

IN THE MATTER OF THE \* BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC  
APPLICATION OF STEVEN H. ADLER \*  
AND KYLE MUEHLHAUSER ON \* BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD  
BEHALF OF RAMS HEAD AT SAVAGE \*  
MILL, LLC, t/a RAMS HEAD TAVERN \* FOR  
FOR A RESIDENT AGENT CHANGE, \*  
AND A REFILLABLE CONTAINER \* HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND  
PERMIT ON A CLASS B \*  
BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR 7-DAY \*  
ON-SALE LICENSE \*

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**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 March 27, 2014, the Hearing Board heard the application of Steven H. Adler and Kyle Muehlhauser (“Applicants”), on behalf of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC, t/a Rams Head Tavern (“Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC”), for a resident agent change from Kyle Muehlhauser to Steven H. Adler, and a Refillable Container Permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 7,047 square foot restaurant with a 2,500 square foot patio located at 8600 Foundry Street, #200, Savage, Maryland 20763. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Joseph Devlin, Esquire. There were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

All the documents on file are incorporated herein by reference. These include the following: a letter dated February 28, 2014, from Applicants' attorney confirming the postponement of the application; a letter dated February 27, 2014, from the Liquor Board Administrator to the Applicants' attorney advising them of the hearing date and the necessity to advertise; a letter dated February 10, 2014, from the Applicants' attorney, clarifying questions on the application, and enclosing an amended page to the application; a letter dated December 19,

2013, from the Applicants' attorney enclosing a revised resident agent change and Refillable Container Permit application for Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC; a letter dated December 6, 2013, enclosing a resident agent change and Refillable Container Permit application, the background investigation questionnaires from Steven H. Adler and Kyle Muehlhauser; a copy of alcohol awareness certificates from Maryland's BEST for the Applicants; a memorandum dated February 10, 2014, from the Liquor Board to the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector, the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, the Bureau of Environmental Health, and the Department of Planning and Zoning; the background investigations of the Applicants by the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector dated March 6, 2014; a memorandum dated February 19, 2014, from the Department of Planning and Zoning; a letter dated February 21, 2014, from the Office of the Fire Marshal; a letter dated February 12, 2014, to the Department of Finance; a letter dated February 25, 2014, from the Department of Finance; a letter dated February 12, 2014, to the Comptroller of Maryland; a letter dated February 21, 2014, from the Comptroller of Maryland; a letter dated February 27, 2014, to the Applicants' attorney advising them of the hearing date and the necessity to advertise; an email dated March 11, 2014, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted; and certification of advertisement from the Howard County Times and the Baltimore Sun.

#### SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Kyle Muehlhauser, 90% owner of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC, was sworn and testified that he is applying for a resident agent change because he moved out of Howard County in July. Mr. Muehlhauser testified that he meant to apply sooner, but time got away from him because of personal issues. Mr. Muehlhauser testified that Mr. Adler was previously the resident agent 12 years ago. Mr. Adler was removed from the liquor license in 2002 when Mr. Muehlhauser became 100% owner of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC.

Mr. Muehlhauser testified that he is also applying for a refillable container permit, and that he is familiar with, and understands the rules pertaining to refillable containers.

Mr. Muehlhauser testified that all of his staff are alcohol awareness certified. Mr. Muehlhauser testified that they have alcohol awareness classes every three months for their employees, and that they require their staff to card anyone who appears under 40.

Steven H. Adler, 10% owner of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC, was sworn and testified that he has been a resident of Howard County for 30 years, that he is a registered voter, and that

he is alcohol awareness certified. Mr. Adler testified that he is familiar with the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, and that he understands his responsibility as the resident agent. Mr. Adler testified that his office is in Savage Mill, and that he eats lunch or dinner at Rams Head Tavern at least six times per week. Mr. Adler testified that he knows the managers and the staff.

Mr. Adler testified that he is very involved in the business, and that he feels that the restaurant does a very good job with their training. Mr. Adler testified that he is very interested in assuring that the restaurant operates properly.

Mr. Adler testified that he has seen the refillable containers, and that he will make sure that he understands the rules governing them.

Martin Johnson, retired Howard County Liquor Inspector, testified that he is familiar with Mr. Muelhauser and Mr. Adler, and that he feels they are both fine people to hold a liquor license. Mr. Johnson testified that with regards to two past violations, that they were the result of an employee breaking the rules. Mr. Johnson testified that Mr. Muehlhauser immediately dealt with the problem. Mr. Johnson also testified that he has known Mr. Adler and his family for 25 years, and that he is a responsible person to be a licensee. Mr. Johnson created a resident agent checklist, and plans on giving Mr. Adler a copy to assist him.

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

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

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Hearing Board finds that Steven H. Adler and Kyle Muehlhauser on behalf of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC, t/a Rams Head Tavern, have applied for a resident agent change from Kyle Muehlhauser to Steven H. Adler, and a Refillable Container Permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 7,047 square foot restaurant with a 2,500 square foot patio located at 8600 Foundry Street, #200, Savage, Maryland 20763.
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 Steven H. Adler has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and a 10% shareholder of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC.

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 this application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents in the neighborhood.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Hearing Board concludes that Steven H. Adler and Kyle Muehlhauser on behalf of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC, t/a Rams Head Tavern, have applied for a resident agent change from Kyle Muehlhauser to Steven H. Adler, and a Refillable Container Permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 7,047 square foot restaurant with a 2,500 square foot patio located at 8600 Foundry Street, #200, Savage, Maryland 20763.

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 Steven H. Adler meets the requirements of Rules 1.09(S), 1.09(T), 2.06, and 2.10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Liquor Board 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 residents in the neighborhood.

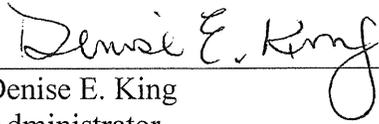
**ORDER**

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2014, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, Maryland **ORDERED** that the application by Steven H. Adler and Kyle Muehlhauser, on behalf of Rams Head at Savage Mill, LLC, t/a Rams Head Tavern, for a resident agent change from Kyle Muehlhauser to Steven H. Adler, and for a Refillable Container Permit on the Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 7,047 square foot restaurant, with a 2,500 square foot patio located at 8600 Foundry Street, #200, Savage, Maryland, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

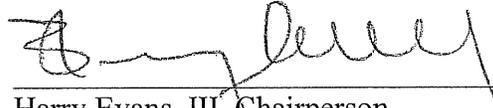
1. That this **PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER** shall become final when the Applicants obtain the license and comply with the following conditions:
  - a. That the Applicants comply with all State and County rules and regulations; and
  - b. Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license before April 30, 2014, shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING  
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,  
MARYLAND



Denise E. King  
Administrator

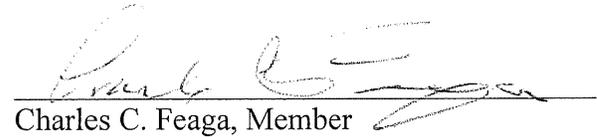


Harry Evans, III, Chairperson



Mary Bird, Member

REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY  
OFFICE OF LAW  
MARGARET ANN NOLAN  
COUNTY SOLICITOR



Charles C. Feaga, Member



Lewis Taylor, Esquire  
Assistant County Solicitor

ABSENT

William Neault, Member