

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF QING FENG	*	
LIN ON BEHALF OF CHOPSTICKS	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
ASIAN, LLC T/A UMI SUSHI FOR	*	
AN EXTENTION OF PREMISES	*	FOR
FOR A CLASS B BEER, WINE AND	*	
LIQUOR 7-DAY ON SALE LICENSE	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
	*	
	*	Case No.: 25-15
	*	

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 8, 2025, the Hearing Board heard the application of Qing Feng Lin, (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Chopsticks Asian, LLC t/a Umi Sushi (“Umi Sushi”), for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,480 sq. ft. restaurant with a 970 sq. ft. patio located at 8167 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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 Michael Hsur, Esquire and 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

Qing Feng Lin, 100% interest holder and current resident agent, was sworn in and testified

before the Hearing Board through an interpreter, Michelle Lin.

Mr. Lin testified that Umi Sushi is a Japanese restaurant, that the business received its current liquor license in September 2019, and that he is the current owner. Mr. Lin stated that he and his wife, Yuming Chen, operate the restaurant every day and that they are both Alcohol Awareness Certified. Mr. Lin stated that he and his wife will be on the premises whenever alcohol is served, and that a manager is training to be Alcohol Awareness Certified. Mr. Lin stated that the restaurant has had no alcohol-related violations and that he has been convicted of no crimes other than traffic violations. Mr. Lin stated that in April 2024, he received a careless driving citation in New Jersey, and in July 2024 he received a speeding citation in Ocean City, but that he was not arrested for either incident.

Mr. Lin stated that he wants to extend the premises because the business is expanding and there isn't enough seating for customer demand. Mr. Lin stated that the hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. until 9:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. until 10:30 p.m., and on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. Mr. Lin stated that he will not be changing the hours of operation due to the expansion. Mr. Lin stated that the patio is surrounded by other buildings, that there is an alleyway, and that the patio is accessible from the parking lot. Mr. Lin stated that servers will be inside and outside to monitor alcohol and that he has never had any problems with customers walking out with their drinks. Mr. Lin stated that when the patio is open, there is always a staff member outside, and that they do not sell alcohol to go. Mr. Lin stated that there is no longer a cover over the patio and that each table now has its own umbrella. Mr. Lin stated that he expects alcohol sales at the restaurant to be less than 10 percent of the gross sales, and that they will continue to offer beer, wine, cocktails and mocktails. Mr. Lin stated that his limited English can be a barrier to community involvement, but that he does

support other local businesses and donates to fundraisers.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicant waived his 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 Qing Feng Lin, (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Chopsticks Asian, LLC t/a Umi Sushi (“Umi Sushi”), has applied for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,480 sq. ft. restaurant with a 970 sq. ft. patio located at 8167 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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 Qing Feng Lin, the resident agent applicant, meets the requirements of Rules 1.10(S), 1.10(T), and 2.06 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 Qing Feng Lin, (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Chopsticks Asian, LLC t/a Umi Sushi (“Umi Sushi”), has applied for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,480 sq. ft. restaurant with a

970 sq. ft. patio located at 8167 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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

3. The Hearing Board concludes that Qing Feng Lin, the resident agent applicant, meets the requirements of Rules 1.10(S), 1.10(T), and 2.06 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 will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents of the neighborhood.

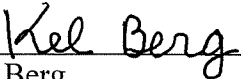
ORDER

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 13th day of August, 2025, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Qing Feng Lin, (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Chopsticks Asian, LLC t/a Umi Sushi (“Umi Sushi”), for an extension of premises for a Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,480 sq. ft. restaurant with a 970 sq. ft. patio located at 8167 Main Street, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 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 January 8, 2026 unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good cause shown;
- (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**



Kel Berg
Board Administrator

ABSENT
Steven Chen, Chairperson

/S/
Steve Hunt, Vice-Chairperson

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

/S/
Ed Coleman, Member


Hyunjae Shin, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

ABSENT
Beth Johnson, Member

/S
Claire Kim, Member