 26 of the Rules and Regulations for Prince George's County and any other provision(s) governing said license, which may include other violation(s) identified at the hearing.

Represented by **Linda Carter, Esquire.**

**Inspector North of the BOLC** testified about this incident that occurred on November 1, 2022.

**Ms. Carter** states the individual who received the violation was a relatively new employee. The employee used the manager code to override the POS prompt, no longer can a manager override the prompt. They are now carding everyone.

**Commissioner Camacho** makes a motion to find the licensee for t/a Central Avenue Liquors in violation as charged with a fine of \$4,500, seconded by **Commissioner Forbes.**

**This payment can be made over three equal installments for ninety days of \$1,500 a month.**

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

**Adjourned: 9:05 p.m.**

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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