

IN THE MATTER OF THE	*	BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF JOHN WEI CHEN	*	BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
ON BEHALF OF HOWARD	*	FOR
KATANA, INC. T/A KATANA SUSHI	*	HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
FOR A NEW CLASS B BEER, WINE	*	
AND LIQUOR 7-DAY ON SALE	*	
LICENSE	*	Case No.: 21-01

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 November 24, 2020, the Hearing Board heard the application of John Wei Chen (“Applicant”) on behalf of Howard Katana, Inc., t/a Katana Sushi (“Katana Sushi”) for a new Class B Beer, Wine and Liquor, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,890-square foot restaurant located at 6343 Ten Oaks Road, Suite 401, Clarksville, MD 21029.

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

John Wei Chen, sole applicant and 100% interest owner of Katana Sushi was sworn in and testified as follows:

Mr. Chen testified that he recently purchased the Katana Sushi in Clarksville and

would like to be able to serve alcoholic beverages. Mr. Chen testified that the restaurant, which has been in business since 2006 and has seating for 110 customers, formerly had a liquor license and was successful with it. Mr. Chen stated that he will serve as the Manager and will be at the restaurant approximately 30 hours a week.

Mr. Chen testified that he currently owns and is the manager of the Katana Sushi in Mt. Airy, which has a liquor license. Mr. Chen testified that the Katana in Mt. Airy had one violation in 2016 for which a server served alcohol to a minor and was subsequently fired. There have been no other violations.

Mr. Chen testified that he is a resident of Howard County and a registered voter. Mr. Chen stated that he is Alcohol Awareness certified and will have all servers of his restaurant certified if the license is approved. Mr. Chen testified that he has read the Boards Rules and Regulations and will abide by them.

There were no exhibits were entered into the record.

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 John Wei Chen on behalf of Howard Katana, Inc., t/a Katana Sushi has applied for a new Class B Beer and Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,890-square foot restaurant located at 6343 Ten Oaks Road, Suite 401, Clarksville, MD 21029.
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 the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.

4. 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 The Hearing Board finds that John Wei Chen on behalf of Howard Katana, Inc., t/a Katana Sushi has applied for a new Class B Beer and Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,890-square foot restaurant located at 6343 Ten Oaks Road, Suite 401, Clarksville, MD 21029.

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

3. The Hearing Board concludes that the granting of the application is necessary for the accommodation of the public.

4. 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 *3rd* day of *March*, 2021, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, **ORDERED**, that the application of John Wei Chen on behalf of Howard Katana, Inc., t/a Katana Sushi for a new Class B Beer and Wine, 7-day on-sale license for a 3,890-square foot restaurant located at 6343 Ten Oaks Road, Suite 401, Clarksville, MD 21029, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED**, subject to the following conditions:

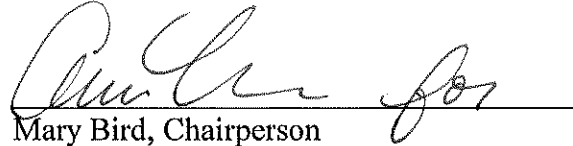
- (a) That the Applicant comply with all State and County laws and regulations;
and
- (b) That the Applicant satisfy any requirements necessary to obtain the license by April 20, 2021, unless that deadline is extended by the Board upon good cause shown; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

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



Robin Regner
Board Administrator

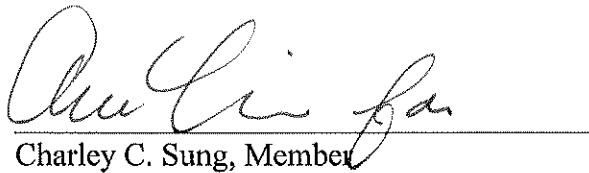


Mary Bird, Chairperson

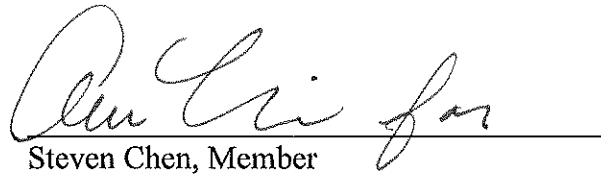
ABSENT

Harry Evans, Vice Chairperson

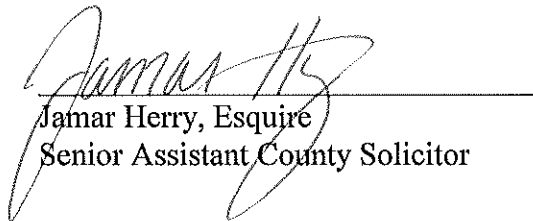
**REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY
OFFICE OF LAW
GARY W. KUC
COUNTY SOLICITOR**



Charley C. Sung, Member



Steven Chen, Member



Jamar Herry, Esquire
Senior Assistant County Solicitor



Claire Kim, Member