

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF MARY CLEONA	*	
MADDALA ON BEHALF OF	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
DWARAKA’S BAWARCHI	*	
COLUMBIA, LLC T/A DWARAKA’S	*	FOR
BAWARCHI INDIAN KITCHEN FOR	*	
A NEW CLASS B BEER, WINE AND	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
LIQUOR 7-DAY ON/OFF SALE	*	
LICENSE	*	Case No.: 26-05
	*	

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 March 24, 2026, the Hearing Board heard the application of Mary Cleona Maddala (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Columbia, LLC t/a Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Indian Kitchen (“Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Indian Kitchen”), for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day, on/off sale License for a 3,400 sq. ft. restaurant with a 427 sq. ft. patio located at 7185-A Columbia Gateway 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. Mr. Martin Johnson was hired as a consultant for the Applicant 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 Applicant, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Johnson testified that Ms. Mary Maddala is a citizen of the United States and that she is the manager. Mr. Johnson testified as to the location of the restaurant and stated that the restaurant features Indian cuisine. Mr. Johnson stated that alcohol sales will be about 15% of the total gross sales. Mr. Johnson also stated that the business is also applying for a wine corkage permit to allow patrons to bring their own bottle of wine on to the premises. Mr. Johnson further stated that he understands the Hearing Board will not approve the wine corkage permit until the Applicant has more alcohol-related experience, and that the Applicant may re-apply for the permit at a later time.

Mary Cleona Maddala, 40% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Ms. Maddala testified that she is a resident of the State of Maryland and that she has been a United States citizen since 2009. Ms. Maddala stated that she will operate the restaurant with her husband, Prasanna Kakumani, that they are currently open, and that customers frequently request alcohol. Ms. Maddala stated that she works for the Internal Revenue Service, and that her husband and another manager, Mr. Suresh Perumalla, are on-site when she is not there. Ms. Maddala stated that there are currently 12 staff members and that if the license is granted, they will hire a few bartenders. Ms. Maddala stated that she, Mr. Kakumani, and Mr. Perumalla are all Alcohol Awareness Certified and that more staff members will become Alcohol Awareness Certified if the liquor license is approved. Ms. Maddala stated that she will card anyone appearing under 40 years of age and that she will always have an Alcohol Awareness Certified employee on-

site. Ms. Maddala stated that they do not accept vertical drivers' licenses and that she will not serve anyone appearing intoxicated. Ms. Maddala stated that she works 16 hours a week at the restaurant and that she will increase her hours if the liquor license is approved. Ms. Maddala stated that she oversees the restaurant, the food quality and customer service. Ms. Maddala stated that Mr. Kakumani and Mr. Perumalla will handle the inventory of alcohol if the liquor license is approved, and that Mr. Perumalla previously owned the restaurant for one year in 2024. Ms. Maddala stated that the restaurant has 18 tables with 80 seats and 7 bar chairs. Ms. Maddala stated that alcohol will be stored behind the bar and that she is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations.

Prasanna Kakumani, manager, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Kakumani stated that he and Mr. Perumalla both work 34 hours a week at the restaurant, and that one of them will be on-site at all times. Mr. Kakumani stated that his duties include training employees, paying the bills, and overseeing the food and service quality. Mr. Kakumani stated that the outdoor area will have a visible patio with a 4-foot privacy wall and a designated server. Mr. Kakumani stated that he is Alcohol Awareness Certified and that he is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Mr. Kakumani stated that the hours of operation are Mondays and Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sundays from 11 a.m. until 9 p.m. Mr. Kakumani stated that he has no plans to sell carryout alcohol or offer the delivery of alcohol. Mr. Kakumani stated that there are currently 3 servers, and that in 2003, he managed a deli in New York.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicant waived

her 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 Mary Cleona Maddala (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Columbia, LLC t/a Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Indian Kitchen (“Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Indian Kitchen”), has applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on/off sale License for a 3,400 sq. ft. restaurant with a 427 sq. ft. patio located at 7185-A Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046.

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 Mary Cleona Maddala, 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 Mary Cleona Maddala (the “Applicant”), on behalf of Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Columbia, LLC t/a Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Indian Kitchen (“Dwaraka’s Bawarchi Indian Kitchen”), has applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on/off sale License for a 3,400 sq. ft. restaurant with a 427 sq. ft. patio located at 7185-A

Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046.

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 Mary Cleona Maddala, 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 13 day of May, 2026, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Mary Cleona Maddala (the "Applicant"), on behalf of Dwaraka's Bawarchi Columbia, LLC t/a Dwaraka's Bawarchi Indian Kitchen ("Dwaraka's Bawarchi Indian Kitchen"), for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-Day on/off sale License for a 3,400 sq. ft. restaurant with a 427 sq. ft. patio located at 7185-A Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, MD 21046, 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 September 24, 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**

ABSENT
Ed Coleman, Member


Hyunjae Shin, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

/S/
Beth Johnson, Member

/S/
Claire Kim, Member