

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF BHUMIKA	*	
SUNIL GOHIL AND PARAG	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
MANHENDRAKUMAR	*	
PANCHOLI ON BEHALF OF	*	FOR
SHIVA WINE & SPIRITS, LLC,	*	
T/A HOWARD WINE & SPIRITS	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
FOR A RESIDENT AGENT	*	
CHANGE ON A CLASS A BEER,	*	Case No.: 22-09
WINE, AND LIQUOR 7-DAY	*	
OFF SALE LICENSE	*	

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 March 22, 2022, the Hearing Board heard the application of Bhumika Sunil Gohil and Parag Manhendrakumar Pancholi (the “Applicants”), on behalf of Shiva Wine & Spirits, LLC, t/a Howard Wine & Spirits (“Howard Wine & Spirits”), for a resident agent change, replacing Ryan Michael Smith on a Class A, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day Off Sale License for a 3,192 sq. ft. package store located at 7700 Hearthside Way, Suite 1, Elkridge, MD 21075.

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 Christopher DeCarlo, Esquire.

All the documents on file were incorporated into the record by reference.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Bhumika Sunil Gohil, 10% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and

testified before the Board.

Ms. Gohil testified that she is an authorized member of Shiva Wine & Spirits LLC and Mr. Parag Manhendrakumar Pancholi, the current licensee, holds the remaining 90% financial interest. Ms. Gohil stated she has lived in Howard County for over 5 years and she understands she must continue to reside in Howard County as long as she is the resident agent on the license. Ms. Gohil stated she has never been convicted of a felony, does not have a financial interest in any other liquor license, and has not previously held a liquor license. Ms. Gohil stated she works as a Senior Business Analyst with an IT company in Maryland, she plans to continue working at her job, and that she holds a master's degree in technology.

Ms. Gohil stated she plans to start out making unannounced visits to the store 3-4 times a month at various hours. Ms. Gohil stated she has registered for the Alcohol Awareness Certification course. Ms. Gohil stated she understands that the Liquor Board will look to her as the resident agent to assure that the alcohol beverage laws are enforced and complied with. Ms. Gohil stated she has reviewed the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations of Howard County and she understands them. Ms. Gohil stated no prohibited practices will occur, she will make sure the ID scanners are being used, she will check the liquor records and make sure she is abiding by the laws, and she will ensure liquor is not being sold to minors.

Ms. Gohil stated her husband has an ownership interest in Linthicum Heights, but she is not an interest holder in that business. Ms. Gohil stated she is replacing the resident agent because he has moved out of the County and she lives close to the store and it is easy for her to access the business. Ms. Gohil stated she plans on being at the store during the busiest times in the evening.

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 Bhumika Sunil Gohil and Parag Manhendrakumar Pancholi, on behalf of Shiva Wine & Spirits, LLC, t/a Howard Wine & Spirits have applied for a resident agent change, replacing Ryan Michael Smith on a Class A, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day Off Sale License for a 3,192 sq. ft. package store located at 7700 Hearthside Way, Suite 1, Elkridge, MD 21075.

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 Ms. Gohil, 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 Bhumika Sunil Gohil and Parag Manhendrakumar Pancholi, on behalf of Shiva Wine & Spirits, LLC, t/a Howard Wine & Spirits have applied for a resident agent change, replacing Ryan Michael Smith on a Class A, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day Off Sale License for a 3,192 sq. ft. package store located at 7700 Hearthside Way, Suite 1, Elkridge, MD 21075.

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 Ms. Gohil, 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 12th day of April, 2022, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Bhumika Sunil Gohil and Parag Manhendrakumar Pancholi, on behalf of Shiva Wine & Spirits, LLC, t/a Howard Wine & Spirits for a resident agent change, replacing Ryan Michael Smith on a Class A, Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-Day Off Sale License for a 3,192 sq. ft. package store located at 7700 Hearthside Way, Suite 1, Elkridge, MD 21075, 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 September 22, 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:



Ashley Aguilar
Board Administrator

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

Kel L. Berg for

Mary Bird, Chairperson

Kel L. Berg for

Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson

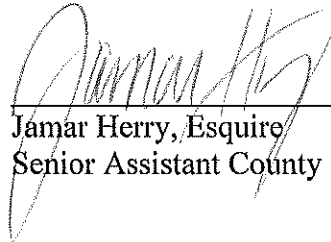
**REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY
OFFICE OF LAW
GARY W. KUC
COUNTY SOLICITOR**

Kel L. Berg for

Charley Sung, Member

Kel L. Berg for

Steve Chen, Member



Jamar Herry, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

Kel L. Berg for

Claire Kim, Member