

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF CHRISTINA	*	
SPENCER AND STUART	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
MCFARLAND ON BEHALF OF	*	
LTF MARYLAND LIQUOR, LLC	*	FOR
T/A LIFE TIME ATHLETIC FOR	*	
A NEW CLASS B BEER, WINE	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
AND LIQUOR 7-DAY ON-SALE	*	
LICENSE	*	Case No.: 26-02
	*	

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 January 27, 2026, the Hearing Board heard the application of Christina Spencer and Stuart McFarland (the “Applicants”) on behalf of LTF Maryland Liquor, LLC t/a Life Time Athletic ("Life Time Athletic"), for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 110,590 sq. ft. fitness center with a 30,200 sq. ft. exterior located at 7220 Lee Deforest Drive, 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 and there were no protestants who appeared in opposition to the application.

All the documents on file were incorporated into the record by reference.

PROFFER

Ms. Schrecengost proffered that the initial application did not disclose a records violation for Stuart McFarland that occurred at the Gaithersburg location in 2024 and that an updated application was sent to the Board's Office. Ms. Schrecengost stated that when the violation occurred, they were undergoing a change of management, and that the records were not available when the Liquor Inspector came in. Ms. Schrecengost stated that policies and procedures are now in place at all Life Time locations so that records are always available, regardless of who is on-site.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Christina Spencer, 0% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Ms. Spencer testified that she is the on-site manager for the food and beverage operations, and that she is responsible for overseeing the business, the employees, and the financial performance of the business. Ms. Spencer stated that there is an indoor quick service restaurant and that the liquor license will primarily be used for an outdoor pool area, which is open seasonally. Ms. Spencer stated that there is a full menu and that she would like to offer alcohol for small events on the first floor. Ms. Spencer stated that there are two other locations in Maryland, that alcohol sales at the Annapolis location were less than 1% of the total gross sales, and that during the busiest month at the Gaithersburg location, alcohol sales were 16% of the total gross sales. Ms. Spencer stated that in the off-season, there are 20 employees in the service or sale of alcohol, that during the summer months, about 10 more employees are added, that all employees are required to be ServSafe alcohol trained, and that she is a proctor for the ServSafe program. Ms. Spencer stated that managers will be present with supervisors and assistants to ensure that underage drinking will

not occur. Ms. Spencer stated alcoholic beverages are in a different type of cup for easy identification and that an on-site manager would handle ceasing service to anyone appearing intoxicated.

Ms. Spencer stated that the hours of operation for alcohol service will be from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the café and pool area. Ms. Spencer stated that she did not anticipate any issues meeting the food requirements for the liquor license, that the pool area is enclosed by a fence, and that all gates have an alarm system. Ms. Spencer stated that the doors to the pool area are monitored, that many members spend all day at the facility, and that members have requested a liquor license. Ms. Spencer stated that alcohol is only allowed in the restaurant area and the pool area and that because of the special events, they want to be able to serve alcohol on the second floor. Ms. Spencer stated that she would be amenable to amending the licensed premises to specify where exactly alcohol will be served. Ms. Spencer stated that there are 2 assistant managers and a total of 4 supervisors.

Stuart McFarland, 1% interest holder and proposed licensee, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. McFarland testified that he has worked in the Life Time legal department at the corporate headquarters for the past 6 years and that his responsibilities include corporate securities and transactions and overseeing the licensing department.

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 Christina Spencer and Stuart McFarland (the “Applicants”) on behalf of LTF Maryland Liquor, LLC t/a Life Time Athletic (“Life Time Athletic”), have applied for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 110,590 sq. ft. fitness center with a 30,200 sq. ft. exterior located at 7220 Lee Deforest Drive, 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 Christina Spencer is a Maryland state resident.

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 Christina Spencer and Stuart McFarland (the “Applicants”) on behalf of LTF Maryland Liquor, LLC t/a Life Time Athletic (“Life Time Athletic”), have applied for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 110,590 sq. ft. fitness center with a 30,200 sq. ft. exterior located at 7220 Lee Deforest Drive, 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 Christina Spencer 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 this application would not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the neighborhood.

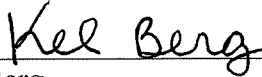
ORDER

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 21st day of April, 2026, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED** that the application of Christina Spencer and Stuart McFarland (the "Applicants") on behalf of LTF Maryland Liquor, LLC t/a Life Time Athletic ("Life Time Athletic"), for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 110,590 sq. ft. fitness center with a 30,200 sq. ft. exterior located at 7220 Lee Deforest Drive, 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 July 27, 2026, unless that deadline is extended by the Hearing Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) That the Applicants submit floor plans showing the location and exact square footage of the area(s) where alcohol will be served and consumed, limiting the licensed area to the atrium, outdoor pool area and café; and
- (d) 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**



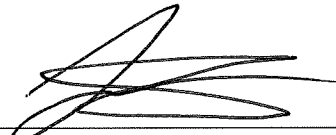
Kel Berg
Board Administrator

_____/S/_____
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

_____/S/_____
Beth Johnson, Member

_____/S/_____
Claire Kim, Member