

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF RAYMOND ARTHUR	*	
GABLER AND MARK ALAN RICKETTS	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
ON BEHALF OF S CONCESSIONS	*	
COLUMBIA, LLC, T/A SPRINGHILL	*	OF HOWARD COUNTY
SUITES, FOR A TRANSFER OF A CLASS	*	
D BEER AND WINE 7-DAY ON-SALE	*	CASE NO. 19-14
LICENSE	*	
* * * * *		

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 12, 2019, the Hearing Board heard the application of Raymond Arthur Gabler and Mark Alan Ricketts (the “Applicants”), on behalf of S Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a SpringHill Suites (“SpringHill Suites”), for a transfer of a Class D Beer and Wine 7-day on-sale license from Raymond Gabler and Todd R. Turner on behalf of Lodging Concessions of Columbia I, LLC for a 66,313-square foot hotel with a 433-square foot patio located at 7055 Minstrel Way, Columbia, MD 21046.

The hearing was properly advertised and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Leanne Schrecengost, 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

Mark Ricketts, 90% member of SpringHill Suites, was sworn and testified that he has been in the hotel business for 36 years. He stated that the operations of the hotel and will remain the same and they are keeping existing employees. Mr. Ricketts testified that there will be five to six employees involved in the sale of alcohol and they will all undergo alcohol awareness training. He stated that the alcohol will be sold at the front desk between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 2:00 a.m.

Wynter Sharps, manager of the hotel for the past year, was sworn and testified that guests will come to the front desk to pay for their alcohol after retrieving it from a cooler across from the front desk. Ms. Sharps stated that employees can observe the cooler at all times. She testified that all guests must be over 21 years old to purchase alcohol and identification will be required if a guest looks younger than the age of 30. All employees involved in the sale of alcohol will be alcohol awareness certified and must be certified within 30 days of employment.

Raymond Gabler, proposed resident agent, was sworn and testified that he has been a Howard County resident for 20 years, is registered to vote and is the current resident agent on the SpringHill Suites liquor license. Mr. Gabler testified that there have been no violations since he has been on the liquor license and he understands that the Board will look to him should any violation occur. Mr. Gabler testified that he is familiar with the Board's Rules and will abide by them. He stated that he makes occasional visits to check on the operations at the hotel, usually on weekends and during the day. Mr. Gabler stated that the sale of alcohol at SpringHill Suites is minimal.

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 Raymond Arthur Gabler and Mark Alan Ricketts on behalf of S Concessions Columbia, LLC t/a SpringHill Suites have applied for a transfer of a Class D Beer and Wine 7-day on-sale license from Raymond Gabler and Todd R. Turner on behalf of Lodging Concessions of Columbia I, LLC, for, a 66,313-square foot hotel with a 433-square foot patio located at 7055 Minstrel Way, Columbia, MD 21046.

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 Raymond Arthur Gabler has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and has a 10% interest in SpringHill Suites.

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 Raymond Arthur Gabler and Mark Alan Ricketts on behalf of S Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a SpringHill Suites, have applied for a transfer of a Class D Beer and Wine 7-day on-sale license from Raymond Gabler and Todd R. Turner on

behalf of Lodging Concessions of Columbia I, LLC, for, a 66,313-square foot hotel with a 433-square foot patio located at 7055 Minstrel Way, Columbia, MD 21046.

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 Raymond Arthur Gabler meets the requirements of Rules 1.10(S), 1.10(T), and 2.06 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 would not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood.

ORDER

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 26th day of March, 2019, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Raymond Arthur Gabler and Mark Alan Ricketts on behalf of S Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a SpringHill Suites, for a transfer of a Class D Beer and Wine 7-day on-sale license from Raymond Gabler and Todd R. Turner on behalf of Lodging Concessions of Columbia I, LLC, for a 66,313-square foot hotel with a 433-square foot patio located at 7055 Minstrel Way, Columbia, MD 21046, 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

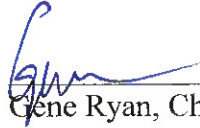
- (b) That the Applicants satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by June 26, 2019, unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,
MARYLAND



Robin Regner
Board Administrator



Gene Ryan, Chairperson



Mary Bird, Vice Chairperson

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

~~Absent AT TIME OF SIGNING~~
Charles C. Feaga, Member



Lewis Taylor, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor



Heather Gaetano, Member



Charley C. Sung, Member