



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 2, 2015

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board of the District of Columbia
Ms. Ruthanne Miller, Esq., Chairperson
2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 400S
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Members of the Board:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B (ANC2B) expresses concerns with the operations of the Midtown nightclub, 1219 Connecticut Avenue, in advance of the October 21, 2015, protest hearing concerning the renewal of Midtown's alcohol license.

When Midtown's license came up for renewal after September 30, 2013, residents asked that ANC2B protest the license renewal of Midtown in order to reduce the noise coming from its roof deck. At its November 13, 2013, meeting ANC protested the renewal of the license on the basis of peace, order and quiet. A "group of five or more" residents also protested the license. This group of residents will take the lead in a protest hearing that focuses on roof deck noise on September 16, 2015 with ANC participation in the presentation.

This letter is about separate but related problems damaging the peace, order, and quiet of our community. Since filing our protest based on noise, ANC2B has become aware of numerous other problems at Midtown as documented in ABRA's investigation history. On at least two occasions violence related to the establishment have been reported in the Washington Post. Serious problems requiring ABC Board attention since the "expiration" of the license on September 30, 2013, comprise underage drinking and violence including death, assault on police officers and sexual assault. We note that the Dupont Circle Citizens Association has also written the Board about the community's objections to the violence and underage drinking at Midtown.

Chapter 25-315 states that the Board is to review the record of the establishment at the time of renewal. This requirement is separate and unrelated to any protest which may or not accompany the renewal. This letter concerns that review. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B respectfully requests that the Board order restrictions to the license in order to reduce the problems listed above. We suggest that short of nonrenewal of the license for which the Board

has authority that the Board should consider other restrictions in order to reduce problems at this large establishment.

Our request for your attention to operational problems at Midtown are based solely on the public record and are separate from the noise-related requests being put forward as part of the noise-related protest.

This letter was approved by a vote of 4-0 with one abstention at ANC2B's regularly scheduled monthly meeting October 14, 2015.

Thank you for your consideration.

On behalf of the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noah Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N".

Noah Smith

Chairman

cc:

Martha.jenkins@dc.gov

Sarah.fashbaugh@dc.gov

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