IN THE MATTER OF THE \* BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF DOUGLAS BRADLEY\*
HUDSON, TRICIA HERSON HUDSON, \* BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
AND BRIAN PETER TOOMEY ON \*
BEHALF OF 4B&T, LLC, t/a HUDSON \* FOR
COASTAL, FOR A NEW CLASS B BEER, \*
WINE, AND LIQUOR 7-DAY ON-SALE \* HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
LICENSE \* Case No.: 16-47

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Board of License Commissioners for Howard County, Maryland (the "Liquor Board"), pursuant to Rule 1.02(A) of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, has delegated the authority to hear and decide cases to the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board for Howard County, Maryland (the "Hearing Board").

On October 25, 2016, the Hearing Board heard the application of Douglas Bradley Hudson, Tricia Herson Hudson, and Brian Peter Toomey (the "Applicants"), on behalf of 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal ("4B&T, LLC"), for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 5,552 square foot restaurant with a 750 square foot outdoor patio located at 11811 West Market Place, Fulton, Maryland 20759. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were not represented by an attorney. There were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

All the documents on file were incorporated into the record by reference. These include the following: a letter dated September 2, 2016, from Brad Hudson amending the original application; the application; a copy of the floor plan; a copy of the Articles of

Organization for 4B&T, LLC; a letter from the Department of Assessments and Taxation, dated April 22, 2016, confirming the acceptance of 4B&T, LLC; three letters dated May 13, 2016, to the Liquor Board Administrator from Brian Toomey, Richard Long, and Tricia Hudson regarding their interest in 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal; copies of the background investigation questionnaires for the Applicants; copies of the Maryland driver's licenses for the Applicants; copies of the Certificates of Live Birth for Tricia Sheri Herson and Douglas Bradley Hudson; copies of receipts from the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services - Criminal Justice Information System - Central Repository for Tricia Herson Hudson and Douglas Bradley Hudson; a copy of the criminal history record check of Maryland's Criminal Justice Information System for Douglas Bradley Hudson; a memorandum dated September 19, 2016, from the Liquor Board Administrator to the Alcohol Beverage Inspector, the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, the Bureau of Environmental Health, the Department of Planning and Zoning, and the Office of the Fire Marshal; the background investigations of the Applicants by the Alcohol Beverage Inspector, dated October 11, 2016; an e-mail from the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits dated September 21, 2016; a letter dated September 30, 2016, from the Office of the Fire Marshal; a memorandum dated September 30, 2016, from the Department of Planning and Zoning; a memorandum dated October 3, 2016, from the Bureau of Environmental Health; a letter dated September 19, to the Department of Finance; a letter from the Department of Finance; a letter dated September 19, 2016, to the Comptroller of the Treasury; a letter dated October 4, 2016, from the Comptroller of the Treasury; a fax transmission dated September 19, 2016, from the Liquor Board Administrator to Douglas Hudson, advising notification of the hearing date, and enclosing the required advertisement; copies of the certificates of advertising from the Howard County Times and the Baltimore Sun; and an e-mail dated October 9, 2016, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted.

## **SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Douglas Bradley Hudson, 25% Member of 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal, was sworn and testified that he is the proposed resident agent, that he has lived in Howard County since 1983, is a registered voter, and is alcohol awareness certified. Mr. Hudson testified that he will be the on-site operator, and that he has 28 years previous experience in the restaurant business. Mr. Hudson testified that he previously worked at Ruby Tuesday, Phillips Seafood, and Sysco Food Services. Mr. Hudson testified that for the last ten years, he worked for Sysco Food Services as a sales manager. Mr. Hudson testified that the concept for Hudson Coastal is a local family restaurant that is upscale, and offers fresh seafood. Mr. Hudson testified that 70% of their dishes will be seafood. They want to have a bright, airy, beach feel to the restaurant, and be a part of the Maple Lawn community. The price range on the menu will be from \$8.00 to \$30.00, with a \$5.00 children's menu.

