

IN THE MATTER OF THE * BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF NISHA M. *
MUJMUDAR ON BEHALF OF HOPKINS * BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
HOSPITALITY INVESTORS, LLC, t/a *
HOMWOOD SUITES, FOR A NEW * FOR
CLASS D BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR *
7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE * HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
*
* Case No. 15-37
*

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 21, 2015, the Hearing Board heard the application of Nisha M. Majmudar (“Applicant”), on behalf of Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC, t/a Homewood Suites (“Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC”), for a new Class D Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,992 square foot tavern with a 2,034 square foot outdoor patio located at 7531 Montpelier Road, Laurel, Maryland 20723. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicant was represented by Thomas M. 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. These include the following: a letter from the attorney for the Applicant enclosing an application; a list of investors for Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC; a copy of the background investigation questionnaire for the Applicant; certification from the State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation dated May 13, 2013, stating that Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC is registered; a copy of the floor plan; a copy of the Articles of Organization of Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC; an attached packet to include information on the Project Team; a copy of the site plan; aerial photographs of the location; project information; floor

plans of a one bedroom suite; floor plans of the lobby, lounge, and meeting room; floor plans of the lobby, lounge and meeting room-zone philosophy; floor plans of the patio; photographs of the lobby, lounge, and meeting room; floor plans showing the banquet room; the product overview; information on the amenities and food and beverage offered; Homewood Suites brand standard; areas requiring liquor license; certification of completion of BEST alcohol awareness training for Vikrant Bhasin and Sharon Kim; a memorandum dated June 12, 2015, from the Liquor Board to the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector, the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits, the Bureau of Environmental Health, and the Department of Planning and Zoning, and the Office of the Fire Marshal; the background investigation of the Applicant by the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector dated July 15, 2015; an email dated June 17, 2015, from the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits; a memorandum dated June 15, 2015, from the Department of Planning and Zoning; a memorandum dated June 24, 2015 from the Bureau of Environmental Health; a letter dated June 9, 2015, to the Department of Finance; a letter dated June 15, 2015, from the Department of Finance; a letter dated June 9, 2015, to the Comptroller of Maryland; a letter dated July 17, 2015, from the Comptroller of Maryland; an email to the attorney for the applicant enclosing a letter dated June 12, 2015, with notification of the hearing date and the necessity to advertise; a letter dated July 20, 2015, from the attorney for the Applicant enclosing the certification of advertisement from the Howard County Times and the Baltimore Sun;; and an email dated July 5, 2015, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Nisha M. Majmudar, authorized person and 10% shareholder for Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC t/a Homewood Suites, was sworn and testified that she has lived in Howard County for 16 years, that she is a registered voter, and is alcohol awareness certified. Ms. Majmudar testified that she is employed by Star Global Ventures/Star Management Group and has been involved with the Hilton project. Ms. Majmudar testified that she has recently been focusing on Homewood Suites. Ms. Majmudar testified that she has worked with them from pre-construction until now, and is very familiar with the operation. Ms. Majmudar testified she plans to be at Homewood Suites daily for the first month, and after that, she will keep in touch with the manager.

Ms. Majmudar testified that Homewood Suites is a hotel with 112 room, and that customers usually stay at anywhere from a few days to an extended time period. Ms. Majmudar testified that they plan to provide complimentary food, beer, and wine to their guests during the week from Monday through Thursday between the hours of 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. Ms. Majmudar testified that the hours in the banquet room will vary, depending on the event. Ms. Majmudar testified that they are requesting a total of 8,026 square feet be licensed. The area would include 2,016 square feet for the lobby, 3,720 square feet for the meeting room, 256 square feet for storage, and 2,034 square feet to include the outdoor patio. Ms. Majmudar testified that staff members will monitor the patio area, and that they have a surveillance system that will also monitor the area. Ms. Majmudar testified that they will have five employees serving alcoholic beverages, two servers who will be alcohol certified, two servers who will monitor the areas, and one manager. Ms. Majmudar testified that their sales will generate more from alcoholic beverages than food.

The following Exhibits were entered into the record:

Exhibit #1 – alcohol awareness certification for Nisha Majmudar

Exhibit #2 – the Operating Agreement for Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC

Exhibit #3 – a Designation of Successor Manager for Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC

Exhibit #4 – a Transfer of Interest in Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC from Mr. Majmudar to Ms. Majmudar

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicant's attorney waived the right to request the Liquor Board to hear the case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Hearing Board finds that Nisha M. Majmudar on behalf of Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC, t/a Homewood Suites, has applied for a new Class D Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,992 square foot tavern with a 2,034 square foot outdoor patio located at 7531 Montpelier Road, Laurel, Maryland 20723.

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 Nisha M. Majmudar has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and 10% shareholder and sole authorized person of Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC t/a Homewood Suites.

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 in the neighborhood.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Hearing Board concludes that Nisha M. Majmudar on behalf of Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC, t/a Homewood Suites, has applied for a new Class D Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,992 square foot tavern with a 2,034 square foot outdoor patio located at 7531 Montpelier Road, Laurel, Maryland 20723.

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 Nisha M. Majmudar meets the requirements of Rules 1.09(T), 1.09(U), 2.06, and 2.10 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 in the neighborhood.

ORDER

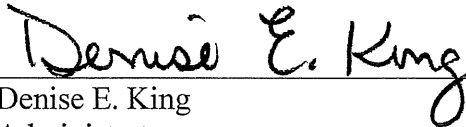
For the foregoing reasons, it is this 11th day of August, 2015, by the Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board of Howard County, Maryland **ORDERED** that the application of Nisha M. Majmudar on behalf of Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC, t/a Homewood Suites, for a new Class D Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 5,992 square foot tavern with a 2,034 square foot outdoor patio located at 7531 Montpelier Road, Laurel, Maryland 20723, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

1. That this **PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER** shall become final when the Applicant obtains the license and complies with the following conditions:

- (a) The Applicant complies with all State and County rules and regulations; and
- (b) The Applicants submits a copy of the Operating Agreement for Hopkins Hospitality Investors, LLC, t/a Homewood Suites, and a copy of the Transfer of Interest in Hopkins Hospitality, LLC by majority member Mukash Majmudar; and
- (c) Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license by September 30, 2015, shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,
MARYLAND



Denise E. King
Administrator

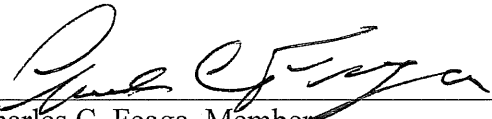


Mary Bird, Chairperson

ABSENT

Harry Evans, III, Vice-Chairperson

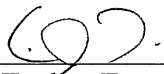
REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY
OFFICE OF LAW
GARY W. KUC
COUNTY SOLICITOR




Charles C. Feaga, Member



Heather Gaetano, Member



Lewis Taylor, Esquire
Assistant County Solicitor



Charley C. Sung, Member