

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF MARIA	*	
EUGINA HU AND XIAO MIN	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
JIANG ON BEHALF OF TENDOU	*	
KANBUKU, LLC T/A SUSHI	*	FOR
TENDOU FOR A NEW CLASS B	*	
BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
7-DAY ON SALE LICENSE	*	
	*	Case No.: 26-06
	*	

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**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 13, 2026 and March 24, 2026, the Hearing Board heard the application of Xiao Min Jiang (the “Applicant”) on behalf of Tendou Kanbuku, LLC t/a Sushi Tendou ("Sushi Tendou"), for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,049 sq. ft. restaurant located at 8194 Westside Boulevard, Suite G, Fulton, MD 20759.

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 January 13, 2026 Hearing**

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Martin Johnson, consultant for the Applicant, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Johnson testified that Ms. Jiang is a full-time manager, a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Maryland. Mr. Johnson testified as to the location of the restaurant and stated that an Alcohol Management Agreement is in effect. Mr. Johnson stated that the restaurant has been open for several years and that customers regularly ask for alcoholic beverages with their meals. Mr. Johnson stated that the business historically has more sales of food over alcoholic beverages and that the restaurant also includes a bar area. Mr. Johnson stated that the business concept will not change and that a majority of the staff will be retained. Mr. Johnson stated that two managers have oversight of the restaurant and that there is always someone on-site to handle any language communication issues.

Xiao Min Jiang, 0% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board through an interpreter, Kevin Zhang.

Ms. Jiang testified that she is a full-time manager and that she has worked at the restaurant since July 2025. Ms. Jiang stated that she has previous restaurant experience working at Chopstix in Baltimore from 2016 to 2021, but that the restaurant did not sell alcohol. Ms. Jiang stated that Sushi Tendou offers sushi, teriyaki and hibachi dishes. Ms. Jiang stated that customers are seated by a host at the door, and that the restaurant has 16 tables with 70 seats. Ms. Jiang stated that there is a bar with 10 stools and that all alcohol is stored behind the bar. Ms. Jiang stated that the restaurant currently has 9 employees, that she and another manager are Alcohol Awareness Certified, and that at least one person who is Alcohol Awareness Certified will be on-site during

operating hours. Ms. Jiang stated that more staff will be Alcohol Awareness Certified, that she understands her role as the resident agent, and that she is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Ms. Jiang stated that anyone appearing under 40 years of age will be carded, that she will not sell alcohol to anyone appearing intoxicated, and that she will maintain purchase records for at least 2 years and employee records for at least 1 year. Ms. Jiang stated that they will not sell alcohol for carry-out, and that she works at the restaurant 40 hours a week. Ms. Jiang stated that the hours of operation are Monday through Friday 11:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 12 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Ms. Jiang stated that she will have another manager on-site when she is not present, that there are 3 servers, and that she is retaining most of the former employees. Ms. Jiang stated that she serves as the host and takes carry-out food orders. Ms. Jiang stated that the other manager, Ben Zhu, works over 40 hours a week and is responsible for inventory and ordering alcohol.

Ben Jin Zhu, general manager, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Zhu testified that he is an investor and owner of the restaurant and that he works on-site. Mr. Zhu stated that he is a sushi chef, and that he and Maria Hu are responsible for purchasing alcohol and maintaining records. Mr. Zhu stated that he works at the restaurant 3 days a week and that when he isn't there, the restaurant has 3 additional sushi chefs.

#### **STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

Chair Chen requested that the hearing for this case be continued until an additional authorized person (licensee) is added to the application. He also requested that a third employee be Alcohol Awareness Certified. The Applicant agreed to the requests. By a unanimous vote, the Hearing Board agreed to continue this case to a date to be determined.

#### **Summary of March 24, 2026 Hearing**

## SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Martin Johnson, consultant for Maria Eugina Hu and Xiao Min Jiang (the “Applicants”), was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Johnson testified that the application was amended from a transfer to a new license request, that Ms. Maria Hu is the general manager and that she is now the proposed resident agent. Mr. Johnson stated that less than 50% of restaurant income will be from the sale of alcoholic beverages. Mr. Johnson stated that the restaurant has been open for several years, that it has a sushi dining bar, and that all staff will be retained. Mr. Johnson testified as to a management chart that he provided, explaining the organizational structure of managers at the restaurant.

Maria Eugina Hu, 5% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Ms. Hu testified that she is a resident of the State of Maryland, that she has worked at the restaurant for 7 years, that she has previous restaurant experience and that she has incurred no alcohol violations. Ms. Hu stated that she and 4 employees are Alcohol Awareness Certified and that she works 66 hours a week from opening to closing. Ms. Hu stated that she oversees scheduling, training, payroll, food quality, ordering alcohol and table service. Ms. Hu stated that there are 16 tables with 70 seats in the dining room and 10 seats at the sushi bar. Ms. Hu stated that alcohol will be stored behind the bar and that she is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Ms. Hu stated that anyone appearing under 21 years of age will be carded, that anyone appearing intoxicated will not be served, and that vertical drivers’ licenses will not be accepted. Ms. Hu stated that the restaurant has lost business by not selling alcohol.

Xiao Min Jiang, 0% interest holder and proposed licensee, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board through an interpreter, Nina Lai.

Ms. Jiang testified that she became a citizen of the United States 12 years ago and that she has previously worked in restaurants. Ms. Jiang stated that she started working at Sushi Tendou in June 2025 and that she is the assistant manager. Ms. Jiang stated that her duties include assisting Ms. Hu, seating customers, overseeing scheduling, and assisting the servers. Ms. Jiang stated that she works 55 hours a week and that the restaurant offers sushi, teriyaki, hibachi, soup and salad. Ms. Jiang stated that she was not aware of any alcohol violations, that she is Alcohol Awareness Certified, and that she is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Ms. Jiang stated that she does not plan to offer carryout alcohol or delivery of alcohol.

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 Maria Eugina Hu and Xiao Min Jiang (the “Applicants”) on behalf of Tendou Kanbuku, LLC t/a Sushi Tendou (“Sushi Tendou”), have applied for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,049 sq. ft. restaurant located at 8194 Westside Boulevard, Suite G, Fulton, MD 20759.
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 Maria Eugina Hu 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 Maria Eugina Hu and Xiao Min Jiang (the “Applicants”) on behalf of Tendou Kanbuku, LLC t/a Sushi Tendou (“Sushi Tendou”), have applied for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,049 sq. ft. restaurant located at 8194 Westside Boulevard, Suite G, Fulton, MD 20759.

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 Maria Eugina Hu 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED** that the application of Maria Eugina Hu and Xiao Min Jiang (the “Applicants”) on behalf of Tendou Kanbuku, LLC t/a Sushi Tendou (“Sushi Tendou”), for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,049 sq. ft. restaurant located at 8194 Westside Boulevard, Suite G, Fulton, MD 20759, 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 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**

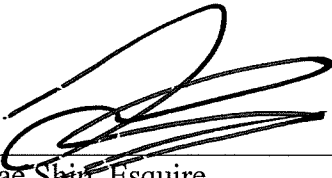
Kel Berg  
Kel Berg  
Board Administrator

/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