

July 19, 2019

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Donovan Anderson, Chair Alcoholic Beverage Control Board ("Board") 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 400S Washington, DC 20009

VIA E-MAIL: <u>abra.legal@dc.gov</u>

RE: District Soul Food & Restaurant LLC t/a District Soul Food & Lounge, 500 8th Street S.E., ABRA-112072, Retailer's Class CR, License Renewal, Case #19-PRO-00078

Dear Chair Anderson:

At its regularly scheduled, properly noticed, meeting on July 9, 2019, with a quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B voted 9-0-0 to request that the ABRA Board (Board) defer the Status Hearing until after the mediation date and defer the Protest Hearing date until after September 18. 2019. This request is being made with the knowledge and support of the Applicant.

At the Roll Call Hearing, the Applicant represented by Mr. David Rountree and Mr. Chander Jayaraman, representing ANC 6B (together referred herein as the "parties") appeared before Ms. Fletcher. Ms. Fletcher stated that the Board had assigned the dates for the Status Hearing (August 7, 2019) and Protest Hearing (September 18, 2019). The parties attempted to schedule a date for mediation to occur prior to the Status Hearing date but after reviewing our respective calendars, the parties were able to agree and scheduled the mediation for August 21, 2019. Per ABRA regulations, one of the primary reasons for the Status Hearing is for the parties to report to the Board the results of the mediation. Functionally, this would not be possible since the scheduled mediation occurs after the date of the Status Hearing so a deferment would be appropriate and reasonable for both parties.

The Commission further requests that the Board reschedule the Protest Hearing to occur after September 18. 2019 so that ANC 6B can continue to facilitate meetings between the Applicant and the residential neighbors to develop a good neighbor agreement. To the degree that these discussions are fruitful, deferring the case until after the next monthly meeting of ANC 6B will also provide the Commission with another opportunity to resolve any lingering issues or concerns and avoid going through a full protest hearing.

It is the understanding of ANC 6B that the Applicant concurs with our request for an extension of the petition deadline. However, if the Board denies the ANC's request for an deferment, the, ANC 6B will move forward with the protest.

Please contact Commissioner Chander Jayaraman, Chair of ANC 6B's ABC Committee, at 202-546-2609 or 6b08@anc.dc.gov if you have questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Chander Jayaraman Chairman, ANC 6B

cc: via email: Applicant: SMD Commissioner:

David Rountree Kirsten Oldenburg