

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF RAJIV	*	
RAJ ON BEHALF OF NAAN	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
STOP, LLC T/A LONDON	*	
CURRY HOUSE FOR A NEW	*	FOR
CLASS B BEER, WINE &	*	
LIQUOR 7 -DAY LICENSE	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
	*	
	*	Case No.: 22-31
	*	

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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 July 12, 2022, the Hearing Board heard the application of Rajiv Raj (the “Applicant”) on behalf of Naan Stop, LLC t/a London Curry House (“London Curry House”) for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day license for a 1,200 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7500 Montpelier Road #104, Laurel, MD 20724.

The hearing was properly advertised, and the property posted pursuant to the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicant was represented by Bruce Kurlander, 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**

Rajiv Raj, 100% interest holder and proposed resident agent, was sworn in and

testified before the Hearing Board.

Mr. Raj testified that his home address is in Howard County, that he has lived there for about 12 years, and that he is registered to vote in Howard County. Mr. Raj stated that he is the 100% owner of Naan Stop, LLC, and that he also manages the business. Mr. Raj stated that London Curry House is an Indian cuisine restaurant and that it is not open yet. Mr. Raj stated that when the restaurant opens, he expects to spend 100% of his time there, as that is his only business. Mr. Raj stated that his role at the restaurant will be to manage, supervise and step in as needed.

Mr. Raj stated that he is Alcohol Awareness Certified, and that he will make certain that an Alcohol Awareness Certified employee will be on-site whenever the restaurant is open. Mr. Raj stated he is familiar with the Howard County Liquor Board Rules and Regulations. Mr. Raj stated that the legal age for someone to be served alcohol in Howard County is 21, and that the legal age for someone to serve alcohol is 18, but that he will probably require that the age to serve alcohol at his restaurant be 21. Mr. Raj stated that he has never previously held a liquor license. Mr. Raj testified to the exact location of the restaurant, and that previously the space was utilized for another Indian restaurant. Mr. Raj stated that he hopes to open the business at the end of July once he has received the liquor license and has enough staff. Mr. Raj stated that he expects the restaurant to have about 15% of alcohol sales. Mr. Raj stated that he plans to hire 4 staff members for the front of the restaurant and have 2 to 3 staff members in the kitchen. Mr. Raj stated that at any given time, at least one staff member and himself would be Alcohol Awareness Certified at the restaurant, and that eventually everyone on staff would be certified.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicant

waived his 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 Rajiv Raj (the "Applicant") on behalf of Naan Stop, LLC t/a London Curry House ("London Curry House") has applied for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day license for a 1,200 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7500 Montpelier Road #104, Laurel, MD 20724.

2. The Hearing Board finds that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to hold an alcoholic beverage license.

3. The Hearing Board finds that Rajiv Raj 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 Rajiv Raj (the "Applicant") on behalf of Naan Stop, LLC t/a London Curry House ("London Curry House") has applied for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day license for a 1,200 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7500 Montpelier Road #104, Laurel, MD 20724.

2. The Hearing Board concludes that the Applicant is a fit and proper person to hold an alcoholic beverage license.

3. The Hearing Board concludes that Rajiv Raj 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2022, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED** that the application of Rajiv Raj (the "Applicant") on behalf of Naan Stop, LLC t/a London Curry House ("London Curry House") for a New Class B, Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day license for a 1,200 sq. ft. restaurant located at 7500 Montpelier Road #104, Laurel, MD 20724, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Applicant comply with all State and County Rules and Regulations; and
- (b) That the Applicant satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by January 12, 2023, 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**



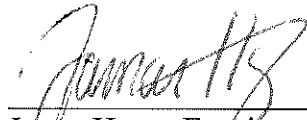
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ashley Aguilar  
Board Administrator

*Kel L. Berg for*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Bird, Chairperson

*Kel L. Berg for*  
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Harry Evans, Vice-Chairperson

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

*Kel L. Berg for*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Charley Sung, Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jamar Herry, Esquire  
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

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**ABSENT**  
Steven Chen, Member

*Kel L. Berg for*  
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Claire Kim, Member