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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE

NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

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March 24, 2026

Director
Licensing Issuance Division
NY State Liquor Authority 163 W. 125th Street
New York, New York 10027

Dear Sir/Madam:

At its Full Board meeting on March 19, 2026, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

Mala Fama LLC dba Taqueria El Chato 120 MacDougal St, north storefront, 10012
(WBC–Restaurant) (*previously unlicensed*)

- i. **Whereas**, the Applicant appeared before Community Board 2, Manhattan’s (CB2M) SLA Licensing Committee #1 to present an application to the NYS Liquor Authority (NYSLA) for a Restaurant Wine license to operate a full-service small taco restaurant in the ground floor of a seven (7)-story residential building with a non-conforming retail ground floor use (ca. 1901, renovated 1985) on MacDougal Street between Minetta Lane and Bleecker Street (Block #540/Lot #9), the building falling within NYC LPC’s South Village Historic District; and
- ii. **Whereas**, the ground floor premises is, according to documents supplied by the Applicant, approximately 754 sq. ft. (450 sq. ft. on the ground floor connected by an exterior sidewalk hatch to 450 sq. ft. in the basement with no patron use of the basement); there will be three (3) eating counters with 15 seats and for a total of 15 interior seats; the premises has one (1) door which will serve as patron ingress and egress and one (1) bathroom; the store front infill being fixed without operable doors or windows that open out to the sidewalk; there is no outdoor seating included with the application and no plans to have outdoor seating in the future; and
- iii. **Whereas**, the proposed hours of operation will be from 12 PM to 12 AM Sundays through Saturdays (7 days a week); music will be quiet background only consisting of music from iPod/CDs; there will be no dancing, DJs, live music, promoted events, no scheduled performances or cover fees, no velvet ropes, no movable barriers; and

- iv. **Whereas**, the premises, which has never previously been licensed for the service of alcohol, was most recently operated under the name of Mighty Bowls, a fast, casual Asian-inspired make-your-own bowls restaurant since approximately 2016; and
- v. **Whereas**, there already are a significant number of licensed establishments in both CB2M and in the immediate area, there being 120 active licensed premises and an additional 3 pending licenses within 750 feet of the premises proposed to be licensed according to LAMP, this application being for the service of Beer and Wine only and thus not subject to the 500 Foot Rule; the hours being reasonable and the Applicant having met with the local block association (Bleecker Area Merchants & Residents Association aka BAMRA) gaining their support, the principal who met with the block association being confirmed following CB2's SLA Committee meeting as a minority shareholder in the LLC; and
- vi. **Whereas**, the Applicant has executed and has had notarized a Stipulations Agreement with CB2M that they agreed to submit to the NYSLA and agreed would be attached and incorporated into the method of operation of the new Restaurant Wine liquor license, with those stipulations as follows:
 - 1. Will be advertised and operated as full-service taco restaurant focused on tacos, quesadillas, tostadas with the kitchen open and full menu items available until closing every night.
 - 2. The hours of operation will be 12 PM to 12 AM Sundays through Saturdays (7 days a week). All patrons will be cleared and no patrons will remain after stated closing time.
 - 3. Will not operate as a Lounge, Tavern or Sports Bar or allow any portion of premises to be operated in that manner.
 - 4. Will not operate a backyard garden or any other outdoor area for commercial purposes including any sidewalk café and/or roadbed seating.
 - 5. Will play recorded background music at conversational levels only, inclusive of any private parties or events. No music will be audible in any adjacent residences at any time.
 - 6. Will not have televisions.
 - 7. Will close all doors and windows at all times, allowing only for patron ingress and egress.
 - 8. Will not have patron occupancy/service to any portion of the basement of licensed premises.
 - 9. Will not install or have French doors, operable windows or open facade
 - 10. Will not make changes to the existing façade except to change signage or awning.
 - 11. Will comply with NYC Department of Buildings Regulations and keep current at all times required Permits and Certificates.
 - 12. Will not have unlimited drink or unlimited food and drink specials. Will not have “boozy brunches.” No pitchers of beer.
 - 13. Will not have: dancing, DJs, live music, promoted events, any event where cover fee is charged, scheduled performances, velvet ropes or metal barricades or security personnel/doorman.
 - 14. Will not add more principals as presented to CB2M with greater than 20% share of business prior to submission of original application to the NYSLA.
 - 15. Will appear before CB2M prior to submitting any changes to any stipulation agreed to herein.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that CB2M recommends denial of the application for a new Restaurant Wine liquor license for **Mala Fama LLC dba Taqueria El Chato 120 MacDougal St, north storefront, 10012** unless the statements the Applicant has presented are accurate and

complete, and that those conditions and stipulations agreed to by the Applicant above are incorporated into the “method of operation” of the NYSLA liquor license.

