

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF ARPAL	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
DINESHABHAI PATEL ON BEHALF	*	FOR
OF SARBHAN HOTELS ELKRIDGE, LLC	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
T/A HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS HOTEL &	*	
SUITES COLUMBIA WEST-ELKRIDGE	*	
FOR A TRANSFER OF A CLASS B	*	Case No.: 20-22
BEER, WINE & 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 June 22, 2020, the Hearing Board heard the application of Arpal Dineshabhai Patel (“Applicant”) on behalf of Sarbhan Hotels Elkridge, LLC, t/a Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Columbia West-Elkridge (“Holiday Inn Express”) for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 56,271-square foot hotel located at 6064 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge, MD 21075.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicant was represented by Sara Arthur, Esquire. There were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

All the documents on file were incorporated into the record by reference.

### **SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Arpal Dineshabhai Patel, 15% owner and managing member, general manager and

proposed resident agent, was sworn and testified as follows:

Mr. Patel testified that he is currently a registered voter in Howard County. Mr. Patel testified that he is the owner of Sarbhan Realty Elkridge which is the real estate owner of the hotel and is also a 15% owner of Sarbhan Hotels Elkridge which is the operator of the hotel and holder of the liquor license. Mr. Patel stated that he is the Managing Member of both entities and serves as the full-time General Manager of Holiday Inn Express. Mr. Patel has previous experience working in hotels with Marriot International, Investcorp., and now with Sarbhan Hotels Elkridge.

Mr. Patel testified that he is alcohol awareness certified and that the assistant managers and front desk agents will all also be certified. Mr. Patel has an interest in four other hotels; however, none of them have liquor licenses and he is not associated with any other liquor licenses.

Mr. Patel testified that he has reviewed the Howard County Alcoholic Rules and Regulations and will provide training for staff on those rules and regulations.

Mr. Patel testified that alcohol beverages will be sold from the marketplace which is in view from the front desk and the alcohol beverage mini-fridge is locked. Alcoholic beverages will only be sold to hotel guests who are over 21 years of age, from 6:00am to 2:00am and can only be consumed within the hotel.

Mr. Patel testified that all alcohol will be stored in the first floor storage room and that he is the only one with a key to that storage room.

Mr. Patel testified that he will be making some cosmetic changes to the hotel but there will be no changes to the operations of the hotel. Mr. Patel testified that the clientele is primarily corporate/business/government during the week and sports groups and school or

tourist groups on the weekends. Mr. Patel stated that the hotel gives back to the community by making their meeting rooms available to clubs and associations, including a chess club for kids. Mr. Patel testified that the hotel is environmentally friendly with recycling options and provides bulk amenities in lieu of small plastic waste that is typically found in hotels.

The following exhibits were entered into the record:

*Applicant's Exhibit #1 – Mr. Patel's voter registration*

*Applicant Exhibit #2 – photo of front desk and marketplace*

*Applicant Exhibit #3 – photo of locked refrigerator in the marketplace*

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 Arpal Dineshabhai Patel, on behalf of Sarbhan Hotels Elkridge, LLC, t/a Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Columbia West-Elkridge, has applied for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 56,271-square foot hotel located at 6064 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge, MD 21075.

2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to hold an alcoholic beverage license.

3. The Hearing Board finds that Arpal Dineshabhai Patel is a resident of Howard County, is a registered voter, and is a 15% owner in Holiday Inn Express.

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 of the neighborhood.



### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Hearing Board finds that Arpal Dineshabhai Patel, on behalf of Sarbhan Hotels Elkridge, LLC, t/a Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Columbia West-Elkridge, has applied for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 56,271-square foot hotel located at 6064 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge, MD 21075.
2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to hold an alcoholic beverage license.
3. The Hearing Board finds that Arpal Dineshabhai Patel is a resident of Howard County, is a registered voter, and is a 15% owner in Holiday Inn Express.
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 of the neighborhood.

### ORDER

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED**, that the application of Arpal Dineshabhai Patel, on behalf of Sarbhan Hotels Elkridge, LLC, t/a Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Columbia West-Elkridge, for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 56,271-square foot hotel located at 6064 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge, MD 21075, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

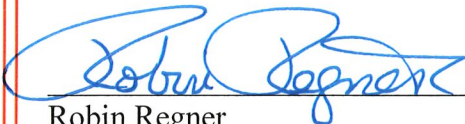
- (a) That the Applicant comply with all State and County laws and regulations;
- (b) That the Applicant satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by November 15, 2020, unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good

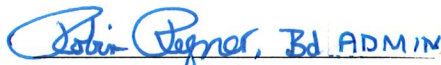
cause shown; and

- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

**ATTEST:**

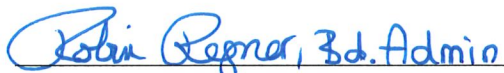
**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING  
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,  
MARYLAND**

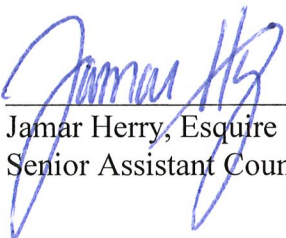
  
Robin Regner  
Board Administrator

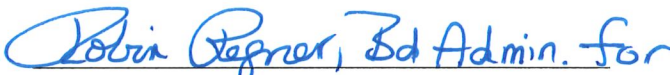
 for  
Mary Bird, Chairperson

 for  
Harry Evans, Vice Chairperson

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

 for  
Charley Sung, Member

  
Jamar Herry, Esquire  
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

 for  
Steven Chen, Member

 for  
Claire Kim, Member