

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF SCOTT RICHARD	*	
EICH AND DENNIS SHAROKY	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
ON BEHALF OF COAL FIRE PIZZA, LLC*		
T/A COAL FIRE FOR A TRANSFER OF	*	OF HOWARD COUNTY
A CLASS B BEER, WINE & LIQUOR	*	
7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE	*	CASE NO. 21-30



**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 May 25, 2021, the Hearing Board heard the application of Scott Richard Eich and Dennis Sharoky (the “Applicants”), on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza, LLC t/a Coal Fire (“Coal Fire”), for a transfer of a Class B beer, wine & liquor 7-day on-sale license from Michael A Simpson on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza Enterprises, LLC for a 3000 square foot restaurant with a 516 square foot patio located at 5725 Richard’s Valley Rd., Unit A-12, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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 Thomas Meachum, Esquire. 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**

Scott Eich, proposed resident agent, was sworn and testified as follows:

Mr. Eich testified that he has worked at Coal Fire for nine years, five days a week as a full-time General Manager during which time there have been no alcohol violations. Mr. Eich testified that he is a Howard County resident and a registered voter, is Alcohol Awareness certified and has read and understands the Board's Rules and Regulations. Mr. Eich testified that the Assistant Manager is also TIPS certified.

Mr. Eich testified that the outdoor patio is fenced and monitored by staff. Mr. Eich stated that the restaurant participates in community fundraisers for schools and other charities and has provided food donations during Covid to first responders and health care workers.

Dennis Sharoky, managing member for Coal Fire Pizza, LLC, testified that he has twenty years of experience in the restaurant industry. Mr. Sharoky testified that he has worked at eight restaurants over the years and two of them have had alcohol violations. Mr. Sharoky testified that his role at Coal Fire is to visit all the restaurants he oversees every six months and the Ellicott City location twice a month. Mr. Sharoky testified that he is TIPS certified and has read and understands the Howard County Rules and Regulations.

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 Scott Richard Eich and Dennis Sharoky, on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza, LLC t/a Coal Fire, have applied for a transfer of a Class B beer, wine & liquor 7-day on-sale license from Michael A Simpson on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza Enterprises, LLC for a 3000 square foot restaurant with a 516 square foot patio located at 5725 Richard's Valley

Rd., Unit A-12, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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 Scott Richard Eich is a Howard County resident and a registered voter.

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 Scott Richard Eich and Dennis Sharoky, on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza, LLC t/a Coal Fire, have applied for a transfer of a Class B beer, wine & liquor 7-day on-sale license from Michael A Simpson on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza Enterprises, LLC for a 3000 square foot restaurant with a 516 square foot patio located at 5725 Richard's Valley Rd., Unit A-12, Ellicott City, MD 21043.

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 Scott Richard Eich meets the requirements 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 28 day of Sept., 2021, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Scott Richard Eich and Dennis Sharoky, on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza, LLC t/a Coal Fire for a transfer of a Class B beer, wine & liquor 7-day on-sale license from Michael A Simpson on behalf of Coal Fire Pizza Enterprises, LLC for a 3000 square foot restaurant with a 516 square foot patio located at 5725 Richard's Valley Rd., Unit A-12, Ellicott City, MD 21043, 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 20, 2021 unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

**ATTEST:**

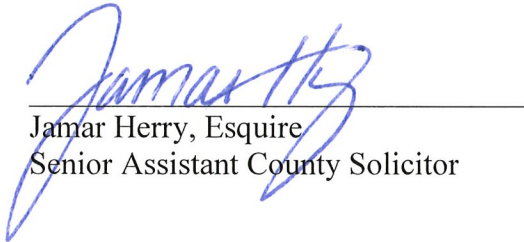
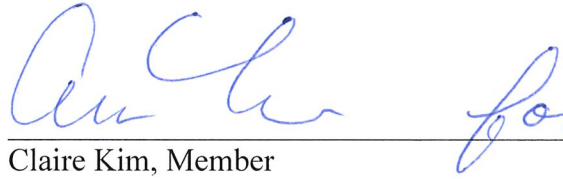


Ashley Aguilar  
Board Administrator

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

  
Mary Bird, Chairperson  
Harry Evans, Vice Chairperson

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

  
Charley Sung, Member  
Steven Chen, Member  
Jamar Herry, Esquire  
Senior Assistant County Solicitor  
Claire Kim, Member