

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF JI WEN	*	
CHEN AND MIN CHEN, ON	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
BEHALF OF JC & LI, INC	*	
T/A AN LOI RESTAURANT,	*	FOR
FOR A NEW CLASS B BEER &	*	
LIGHT WINE 7-DAY LICENSE	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
	*	
	*	Case No.: 22-14

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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 May 24, 2022, the Hearing Board heard the application of Ji Wen Chen and Min Chen (the “Applicants”) on behalf of JC & Li, Inc. t/a An Loi Restaurant (“An Loi Restaurant”) for a New Class B, Beer and Light Wine, 7-day license for a 2,003 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7104 Minstrel Way #9, Columbia, MD 20145.

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 Michael Hsur, 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.

**SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY**

Min Chen, 50% interest holder and proposed licensee, was sworn in and testified

before the Board.

Ms. Chen testified that she will be in charge of the front dining room and will be supervising the service of all alcoholic beverages, and her husband will be responsible for the kitchen. Ms. Chen stated that there are 19 tables with 70 seats and there is no outdoor seating. Ms. Chen stated that the restaurant hours Monday through Thursday and on Sundays will be 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays they will be open 11 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. Ms. Chen stated that she has no criminal violations, she has never been convicted of a crime and she and her husband have no driving violations. Ms. Chen stated that her application is correct, she and her husband are Alcohol Awareness Certified and that she will have their manager take the certification class next week.

Ms. Chen stated she does not own any other businesses and has over 20 years of restaurant experience. Ms. Chen stated that she doesn't have any other jobs and will be at the restaurant full time. Ms. Chen stated that this is a Vietnamese restaurant, this will be the first liquor license she would be on, and that she has prior alcohol experience from when she worked as a server. Ms. Chen stated she has owned the restaurant since December, 2021, but that the restaurant has been in business for the past 20 years. Ms. Chen stated that there are a lot of regular customers and that she and her husband want to be able to continue serving beer and wine. Ms. Chen stated that they asked to do a transfer of the business, but the previous owner said no. Ms. Chen stated that the beer and wine selection will be small and general with 6 types of beer and 4 types of wine. Ms. Chen stated that there aren't any significant changes to the menu, but they will add some new items with summer coming, and that the serving staff will remain the same.

Ji Wen Chen, 50% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and

testified before the Board.

Mr. Chen stated he is Alcohol Awareness Certified and that he is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Mr. Chen stated that he is able to read and understand them in English. Mr. Chen stated that even though he will be working in the kitchen, he knows he is still responsible for the proper application of the alcoholic beverage laws.

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 Ji Wen Chen and Min Chen (the "Applicants") on behalf of JC & Li, Inc. t/a An Loi Restaurant ("An Loi Restaurant") have applied for a New Class B, Beer and Light Wine, 7-day license for a 2,003 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7104 Minstrel Way #9, Columbia, MD 20145.
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 Ji Wen Chen is a Howard County 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 Ji Wen Chen and Min Chen (the “Applicants”) on behalf of JC & Li, Inc. t/a An Loi Restaurant ("An Loi Restaurant") have applied for a New Class B, Beer and Light Wine, 7-day license for a 2,003 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7104 Minstrel Way #9, Columbia, MD 20145.

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 Ji Wen Chen 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

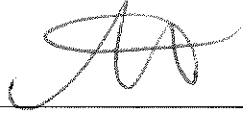
For the foregoing reasons, it is this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED** that the application of Ji Wen Chen and Min Chen (the “Applicants”) on behalf of JC & Li, Inc. t/a An Loi Restaurant ("An Loi Restaurant") for a New Class B, Beer and Light Wine, 7-day license for a 2,003 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7104 Minstrel Way #9, Columbia, MD 20145, 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 November 24, 2022, 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:**

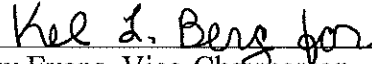
**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING  
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,  
MARYLAND**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Aguilar  
Board Administrator



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Mary Bird, Chairperson

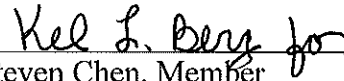


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Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson

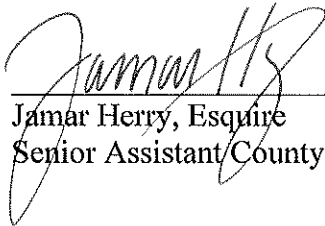
**REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY  
OFFICE OF LAW  
GARY W. KUC  
COUNTY SOLICITOR**



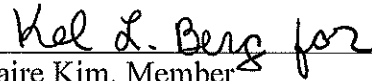
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charley Sung, Member



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Steven Chen, Member



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Jamar Herry, Esquire  
Senior Assistant County Solicitor



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Claire Kim, Member