

Mr. Helder Gil
Legislative Affairs Specialist
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
1100 Fourth Street SW
Room 5164
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. Gil,

My name is Juan Jose Quintana and I am the owner of Rolling Ficelle food trucks. I am also a resident of Ward 6. In March 2009, I moved to the District to start a food truck. I settled on DC due to its vibrant culture, strong economy and most importantly, the vending laws. The rules weren't perfect, but being a blooming industry, and with the warm welcome of the city population, I expected that in the subsequent years the rules would improve rather than be made worse.

I started in May 2011, and today I own two trucks and am developing two other projects, which are a catering and a brick-and-mortar business. I employ nine DC residents and project that by the end of 2013 Rolling Ficelle may have around 20 employees and four business up and running offering good quality meal options in the city. As you can see my company is growing and creating jobs in the District, contributing our "two cents" toward the recovery of our economy.

We food truckers are hard-working entrepreneurs. Almost all of us sacrificed either our 401k or life savings to risk it all for this dream. Most all of us work around 12+ hours and commit our lives to bringing great meal options to DC. And I can assure you that almost 80% of us have it as a goal to open a brick-and-mortar business in the near future.

Food trucks are food for our community and economy. We offer District residents and workers popular choices and competition through a variety of great cuisine at great prices, adding to the vibrancy of downtown and creating hundreds of jobs.

These benefits could be lost if the current proposals are adopted, cutting short many dreams and means of living for hundreds of families in the DC area. We support common-sense approaches to balancing the many needs and uses of public space, but these regulations have to include us, since the current ones, exclude us entirely. The purpose of regulations is to protect public safety, ensure fair business practices and promote economic growth. I only ask that a revised version of these regulations be created to accurately reflect these principles. Thank you for your consideration and hard work on making DC a better place.

Sincerely,

Juan Jose Quintana
Owner, Rolling Ficelle
135 R St SW

