

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF KIMBERLY	*	
ASNER MILLER AND CHRISTOPHER	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
MICHAEL ROPKO ON BEHALF OF	*	
HI CONCESSIONS COLUMBIA, LLC	*	FOR
T/A HAMPTON INN & SUITES, FOR	*	
A RESIDENT AGENT CHANGE FOR	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
A CLASS D BEER AND LIGHT	*	
WINE 7-DAY LICENSE	*	Case No.: 22-19
	*	

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 Kimberly Asner Miller and Christopher Michael Ropko (the “Applicants”), on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a Hampton Inn & Suites (“Hampton Inn & Suites”), for a resident agent change, replacing Kimberly Elizabeth Hart, for a Class D, Beer and Light Wine, 7-Day 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 Ed Gilliss 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

Kimberly Asner Miller, 10% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in

and testified before the Hearing Board.

Ms. Miller testified that the application she filed is correct, she is Alcohol Awareness Certified, and she is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Ms. Miller stated that she plans to make unannounced visits to the hotel to ensure the rules and regulations are being followed. Ms. Miller stated that she lives 15 minutes from the hotel, and that when she goes to the establishment, she will document her visits with the manager on duty. Ms. Miller stated that she was a licenseholder on a liquor license for Red Robin in Baltimore City and there were no incidents. Ms. Miller stated that she visited the establishment often, but that it is now permanently closed, and she has since moved to Howard County. Ms. Miller stated that she wasn't aware of the pattern of alcoholic beverage service at the hotel, but that she will make herself aware of what is going on in order to have a better understanding. Ms. Miller stated that she has not been to the hotel yet, but would be visiting as soon as possible in order to observe and learn.

Kristy Jackson, General Manager of the hotel, was sworn in and testified before the Hearing Board.

Ms. Jackson testified that she has worked at the hotel for 5 months and that she is not acquainted with Ms. Miller. Ms. Jackson stated that they sell alcohol 7 days a week from 11 a.m. until midnight. Ms. Jackson stated that there is no bar service and that beverages are served in closed containers. Ms. Jackson stated that most people purchase alcohol at the hotel between 6 p.m. and midnight, and that she will work with Ms. Miller to ensure that she would visit when most of the alcohol sales are made. Ms. Jackson stated that a hotel guest would not be able to call and order alcohol, but instead would have to present themselves in person with identification. Ms. Jackson stated delivery services do come to the hotel and stop at the front desk, but she is

unaware of what they deliver, as all items are bagged.

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 Kimberly Asner Miller and Christopher Michael Ropko (the “Applicants”), on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a Hampton Inn & Suites (“Hampton Inn & Suites”), have applied for a resident agent change, replacing Kimberly Elizabeth Hart, for a Class D, Beer and Light Wine, 7-Day 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 Kimberly Asner Miller, 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 Kimberly Asner Miller and Christopher Michael Ropko (the “Applicants”), on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a Hampton

Inn & Suites (“Hampton Inn & Suites”), have applied for a resident agent change, replacing Kimberly Elizabeth Hart, for a Class D, Beer and Light Wine, 7-Day 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 Kimberly Asner Miller, 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 29th day of June, 2022, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Kimberly Asner Miller and Christopher Michael Ropko (the “Applicants”), on behalf of HI Concessions Columbia, LLC, t/a Hampton Inn & Suites (“Hampton Inn & Suites”), for a resident agent change, replacing Kimberly Elizabeth Hart, for a Class D, Beer and Light Wine, 7-Day 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:

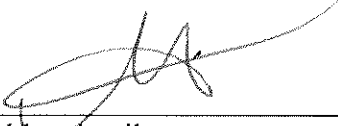
- (a) That the Applicants comply with all State and County laws and regulations;
- (b) That the Applicants satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by November 24, 2022 unless that deadline is extended by the Hearing Board upon good

cause shown;

- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

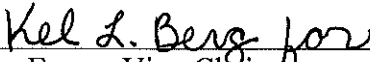
**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,
MARYLAND**



Ashley Aguilar
Board Administrator



Mary Bird, Chairperson

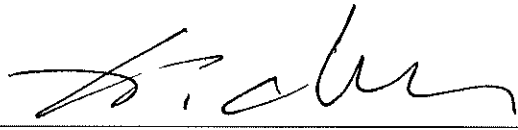


Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson

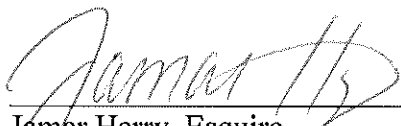
**REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY
OFFICE OF LAW
GARY W. KUC
COUNTY SOLICITOR**



Charley Sung, Member



Steve Chen, Member



Jamar Herry, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor



Claire Kim, Member