

IN THE MATTER OF THE * BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF JOHN DOUGLAS *
SHIN AND SUAH LEE ON BEHALF * BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
OF GOOI JIB, LLC T/A DAE JANG *
GEUM FOR A TRANSFER OF A * FOR
CLASS B BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR * HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
7-DAY ON SALE LICENSE *
*
* Case No.: 25-40
*

* * * * *

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 October 28, 2025, the Hearing Board heard the application of John Douglas Shin and Suah Lee (the “Applicants”), on behalf of Gooi Jib, LLC t/a Dae Jang Geum (“Dae Jang Geum”), for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,000 sq. ft. restaurant located at 10194 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Mr. Martin Johnson was hired as a consultant for the Applicants 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

Martin Johnson, consultant for the Applicants, was sworn in and testified before the

Hearing Board.

Mr. Johnson testified that Mr. Shin is the current resident agent and that he will remain an owner of the restaurant with the new company. Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Shin and Ms. Lee have been managing the business together, and that the restaurant has been operating without any violations since 2017. Mr. Johnson testified as to the location of the restaurant and stated that Mr. Shin has been teaching restaurant management and legal compliance to Ms. Lee for about a year. Mr. Johnson stated that he needed to make a correction to the police background report for Ms. Lee because he discovered an undisclosed traffic ticket for using a cell phone while driving. Mr. Johnson stated that the restaurant concept is not changing and that everyone appearing under the age of 40 will be carded. Mr. Johnson stated that there are 9 employees, 4 of which are Alcohol Awareness Certified, and that a new manager is in training. Mr. Johnson stated that he will be developing policies for the restaurant, and that he will be providing the owners with an updated 2025 drivers' license guidebook.

John Douglas Shin, 10% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Shin testified that he frequents the restaurant up to 4 days a week to speak with the staff, discuss scheduling and examine the records. Mr. Shin stated that the current staff will remain and that he has hired additional employees for efficiency.

Suah Lee, 90% interest holder and proposed licensee, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board through an interpreter, Eun Min.

Ms. Lee testified that she currently operates Club Bar in Baltimore, and that between 2018 and 2023 she incurred 4 violations from an employee selling alcohol to a minor while she was the manager. Ms. Lee stated that she retrained her employees so that violations will not recur and that

she is in the process of having a new manager operate Dae Jang Geum.

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 John Douglas Shin and Suah Lee (the “Applicants”), on behalf of Gooi Jib, LLC t/a Dae Jang Geum (“Dae Jang Geum”), have applied for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,000 sq. ft. restaurant located at 10194 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

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 John Douglas Shin, 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 John Douglas Shin and Suah Lee (the “Applicants”), on behalf of Gooi Jib, LLC t/a Dae Jang Geum (“Dae Jang Geum”), have applied for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,000 sq. ft.

restaurant located at 10194 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

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 John Douglas Shin, 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 30th day of January, 2026, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of John Douglas Shin and Suah Lee (the “Applicants”), on behalf of Gooi Jib, LLC t/a Dae Jang Geum (“Dae Jang Geum”), for a transfer of a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on-sale License for a 3,000 sq. ft. restaurant located at 10194 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County laws and regulations;
- (b) That the Applicants satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by April 28, 2026 unless that deadline is extended by the Hearing Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

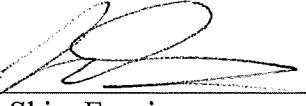
**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,
MARYLAND**

Kel Berg
Kel Berg
Board Administrator

/S/
Steven Chen, Chairperson

/S/
Steve Hunt, Vice-Chairperson

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


Hyunjae Shin, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

/S/
Ed Coleman, Member

/S/
Beth Johnson, Member

/S/
Claire Kim, Member