Vote: Unanimous, 33 Board Members in favor.

We respectfully request that your agency take action consistent with the positions expressed in the above.

Sincerely,



Donna Raftery, Chair
SLA Licensing 1 and 2 Committees
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Valerie De La Rosa, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan

VDLR/em

cc: Hon. Daniel Goldman, Congressman
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NY State Assembly
Hon. Grace Lee, State Assembly Member
Hon. Michael Levine, NYC Comptroller
Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, Man. Borough President
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Member
Hon. Christopher Marte, NYC Council Member
Hon. Harvey Epstein, NYC Council Member
Thomas Donohue, Deputy Commissioner of Licensing, NY State Liquor Authority



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Community Board 2 Liquor License Stipulations

The original signed and notarized form must be returned to the CB2 office by Friday, March 13, 2026.
If not returned 24 hours prior to CB2's full board meeting, the application will be denied.

I, Christopher Reyes as a qualified representative of Mala Fama LLC dba Taqueria el Chato located at 120 MacDougal Street, north storefront, New York, NY 10012 agree to the following stipulations:

Application Type: ☐ OP Restaurant/Tavern ☒ RW ☐ TW ☐ Alteration ☐ Other:

☒ Premise will be advertised and operated as a small taco shop.

☒ Hours of operation:

Sunday: 12 PM to 12 AM
Monday: 12 PM to 12 AM
Tuesday: 12 PM to 12 AM
Wednesday: 12 PM to 12 AM

Thursday: 12 PM to 12 AM
Friday: 12 PM to 12 AM
Saturday: 12 PM to 12 AM

(Premises will open no later than stated opening time and **NO** patrons will remain after stated closing time.)

☒ Will operate a full-service taco restaurant focused on tacos, quesadillas, tostadas with the kitchen open and full menu items available until closing every night.

☒ Will not operate as a Lounge, Tavern or Sports Bar or allow any portion of premises to be operated in that manner.

☒ Will not operate a backyard garden or any other outdoor area for commercial purposes including any sidewalk café and/or roadbed seating.

☒ Will play recorded background music at conversational levels only. No music will be audible in any adjacent residences at any time.

☒ Will not have televisions.

☒ Will close all doors and windows at all times, allowing only for patron ingress and egress.

☒ Will not have patron occupancy/service to any portion of the basement of licensed premises.

☒ Will not install or have French doors, operable windows or open facades.

☒ Will not make changes to the existing façade except to change signage or awning.

☒ Will comply with NYC Department of Buildings Regulations and will keep current at all times required Permits and Certificates.

☒ Will not have unlimited drink or unlimited food and drink specials. Will not have "boozy brunches." No pitchers of beer.

Will not have: ☒ Dancing ☒ DJs ☒ Live Music ☒ Promoted Events ☒ Any event where cover fee is charged
☒ Scheduled Performances ☒ Velvet ropes or metal barricades ☒ Security Personnel/Doorman.

☒ Will not add more principals as presented to CB2 with greater than 20% share of business prior to submission of original application to the NYSL.

☒ Will appear before CB2, Man. prior to submitting any changes to any stipulation agreed to herein.

Residents may contact the Manager/Owner at the following phone number. Any complaints will be addressed immediately

Name: Christopher Reyes Phone Number: 347 585-6531

Signed	Christopher Reyes	Print Name	Christopher Reyes	Dated	3/10/26
Sworn to this	10 th	day of	MARCH	2026	<i>[Signature]</i>
					Notary Public

CB2 and Applicant/Licensee request that the SLA ~~STAY~~ **STAY** be used in the method of operation/conditions of license

NOTARY PUBLIC-STATE OF NEW YORK

No. 02WE6056328

Qualified in New York County

My Commission Expires March 19, 2027