STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

IN THE MATTER OF

Jasvir Kumar, Permittee Eshan Foods 1020 Fairfield Ave., #7 Bridgeport, CT 06605

Case No. 2017-54 Liquor Permit LGB.15202

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

This matter involves an application for a grocery beer permit for Eshan Foods, 1020 Fairfield Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. A formal administrative hearing was held before the Department of Consumer Protection, Liquor Control Commission, on May 18, 2017. Jasmir Kumar, permittee, appeared.

Based upon the evidence at the hearing the following facts are found: Liquor Control Agent Driffin was assigned to investigate this new application. She conducted an on-site investigation and observed the premise was not adequately stocked with groceries. She informed them they needed to provide more groceries and not just snack foods in order to qualify for a permit. She gave them the opportunity to increase their inventory. She returned to the store twice and there was no improvement. Agent Driffin also found the breakdown of sales in November 2016 was 38%-46% groceries. Based upon all this, this premise is not primarily engaged in the retail sale of grocery items and is not a bona fide grocery store. Additionally, there was a question under C.G.S. Sec. 30-51 as to interior access to the premise from the adjacent business.

Mr. Kumar testified they have owned the store for one year and provided pictures of the premise taken the prior day. These were submitted into the record, as well as an additional breakdown of sales and an affidavit regarding access to the proposed permit premise from elsewhere in the building which will be closed.

Based upon the testimony and evidence presented, we hereby find this store is not primarily engaged in the sale of groceries and does not operate as a grocery store within the meaning of Section 30-20(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes. Accordingly, the Department of Consumer Protection orders the application for a grocery store beer permit by Jasvir Kumar denied for failure to qualify with the requirements set forth in Section 30-20(c).

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION

BY:

Anne K. Stiber, Esq., Designated Presiding Officer

Angelo J. Faenza, Commissioner

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David An Scribner, Commissioner

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Approved, adopted and so ordered this 26^{+1} day of July, 2017.

Michelle H. Seagull Commissioner of Consumer Protection

Non-Parties: John Suchy, Director, Liquor Control Division Connecticut Beverage Journal Connecticut State Library, 231 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106