IN THE MATTER OF THE

APPLICATION OF ANTHONY

MICHAEL GUARINO AND ROSA

GEMMA GUARINO ON BEHALF OF

CONCORDIA, INC. T/A TONY LOCOS

FOR AN EXTENSION OF PREMISES

FOR A CLASS B BEER, WINE AND

LIQUOR 7-DAY ON SALE LICENSE.

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BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC

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BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD

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FOR

HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

CASE NO.: 21-32

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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 July 6, 2021, the Hearing Board heard the application of Anthony Michael Guarino and Rosa Gemma Guarino ("Applicants") on behalf of Concordia, Inc. t/a Tony Locos ("Tony Locos") for an extension of premises on the Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license, from a 3,150 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio to a 4,350 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio located at 710 Lisbon Center Drive, Units K, L, M, N, Woodbine, MD 21097.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the premises posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Christopher DeCarlo, 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**

Anthony Michael Guarino, 50% owner of Tony Locos, was sworn in and testified as follows:

Mr. Guarino testified that he owns the Tony Locos 50/50 with his wife, Rosa Gemma Guarino. Mr. Guarino testified that in March of 2018 he and his wife came before this Board and received approval for a Class B license and testified that neither he or his wife had any liquor violations, traffic citations or criminal violations since that time.

Mr. Guarino testified that Tony Locos is a family restaurant, with the restaurant on one side and a bar on the other, and that the menu includes Italian, Puerto Rican and American food. Mr. Guarino testified that they are active in the community and donate 10% of sales on Mondays to local organizations and have donated over \$80,000 in since Tony Locos opened.

Mr. Guarino testified that the plan is to add 1,200 square feet of interior space to the restaurant and use half for storage and half for dining. Mr. Guarino testified that the percentage of food sales to alcohol sales is approximately 62/38 and if it changes it will be more toward food sales as they are adding 36 seats to the restaurant.

Mr. Guarino testified that he has extensive experience in the restaurant business and has never had an alcohol violation or a criminal conviction. Mr. Guarino testified that he is alcohol awareness certified as is the bar manager, the assistant manager and many of the servers, and that refresher classes are provided in the restaurant for servers periodically. Mr. Guarino testified that he has read and understands the Board's Rules and Regulations and will continue to comply with them.

Mr. Guarino testified that the expansion will be an accommodation to the public as they have not had the space to host rehearsal dinners and baby shower when requested due to lack of

space.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicants waived their right to request the Liquor Board 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 Anthony Michael Guarino and Rosa Gemma Guarino on behalf of Concordia, Inc. t/a Tony Locos have applied for an extension of premises on a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license, from a 3,150 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio to a 4,350 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio located at 710 Lisbon Center Drive, Units K, L, M, N, Woodbine, MD 21097.
- 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 Anthony Michael Guarino meets the requirements of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations concerning resident agent qualifications.
- 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 Anthony Michael Guarino and Rosa Gemma Guarino on behalf of Concordia, Inc. t/a Tony Locos have applied for an extension of premises on a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license, from a 3,150 square foot restaurant

with a 600 square foot patio to a 4,350 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio located at 710 Lisbon Center Drive, Units K, L, M, N, Woodbine, MD 21097.

- 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 Anthony Michael Guarino meets the requirements 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 this application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood.

### **ORDER**

For the foregoing reasons, it is this day of Sept., 2021, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED**, that the application of Anthony Michael Guarino and Rosa Gemma Guarino on behalf of Concordia Inc. t/a Tony Locos for an extension of premises on a Class B, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license, from a 3,150 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio to a 4,350 square foot restaurant with a 600 square foot patio located at 710 Lisbon Center Drive, Units K, L, M, N, Woodbine, MD 21097, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County law and regulations; and
- (a) That the Applicants satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by December 20, 2021, unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good cause shown; and
- (b) 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** Ashley Aguilar Mary Bird, Chairperson Board Administrator Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY **OFFICE OF LAW GARY W. KUC** Charley Sung, Member **COUNTY SOLICITOR** Steven Chen, Member Jamar Herry, Esquire **ABSENT** Senior Assistant County Solicitor Claire Kim, Member