

**MINUTES OF LICENSE REVIEW BOARD MEETING  
CITY OF KENNESAW  
Council Chambers  
January 21, 2026  
2:00 PM**

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**1. Call to Order / Roll Call**

Chairperson Robert Thornton called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

Chairperson Thornton recognized Sam Hensley, Jr., Attorney for the License Review Board. Mr. Hensley advised the Board on several housekeeping items requiring action for the calendar year prior to calling the case.

Election of Officers – 2026 Calendar Year

Motion by Board Member Donald Perez to nominate Robert Thornton as Chair for the 2026 calendar year. Seconded by Board Member Tavares Chambless.

Vote taken: motion unanimously approved, 3–0. Motion passed.

Motion by Board Member Perez to nominate Tavares Chambless as Secretary for the 2026 calendar year. Seconded by Chairperson Thornton.

Vote taken: motion unanimously approved, 3–0. Motion passed.

**2. Appeal Hearings**

- A. Appeal of Alcohol License Application Denial for DVVS, Inc. (Licensee: Hitesh Patel) located at 1630 Old 41 Highway, Kennesaw, GA 30152.  
(Denial: December 31, 2025)

Mr. Hensley, Jr. advised that the Assistant Attorney for the City, Jamie Wingler, and Counsel for the Licensee, Traci Trippe, had agreed upon a Stipulation of Facts and a Consent Order to resolve the matter pending before the License Review Board.

Ms. Trippe indicated that her client wished to waive the reading of the Charges and Specifications.

Mr. Hensley, Jr. read the Stipulation and Consent Order into the record (see **Exhibit A**). Mr. Wingler addressed the Board and requested that it accept the Stipulation and consider the Consent Order. Ms. Trippe likewise requested that the Board grant the Consent Order as presented. She stated that she had extensive conversations with the Licensee, who understands the seriousness of the matter and the consequences his business has already experienced. She noted that the Licensee has had no violations from 2017 to the present and has implemented enhanced procedures within his organization to ensure that alcohol is not sold to minors. Ms. Trippe explained that the omission on the application was an oversight, as the Licensee misread the “and/or” language on the form. She further stated that the Licensee now understands that he

may consult with counsel prior to submitting future applications.

Board Member Chambless asked the Licensee, now recognizing that the application inquired whether an applicant had been arrested, charged, and/or convicted, what his plan would be for the next renewal.

Mr. Hensley, Jr. swore in the Licensee, Hitesh Patel.

Mr. Patel stated that his plan going forward is to consult with his attorneys whenever he has questions regarding the application. He accepted full responsibility for his interpretation of the form, explaining that he believed the question applied only to convictions and that, because his cases are still pending in court, he misinterpreted the question.

Board Member Perez asked how Mr. Patel maintains updated training materials, noting the challenges of operating a small business. Mr. Patel responded that he maintains a training manual, reviews it regularly, especially when onboarding new employees, and conducts ongoing training regarding underage alcohol sales. He stated that he has operated at the same location for 23 years, values the City of Kennesaw, and takes his responsibility seriously to ensure his employees represent his business appropriately.

Board Member Chambless noted the loss of revenue experienced by the Licensee and asked whether he understands the importance of providing accurate information on the application, given that a significant percentage of his business involves alcohol sales. Mr. Patel responded that alcohol and tobacco generate the majority of his sales and that, since January 1, 2026, he has lost thousands of dollars daily. He further stated that a new competitor had recently opened next door, making the timing particularly difficult.

Mr. Hensley, Jr. clarified that Mr. Patel's statements relate to what is referred to in the criminal realm as credit for time served, noting that the Licensee's business has not sold alcohol since January 1, 2026. He further emphasized that the two violations not initially disclosed on the application were not disqualifying for licensure and that the matter before the Board stemmed solely from the failure to disclose those items.

Mr. Wingler stated there was nothing further from the city.

Motion by Board Member Perez to accept the Consent Order as presented. Seconded by Board Member Chambless.

Vote taken: motion unanimously approved, 3-0. Motion passed.

### **3. Adjourn**

Chairman Thornton adjourned the hearing at 2:23 p.m.

