

**BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS  
CARROLL COUNTY, MARYLAND  
MINUTES**

**On February 10, 2016, the Board of License Commissioners met in Room 003/004 of the Carroll County Office Building, 225 North Center Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Board members Robert Tabler, Acting Chair, David Brauning and George Harmening were present as well as Assistant County Attorney Timothy Dixon, Counsel to the Board, Jo Vance, Administrative Hearings Coordinator, Charles Kaizer, Senior Liquor Inspector, and Keith Benfer, Liquor Inspector.**

**10:00 a.m.**, the Board addressed the following official business:

1. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5921**, a violation hearing for a Class BR – Beer, Wine and Liquor license with catering issued to Michael Thompson, Christopher Wireman and Ronald Lowery, Jr., for the use of The Old Town Grill, LLC, t/a The Old Town Grill, 832 South Main Street, Hampstead, MD 21074 – sale to a minor. The licensees present did not contest the violation. However, they have posted in the restaurant that they no longer accept any vertical ID's. They have also provided training for all of the servers and they hold monthly meetings with staff to stress the seriousness of age compliance checks. The Board found the establishment culpable in this matter and fined it \$300.00 for a first offense.
2. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5922**, a violation hearing for a Class C – Beer, Wine and Liquor license issued James W. Brown, Marvin Frush, and Richard Hess for the use of Hampstead American Legion Post 200-Bldg.Corp., t/a Hampstead American Legion Post 200, 4600 Legion Lane, Hampstead, MD 21074 – sale to a minor. The server, Ms. Zepp, testified and she looked at the vertical license and misread the date of birth. She was the on duty manager at the time. The Board found the establishment culpable in this matter and fined it \$300.00 for a first offense.
3. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5023**, a violation hearing for a Class B – Beer, Wine and Liquor license issued to Karen Regina LoBue, for the use of American Dream Corp., t/a Tony's Café and Pizzeria, 520 East Baltimore Street, Taneytown, MD 21787 – sale to a minor. Inspector Benfer testified that the server in this instance gave no reason for serving the minor. She had no formal TAM or TIPS training, but was trained to be a bartender. She was told several times by her employers not serve anyone with a vertical ID. The Board found the establishment culpable in this matter and fined it \$600.00 for this second offense.
4. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5925**, an application for the transfer of a Class B – Beer, Wine and Liquor license to be issued to Leonardo Sauro for the use of Upper Deck 965, LLC, t/a Upper Deck Sports Bar & Grill, 237 South Main Street, Mt. Airy, MD 21771, in Election District 4. Michael Ritchey, Esq. appeared on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Sauro testified that he has been a Carroll County resident for eleven years, is a registered voter, and pays property taxes. Jamie Sauro, his wife,

is currently the Resident Licensee on the J&P in Eldersburg, but that she will be coming off of that license as soon as it can be arranged because she is going to be the hands on manager of the Upper Deck establishment. Jeff Green, Beth Barns and Frank Illiano all testified as to the fit and proper character of Leonardo Sauro. After consulting with counsel, the Board voted unanimously to approve the transfer. The zoning issue by the Town of Mt. Airy was something that would be addressed by the Town and the landlord of the property.

5. A hearing was held in the matter of **Case 5927**, an application for the transfer of a Class A – Beer, Wine and Liquor license to be issued to John Balassone for the use of Anaya, LLC, t/a Harvey’s General Store, 4170 Francis Scott Key Highway, Taneytown, MD 21787 in Election District 1. Mr. Clark Shaffer, Esq. appeared on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Balassone testified that he has been a Carroll County resident for nineteen years at his current address, and that he is a registered voter and pays property taxes. He is not yet TAM certified, but plans to be in the near future. He also testified that he would be in the store no less than two days a week and would own 1% of the stock. Raheel Johri and Ayesha Asif would own the remainder of the business and Mr. Johri testified that he plans to decrease his hours in the accounting business and increase his time in the store in Carroll County. Mr. Robert Boyer, the present owner, testified as to the fit and proper character of Mr. Balassone and Mr. Johri and Ms. Asif. Upon a unanimous vote, the Board approved the transfer.
6. The Business Meeting portion of the day occurred between hearings and the following items were approved: Dave Johansson requested permission for outdoor serving of beer with catering for the Celtic Canter on March 12, 2016; the Westminster American Legion submitted their dates for outdoor events for 2016 and these were approved by the Board; an application from the City of Westminster for a one day liquor license for a whiskey tasting on Locust Lane was approved for March 12, 2016 as part of the Celtic Canter; a letter from The Stables restaurant requesting permission for outdoor deck parties was submitted with specific dates and the Board approved their request; there was a brief discussion about the proposed legislation that would affect the tasting licenses granted to Class A establishments; and lastly the Board has prepared a response to the Licensed Beverage Association regarding their suggestions for Class D licenses, but no one from the Association appeared.

At this time Mr. Tabler adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Jo Vance  
Administrator Hearings Coordinator  
Office of Administrative Hearings