

# #untoldrva

**DATE:** 19 June 2019

**RE:** Special Permit Zoning for Kitchen Magician

To Whom it Concerns:

My name is Free Egunfemi. I am the Founder of Untold RVA, a History and Tourism consultancy operating from within Six Points Innovation Center on Meadowbridge Road. I am also the Social Innovator in Residence at 6PIC and serve as a Mayoral appointee on Richmond's History and Culture Commission. Additionally, I am the Chair of the Social Innovation collective BMASIV (Black Monument Avenue Social Innovators) which I founded in 2018.

This letter is to support the issuance of a special permit for libations and spirits to be served at the Firehouse Restaurant under the direction of Chef Ausar's Kitchen Magician catering services. Chef Ausar is an inaugural member of BMASIV as well.

It is my firm belief that this business owner has brought a much valued presence to the Social Innovation corridor of Meadowbridge Road, a district that was proclaimed by Mayor Levar M. Stoney in 2018 as "Black Monument Avenue".

Chef Ausar is poised to anchor his establishment as the foremost Black Owned venue in Highland Park where his consumer base can access the historic building for positive events including birthdays, funerals, graduations, business networking socials and more. Under the current designation, potential customers do not consider Chef Ausar's venue because of the stifling restrictions on serving libations to their guests.

Please approve this application to remove any barriers that Chef Ausar could experience and construct the new designation in a non-binding way so that our Social Innovation corridor can

grow at a pace commensurate with the breweries and pubs which have begun to encroach upon the area on all sides.

Thank you in advance for working to ensure the viability of this important member of the Black Social Innovation sector of Richmond, Virginia. Nothing but good outcomes for our emerging district will follow under the direction of Chef Ausar.

Sincerely Yours,

Free Egunfemi  
Founder, Untold RVA  
Social Innovator in Residence, 6PIC  
City of Richmond History and Culture Commissioner  
Chair, Black Monument Avenue Social Innovators (BMASIV)

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May 17, 2019

I support the Special Use Permit to the allow consumption of Alcohol for private events at Fire House 15. In addition, I would dine at Fire House 15 if they distributed alcohol like most restaurants do. As a resident of the North Highland Park Community, I support **any and all** businesses that will stimulate economic activity in our neighborhood.

Kindly,

Tamara Barker, Highland Park Resident  
Research Administrator  
Department of Neurology  
804-628-6439  
Sanger Hall RM 6-006A

June 18, 2019

Hi Megan,

I want to give my approval for the Firehouse Restaurant to obtain an ABC permit for private events. Restaurants that can't serve alcohol for special occasions lose out on a lot of business. I want to see the restaurant be successful not only for the owner, but also for the community. As you know, we have been an active partner with Boaz & Ruth and other organizations in the community to assist in bettering the quality of life here. An open and thriving restaurant goes a long way in helping to better that quality of life.

So again, I give my full support for the Firehouse Restaurant to obtain an ABC permit for private events.

*Jo White*  
*Chapter Commander*  
*Alliance of Guardian Angels*  
*Richmond, VA Chapter*  
*(804) 937-6836*  
[www.richmondguardianangels.org](http://www.richmondguardianangels.org)

June 18, 2019

I am a B&R board member and have eaten at Fire House 15 several times with my family. I am wholly supportive of obtaining the special use permit that will allow Fire House 15 to serve alcohol at private parties and events. Ausar is an incredible partner to B&R and is dedicated to Highland Park and its residents. We should do everything within our power that is reasonable (and I believe this request is inherently reasonable) to allow Ausar to be successful in this space. Having a special use permit would change everything for him and make Fire House 15 much more marketable.

Kimberly C. MacLeod

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June 19, 2019

Megan Rollins  
CEO  
Boaz and Ruth  
Via Email

Re: Support for Special Use Permit for Kitchen Magician to Serve Alcohol.

Dear Megan,

As a founding member of the 6 Points Innovation Center, and a long-time partner and friend of Boaz and Ruth, we are 100% in favor of having Chef Ausar be able to serve alcohol as part of his food service and events business.

We have used Chef Ausar's services many, many times and the quality of his offerings and service are top-notch. Being able to expand those offerings by offering drinks, will only add to his success and enhance the indigenous business presence in this part of Highland Park.

Thanks for all you and Boaz and Ruth have done and continue to do for the community.

Best regards,

Rob Jones, Executive Director

Groundwork RVA is a 501(c)3 organization (EIN 46-2191744).