

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF MELISSA	*	
MCBEAN AND JESSE KREMER	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
ON BEHALF OF HI CONCESSIONS	*	
COLUMBIA I, LLC T/A HAMPTON	*	FOR
INN & SUITES FOR A NEW CLASS	*	
D BEER AND LIGHT WINE 7-DAY	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
ON SALE LICENSE	*	
	*	Case No.: 26-18
	*	

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 June 9, 2026, the Hearing Board heard the application of Melissa McBean and Jesse Kremer (the “Applicants”) on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia I, LLC t/a Hampton Inn & Suites ("Hampton Inn & Suites"), for a New Class D Beer and Light Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 70,623 sq. ft. hotel located at 7045 Minstrel Way, 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 hotel previously held a liquor license from 2019 to

2022, that the liquor license expired in 2023, and that the license was surrendered while working through corporate issues. Ms. Schrecengost stated that the surrender of the license had nothing to do with violations. Ms. Schrecengost stated that the LLC is a Maryland holding company for the liquor license at this location.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Melissa McBean, 10% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Ms. McBean testified that the application she submitted is correct, that she has no felony convictions or violations of the alcoholic beverage laws or gambling laws, and that she serves as the Director of Sales. Ms. McBean stated that she works 50 to 60 hours a week, and that she is Alcohol Awareness Certified. Ms. McBean stated that 15 employees work at the hotel, that 8 employees serve alcohol and that those employees are Alcohol Awareness certified. Ms. McBean stated that all customers will be carded and that they will not accept vertical IDs. Ms. McBean stated that alcohol will be served in a snack shop area and stored in a locked closet that only management has access to. Ms. McBean stated that when they previously held a liquor license, alcohol sales were 15% to 20% per month. Ms. McBean stated that she has been working at the hotel since 2022 and that she had past alcohol experience when the previous liquor license was valid. Ms. McBean stated that the entire property is being licensed for the service of alcohol so that guests may take alcohol back to their rooms.

Jesse Kremer, 90% interest holder and proposed licensee, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Kremer testified that the application he submitted is correct, that he has no felony convictions or violations of the alcoholic beverage laws or gambling laws, and that he serves as

the Vice President of Operations. Mr. Kremer stated that he is Alcohol Awareness Certified and that he is on-site 6 to 8 times a year. Mr. Kremer stated that he is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations and that he understands his role as a licensee. Mr. Kremer stated that if a violation occurs, the company will investigate to find out who is involved and what occurred, and that there will be an accountability process. Mr. Kremer stated that he has had violations at other hotels and that in every case, the employee involved was terminated. Mr. Kremer stated that he has been with the company for over 4 years, that the hotel has been in business for over 20 years, and that there are 19 properties across the United States. Mr. Kremer stated that all but one of those hotels serves 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 Melissa McBean and Jesse Kremer (the "Applicants") on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia I, LLC t/a Hampton Inn & Suites ("Hampton Inn & Suites"), have applied for a New Class D Beer and Light Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 70,623 sq. ft. hotel located at 7045 Minstrel Way, 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 Melissa McBean 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 Melissa McBean and Jesse Kremer (the "Applicants") on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia I, LLC t/a Hampton Inn & Suites ("Hampton Inn & Suites"), have applied for a New Class D Beer and Light Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 70,623 sq. ft. hotel located at 7045 Minstrel Way, 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 Melissa McBean 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.

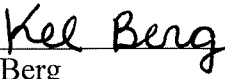
ORDER

For the foregoing reasons, it is this 17th day of July, 2026, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED** that the application of Melissa McBean and Jesse Kremer (the "Applicants") on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia I, LLC t/a Hampton Inn & Suites ("Hampton Inn & Suites"), for a New Class D Beer and Light Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 70,623 sq. ft. hotel located at 7045 Minstrel Way, 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 December 9, 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**



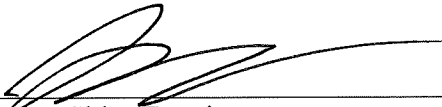
Kel Berg
Board Administrator

_____/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

_____/ABSENT_____
Beth Johnson, Member

_____/S/_____
Claire Kim, Member