Mr. Hudson testified that they will have 28 tables, a private dining room that will seat 50 customers, and 28 stools at the bar. Mr. Hudson testified that they will be able to accommodate approximately 165 customers inside.

Mr. Hudson testified that they will have an outside patio with 10 to 12 tables that will seat approximately 48 customers. The patio will be fully visible from inside of the restaurant, and there will be two exterior cameras. Mr. Hudson testified that the patio will be enclosed by sand filled, galvanized tubs with posts, which will be connected by nautical rope. Mr. Hudson testified that the hostess will seat the customers outdoors. Mr. Hudson testified that there will not be any speakers on the outdoor patio.

Mr. Hudson testified that they will have 30 full-time employees, and 40 part-time employees. Mr. Hudson testified that all managers will be required to be alcohol awareness certified. Mr. Hudson testified that their hours of operation will be Sunday – Thursday, 11:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M., and Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 midnight.

Mr. Hudson testified that they are working with Martin Johnson to develop their employee policies and procedures. Mr. Hudson testified that he plans on doing random inspections of the restaurant.

Mr. Hudson testified that his wife and father will be involved in the business. Mr. Hudson testified that his wife has had a catering business since 1998. Mr. Hudson testified that his father is retired from the military, and that he will assist with compliance. Mr. Hudson testified that although Brian Toomey has restaurant experience, he will not have any operational duties with the restaurant.

Mr. Hudson testified that he feels the restaurant will accommodate the public, and will not have any negative affect on the surrounding area or businesses. Mr. Hudson testified that the restaurant will offer a different cuisine than other restaurants. Mr. Hudson testified that they have an ample parking that is well-lit. Mr. Hudson testified that he and the other Applicants are fit and proper.

The following Exhibit was entered into the record:

Exhibit #1 - (4) aerial, interior, and exterior photographs of Hudson Coastal

Exhibit #2 – a menu for Hudson Coastal

Exhibit #3 – (4) alcohol awareness certificates for Brian Toomey, Douglas Hudson, Brad Hudson, and Tricia Hudson

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicants waived their right to request the Liquor Board to hear the case.

Based on the evidence presented at the hearing, the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The Hearing Board finds that Douglas Bradley Hudson, Tricia Herson Hudson, and Brian Peter Toomey on behalf of 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal, have applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 5,552 square foot restaurant with a 750 square foot outdoor patio located at 11811 West Market Place, Fulton, Maryland 20759.
- 2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to hold an alcoholic beverage license.
- 3. The Hearing Board finds that Douglas Bradley Hudson has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and a 25% Member of 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal.
- 4. The Hearing Board finds that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.
- 5. The Hearing Board finds that the granting of the application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents of the neighborhood.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Hearing Board concludes that Douglas Bradley Hudson, Tricia Herson Hudson, and Brian Peter Toomey on behalf of 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal, have applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 5,552 square foot restaurant with a 750 square foot outdoor patio located at 11811 West Market Place, Fulton, Maryland 20759.
  - 2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicants are fit and proper persons to

hold an alcoholic beverage license.

- 3. The Hearing Board concludes that Douglas Bradley Hudson meets the requirements of Rules 1.09(T), 1.09(U), 2.06, and 2.10 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations concerning resident agent qualifications.
- 4. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.
- 5. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of the application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood.

# **ORDER**

For the foregoing reasons, it is this day of November 2016, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Douglas Bradley Hudson, Tricia Herson Hudson, and Brian Peter Toomey on behalf of 4B&T, LLC, t/a Hudson Coastal, for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 5,552 square foot restaurant with a 750 square foot outdoor patio located at 11811 West Market Place, Fulton, Maryland 20759, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County Rules and Regulations; and
- (b) Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license by December 31, 2016, shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

Denise E. King
Administrator

Mary Bird, Chairperson

Heather Gaetano, Vice-Chairperson

REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF LAW GARY W. KUC COUNTY SOLICITOR

Harry Evans, III, Member

Charles C. Feaga, Member

Lewis Taylor, Esquire Assistant County Solicitor

Charley C. Sung, Member