

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF MANILA NATASHA	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
KAPUR AND RAGHU KUMAR ON	*	FOR HOWARD COUNTY,
BEHALF OF INDIGO RESTAURANT	*	MARYLAND
GROUP, LLC T/A INDIGO, FOR A NEW	*	
CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR	*	Case No.: 19-12
7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE	*	

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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 February 26, 2019, the Hearing Board heard the application of Manila Natasha Kapur and Raghu Kumar (“Applicants”), on behalf of Indigo Restaurant Group, LLC, t/a Indigo (“Indigo”), for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,734-square foot restaurant with a 695-square foot outdoor patio located at 8874 McGaw Road, Columbia, Maryland 21045.

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**

Raghu Kumar, proposed manager and 45% interest holder, was sworn and testified that he is alcohol awareness certified and plans to spend approximately 60

hours per week at the restaurant. He said that he father is also a 45% interest holder.

Mr. Kumar stated that he has read the Board's Rules and will abide by them.

The following Applicants' exhibits were offered and accepted into the record:

***Exhibit No. 1 – Proposed Menu for Indigo***

***Exhibit No. 2 – Alcohol Awareness Certificate for Raghu Kumar***

Mr. Kumar testified that the hours of operation will be Sunday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Mr. Kumar testified that he plans to have 10-16 employees, all servers will be TAMs certified and that someone who is alcohol awareness certified will be on site at all times.

Mr. Kumar testified that the outdoor patio will be surrounded by 40-inch metal fencing and patrons will have to enter the restaurant to get into the patio area. He stated that a server will be dedicated solely to the outdoor patio area if there are customers utilizing the patio.

Manila Natasha Kapur, proposed resident agent and 10% interest owner, was sworn and testified that she has lived in Howard County for 11 years, is a registered voter and has never been on a liquor license before. Ms. Kapur testified that she is alcohol awareness certified and has read the Board's Rules and will abide by them. Ms. Kapur stated that she will visit the restaurant at least once per week to observe operations and to check documentation and records.

The following applicants' exhibit was offered and accepted into the record:

***Exhibit No. 3 - Alcohol Awareness Certificate for Manila N. Kapur***

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 Manila Natasha Kapur and Raghu Kumar, on behalf of Indigo Restaurant Group, LLC, t/a Indigo, have applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 2,734-square foot restaurant with a 695-square foot outdoor patio located at 8874 McGaw Road, Columbia, Maryland 21045.

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 Manila Natasha Kapur has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and has a 10% financial interest in Indigo.

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 this application will not unduly disturb the peace and safety of the residents of the neighborhood.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. The Hearing Board concludes that Manila Natasha Kapur and Raghu Kumar, on behalf of Indigo Restaurant Group, LLC, t/a Indigo, have applied for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,734-square

foot restaurant with a 695-square foot outdoor patio located at 8874 McGaw Road, Columbia, Maryland 21045.

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 Manila Natasha Kapur 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2019, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County **ORDERED** that the application of Manila Natasha Kapur and Raghu Kumar, on behalf of Indigo Restaurant Group, LLC, t/a Indigo, for a new Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 2,734-square foot restaurant with a 695-square foot outdoor patio located at 8874 McGaw Road, Columbia, Maryland 21045, 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; and


(b) That the Applicants satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by June 12, 2019, unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good

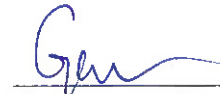
cause shown; and

(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


  
Robin Regner  
Board Administrator

  
Gene Ryan, Chairperson

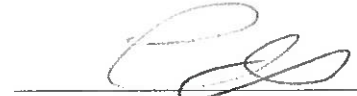
  
Mary Bird, Vice Chairperson

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

ABSENT AT TIME OF SIGNING  
Charles C. Feaga, Member

  
Lewis Taylor, Esquire  
Senior Assistant County Solicitor

ABSENT  
Heather Gaetano, Member

  
Charley C. Sung, Member