

IN THE MATTER OF THE * BEFORE THE ALCOHOLIC
APPLICATION OF RUSTEM KESKIN, *
KURU MAHMUT KESKIN, AND DILEK * BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD
KESKIN ON BEHALF OF KESKIN, INC. *
t/a RUDY'S MEDITERRANEAN GRILL, * FOR
FOR A CHANGE IN CLASS ON A *
CLASS B BEER AND LIGHT WINE *
LIQUOR 7-DAY ON-SALE LICENSE * HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND
*
* Case No. 15-34
*

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 Rustem Keskin, Kuru Mahmut Keskin, and Dilek Keskin ("Applicants"), on behalf of Keskin, Inc. t/a Rudy's Mediterranean Grill ("Keskin, Inc."), for a change of class from a Class B Beer and Light Wine 7-day on sale license to a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 1,850 square foot restaurant located at 7185 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046. The hearing was properly advertised pursuant to Article 2B of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Applicants were represented by Anastasia Thomas Nardangeli, 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: the application; a copy of the background investigation questionnaires for the Applicants; copies of the Certificate of Naturalization for Kuru Mahmut Keskin and Rustem Keskin; a copy of the United States Permanent Resident card for Dilek Keskin; a copy of the floor plan; a copy of the Corporate Charter Approval Sheet for Keskin, Inc.; a copy of the Articles of Incorporation of Keskin, Inc.; a memorandum dated June 4, 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; the background investigations of the Applicants by the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector dated July 15, 2015; a memorandum dated July 7, 2015, from the Department of Planning and Zoning; a letter dated June 4, 2015, to the Department of Finance; a letter dated June 8, 2015, from the Department of Finance; a letter dated June 4, 2015, to the Comptroller of Maryland; a letter dated June 17, 2015, from the Comptroller of Maryland; an email to the Applicants enclosing a letter dated June 4, 2015, with notification of the hearing date and the necessity to advertise; copies of certification of advertisement from the Baltimore Sun and the Howard County Times; an email dated June 17, 2015, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the premises had been posted; and an email dated June 29, 2015, from the Alcoholic Beverage Inspector stating the posting had been amended.

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

Rustem Keskin, 40% shareholder for Keskin, Inc. t/a Rudy's Mediterranean Grill, was sworn and testified that he has been open for three years offering beer and wine to his customers to compliment his Mediterranean cuisine. Mr. Keskin testified that his customers have been requesting cocktails with their meals, and he would like to accommodate them.

Mr. Keskin testified that he is on premises from opening until close. Mr. Keskin testified that they have four employees and one bartender who are all alcohol awareness certified.

Pursuant to Rule 6.13 of the Liquor Board Rules and Regulations, the Applicants waived the right to request the Liquor Board to hear the case.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The Hearing Board finds that Rustem Keskin, Kuru Mahmut Keskin, and Dilek Keskin on behalf of Keskin, Inc. t/a Rudy's Mediterranean Grill have applied for a change of class from a Class B Beer and Light Wine 7-day on sale license to a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 1,850 square foot restaurant located at 7185 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

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 Rustem Keskin has been a Howard County resident for more than two years, is a registered voter, and a 40% shareholder of Keskin, Inc. t/a Rudy's Mediterranean Grill.

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 Rustem Keskin, Kuru Mahmut Keskin, and Dilek Keskin on behalf of Keskin, Inc. t/a Rudy's Mediterranean Grill have applied for a change of class from a Class B Beer and Light Wine 7-day on sale license to a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 1,850 square foot restaurant located at 7185 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046.

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 Rustem Keskin 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 Rustem Keskin, Kuru Mahmut Keskin, and Dilek Keskin on behalf of Keskin, Inc. t/a Rudy's Mediterranean Grill, for a change of class from a Class B Beer and Light Wine 7-day on sale license to a Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor 7-day on-sale license for a 1,850 square foot restaurant located at 7185 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, Maryland 21046, be and the same is hereby **GRANTED** subject to the following conditions:

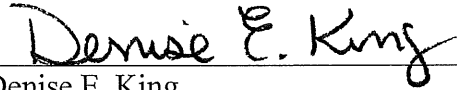
1. That this **PROPOSED DECISION AND ORDER** shall become final when the Applicants obtain the license and comply with the following conditions:

(a) The Applicants comply with all State and County rules and regulations; and

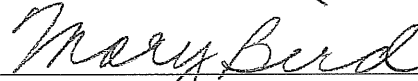
(b) Failure to comply with these conditions and obtain the license by September 30, 2015, shall render this Proposed Decision and Order null and void.

ATTEST:

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING
BOARD OF HOWARD COUNTY,
MARYLAND



Denise E. King
Administrator



Mary Bird, Chairperson

ABSENT

Harry Evans, III, Vice-Chairperson

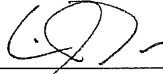
REVIEWED BY HOWARD COUNTY
OFFICE OF LAW
GARY W. KUC
COUNTY SOLICITOR



Charles C. Feaga, Member



Heather Gaetano, Member



Lewis Taylor, Esquire
Assistant County Solicitor



Charley C. Sung, Member