BEFORE THE CITY OF KENNESAW LICENSE REVIEW BOARD  
STATE OF GEORGIA

CITY OF KENNESAW

v.

HITESH PATEL  
Applicant.

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**CONSENT ORDER**

This matter came before the Kennesaw License Review Board on January 21, 2026, on Applicant Hitesh Patel’s appeal from the denial of an alcohol license application for DVVS, Inc. and the parties having consented and agreed, and following a 3-0 vote by the Board, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. The facts contained in the Stipulation executed by the parties and attached hereto are hereby adopted as if fully set forth herein.
2. That DVVS, Inc. shall be prohibited from selling alcohol for a period of twenty-one (21) days, said period beginning on January 1, 2026, and ending on January 21, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.
3. That DVVS, Inc. shall be on probation beginning on January 22, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. While on probation, a violation of the KCO shall result in the revocation of the alcohol license through December 31, 2026.
4. Notwithstanding any reason to the contrary, the Kennesaw Business License Department may issue an alcohol license to the Applicant which will be valid beginning January 22, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2026, and thereafter as may be just and proper.

Dated this 21st day of January 2026.



Chair, License Review Board

BEFORE THE CITY OF KENNESAW LICENSE REVIEW BOARD  
STATE OF GEORGIA

CITY OF KENNESAW :  
 :  
v. :  
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HITESH PATEL :  
Applicant. :

**STIPULATION**

This matter came before the Kennesaw License Review Board on January 21, 2026, on Applicant Hitesh Patel’s appeal from the denial of an alcohol license application for DVVS, Inc., and the parties hereby consent and agree as follows:

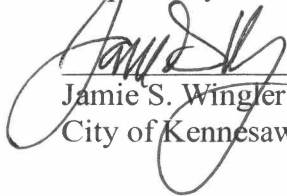
1. The Kennesaw’s Code of Ordinances (hereinafter “KCO”), Section 6-31, requires that all businesses apply for and receive an alcohol license prior to selling alcoholic beverages.
2. The KCO Section 6-59 requires that each applicant undergo a background check.
3. The KCO Section 6-45(a)(4) states that “No application for any license under this chapter shall be granted, retained, renewed or transferred where the application or the evidence shows any of the following conditions to exist: . . . Evidence that the applicant or licensee has failed to answer any question on the alcoholic beverage application accurately or failed to provide accurate information to the mayor and city council, license review board, police department, business license division staff or any city official or city employee.”
4. On or about December 15, 2025, Applicant applied for the renewal of an alcohol license for DVVS, Inc. located at 1630 Old 41 Highway, Kennesaw, Georgia 30152.
5. That location lies within the limits of the City of Kennesaw, Georgia.
6. The 2026 Alcohol License Renewal Application Consent for Background Check completed by the Applicant asks, “Have you ever been arrested, charged and/or convicted of a crime

in this country or any other country for any offense in the last five (5) years?” To which, Applicant responded “No.”

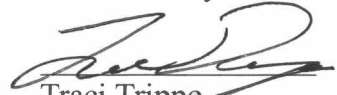
7. The Applicant attested that “I further understand that any falsification or intentional omission of requested information will result in denial of my application for an Alcohol License.”
8. The background check revealed that the Applicant omitted arrests for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol that occurred on December 26, 2024, and Disorderly Conduct that occurred on August 18, 2025.
9. Neither arrest if disclosed would require automatic denial of the alcohol license. *See generally*, KCO Section 6-45.
10. By letter dated December 31, 2025, Applicant’s application was denied by the Director of Finance and Administration.
11. On December 31, 2025, Applicant filed an appeal of the application denial.
12. On December 31, 2025, the alcohol license for DVVS, Inc. expired.
13. On January 1, 2026, DVVS, Inc. ceased selling alcoholic beverages.
14. In 2017, DVVS, Inc. received a twenty-one-day suspension from this Board for an underage sale and pouring permit violation.
15. All hearing formality is hereby waived.

Dated this 21st day of January 2026.

Prepared by:

  
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Jamie S. Wingler  
City of Kennesaw

Consented by:

  
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Traci Trippe  
Attorney for Applicant