

MINUTES

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD

July 22, 2025

Board Members Present:

Steven Chen, Chair
Steve Hunt, Vice Chair
Ed Coleman
Beth Johnson
Claire Kim

Staff:

Kel Berg, Board Administrator
Kiasten Miller, Administrative Assistant
Jae Shin, Board Counsel

Call to order at 6:36 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of July 8, 2025.

Motion – Ed Coleman, 2nd – Beth Johnson
vote 5-0

The motion passed.

PETITION TO FINE, SUSPEND OR REVOKE CLASS A BEER, WINE & LIQUOR 7-DAY OFF SALE LICENSE

For: Sandy Spirits, Inc., t/a Sandy Spirits in the names of Jayendra Patel and Amrish Patel for a 5,600 sq. ft. package store located at 7250 Montgomery Road, Elkridge, MD 21075.

For the Alcohol Beverage Inspector: Tsega Girma Kyere, Esq.

For the Licensees: Bruce Covahey, Esq.

Respondent Witnesses:

Amrish Patel
Jayendra Patel

Petitioner Witnesses:
Detective Mark Baxter
Sergeant Travis Turner

Opening statements by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Opening statements by Mr. Covahey.
Direct examination of Mr. Patel and Ms. Patel by Mr. Covahey.
Cross-examination of Mr. Patel by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Board member questions for Mr. Patel.
Direct examination of Det. Baxter by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Board member questions for Sgt. Turner.
Rebuttal questions for Det. Baxter by Ms. Girma Kyere and Mr. Covahey.
Follow up Board member questions for Mr. Patel.
Closing statements by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Closing statements by Mr. Covahey.

The Board deliberated on this matter in Closed Session at the conclusion of the Hearing.

**PETITION TO FINE, SUSPEND OR REVOKE
CLASS A BEER, WINE & LIQUOR
7-DAY OFF SALE LICENSE**

For: Harper's Spirits, LLC t/a Harper's Choice Liquors in the names of Sung Jin Kim and Aaron Iddings Funk for a 2,851 sq. ft. package store located at 5485 Harper's Farm Road, Columbia, MD 21044.

For the Alcohol Beverage Inspector: Tsega Girma Kyere, Esq.
For the Licensees: Thomas Maronick, Jr., Esq.

Respondent Witnesses:
Sung Jin Kim
Aaron Iddings Funk
Josephine Kim

Opening statements by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Opening statements by Mr. Maronick.
Direct examination of Mr. Kim by Mr. Maronick.
Cross-examination of Mr. Kim by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Direct examination of Mr. Funk by Mr. Maronick.
Cross-examination of Mr. Funk by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Redirect examination of Mr. Kim by Mr. Maronick.
Board member questions for Mr. Funk and Mr. Kim.
Testimony by Ms. Kim.
Closing statements by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Closing statements by Mr. Maronick.

The Board deliberated on this matter in Closed Session at the conclusion of the Hearing.

**PETITION TO FINE, SUSPEND OR REVOKE
CLASS A BEER, WINE & LIQUOR
7-DAY OFF SALE LICENSE**

For: New Lisbon Liquors, LLC, t/a Lisbon Liquors in the name of Kavneet Kaur Chahil for a 2,818 sq. ft. package store located at 16109 Frederick Road, Woodbine, MD 21765.

For the Alcohol Beverage Inspector and ATCC Agent: Tsega Girma Kyere, Esq.
For the Licensee: Melvin Kodenski, Esq.

Respondent Witnesses:
Kavneet Kaur Chahil

Petitioner Witnesses:
Agent Mike Sofelkanik

Direct examination of Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Cross-examination of Agt. Sofelkanik by Mr. Kodenski.
Redirect examination of Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Re-cross of Agt. Sofelkanik by Mr. Kodenski.
Follow up questions for Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Follow up questions for Agt. Sofelkanik by Mr. Kodenski.
Direct examination of Ms. Chahil by Mr. Kodenski.
Cross-examination of Ms. Chahil by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Recess

Continuation of cross-examination of Ms. Chahil by Ms. Girma Kyere.
Rebuttal questions for Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere and Mr. Kodenski.
Board member questions for Ms. Chahil.
Board member questions for Agt. Sofelkanik.
Closing statements by Mr. Kodenski.
Closing statements by Ms. Girma Kyere.

The Board deliberated on this matter in Closed Session at the conclusion of the Hearing.

**PETITION TO FINE, SUSPEND OR REVOKE
CLASS A BEER, WINE & LIQUOR
7-DAY OFF SALE LICENSE**

For: Wine Source, LLC t/a Jason's Wine & Spirits in the name of Binita B. Shah for a 8,400 sq. ft. package store located at 9339 Baltimore National Pike, Suites 4-10, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

For the Alcohol Beverage Inspector: Tsega Girma Kyere, Esq.

For the Licensee: Chris DeCarlo, Esq.

Respondent Witnesses:

Saurahb Patel

Binita B. Shah

Petitioner Witnesses:

Agent Mike Sofelkanik

Direct examination of Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Cross-examination of Agt. Sofelkanik by Mr. DeCarlo.

Redirect examination of Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Re-cross of Agt. Sofelkanik by Mr. Decarlo.

Follow up questions for Agt. Sofelkanik by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Follow up questions for Agt. Sofelkanik by Mr. DeCarlo.

Direct examination of Mr. Patel by Mr. DeCarlo.

Cross-examination of Mr. Patel by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Direct examination of Ms. Shah by Mr. DeCarlo.

Cross-examination of Ms. Shah by Ms. Girma Kyere.

Redirect examination of Ms. Shah by Mr. DeCarlo.

Board member questions for Ms. Shah.

Closing statements by Mr. DeCarlo.

Closing statements by Ms. Girma Kyere.

The Board deliberated on this matter in Closed Session at the conclusion of the Hearing.

Closed Session

Motion to go into closed session in accordance with Section 3-305(b) (7), General Provisions Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Motion – Steven Chen, 2nd – Ed Coleman

vote 5-0

The motion passed.

The Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board concluded the Hearing and adjourned to Closed Session at **11:37 p.m.**

Statement of Closed Meeting

The Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board met in closed session at 11:37 p.m. on July 22, 2025 in the Banneker Room.

Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board Members Steven Chen, Ed Coleman, Steve Hunt, Beth Johnson and Claire Kim adjourned the closed session at 11:57 p.m. Legal advice was obtained on a legal matter. Action taken by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board Members was to discuss and determine fines and/or fees for 4 Petitions to Fine, Suspend, or Revoke Alcoholic Beverage Licenses.

Members Present: Steven Chen, Ed Coleman, Steve Hunt, Beth Johnson and Claire Kim
Staff Present: Kel Berg, Board Administrator and Jae Shin, Board Counsel

Approved: Kel Berg 8/12/2025

