

#### CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

# August 10, 2023 10:00 AM

# In-Person with Remote Access via Microsoft Teams Live\*

#### PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

#### **Documents**:

- Application Materials associated with:
  - Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
    - Kaycha MA, LLC
    - Kapnos, Inc.
  - Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
    - Cannabis Healing, LLC (#MRN283634), Retail
    - Euphorium, LLC (#MCN283845), Cultivation, Tier 1 / Indoor
    - Euphorium, LLC (#MPN282263), Product Manufacturing
    - Euphorium, LLC (#MRN284560), Retail
    - FFD Enterprises MA, Inc (#MRN284920), Retail
    - FitzCanna, Inc (#MPN282212), Product Manufacturing
    - FitzCanna, Inc (#MXN281413), Transporter with Other ME License
    - FreeMarketMA, LLC (#MCN283866), Cultivation, Tier 2 / Outdoor
    - Hoop City Ventures, LLC (#MR284806), Retail
    - Mass Tree Holdings, LLC (#MPN282265), Product Manufacturing
    - On Root, LLC (#DOA100179), Marijuana Courier
    - On Root, LLC (#MDA1301), Marijuana Delivery Operator
    - Stone's Throw Cannabis (#MRN284843), Retail
  - Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
    - Buudda Brothers, LLC (#MC281939), Cultivation, Tier 1 / Product Manufacturing
    - Buudda Brothers, LLC (#MP281585), Product Manufacturing
    - Buudda Brothers, LLC (#MR282225), Retail
    - Comm Ave Canna, Inc (#MR282314), Retail
    - Holistic Industries, Inc d/b/a Liberty Cannabis (#MR281787), Retail
    - J-B.A.M., Inc (#MP282172), Product Manufacturing
    - KG Collective Brockton, LLC (#MR281374), Retail
    - SQ Causeway, (#DO100127), Marijuana Courier
    - ToroVerde (Massachusetts), Inc d/b/a Happy Feelings (#MR282320), Retail



- ToroVerde (Massachusetts), Inc d/b/a Happy Feelings (#MR282601), Retail
- JOLO Can, LLC d/b/a Harbor House Collective (#RMD3737)
- Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
  - 202 Trading Company, Inc. d/b/a Bud Barn (#MRR206517)
  - Ahava, LLC (#MCR140539)
  - Ahava, LLC (#MPR244036)
  - Analytics Labs, LLC. (#ILR267919)
  - Apotho Therapeutics Plainville, LLC (#MRR206562)
  - Atlas Marketplace & Delivery, LLC d/b/a Plymouth Armor Group (#MTR263109)
  - Baileys' Buds, LLC (#MBR169315)
  - Berkshire Kind Inc. (#MCR140528)
  - BeWell Organic Medicine, Inc. (#MCR140542)
  - CNA Stores, Inc. (#MCR140529)
  - CNA Stores, Inc. (#MPR244016)
  - Coastal Solutions (#MTR263110)
  - Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MRR206524)
  - Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MPR244007)
  - Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MRR206523)
  - Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MCR140532)
  - DayDreamz Estates LLC (#MCR140481)
  - DMS Trinity, LLC (#MRR206542)
  - Evergreen Industries LLC (#MCR140555)
  - Four Score Holdings LLC (#MPR243902)
  - Four Score Holdings LLC (#MCR140369)
  - Frozen 4 Corporation (#MCR140536)
  - G7 Lab LLC (#ILR267923)
  - Gan Or LLC (#MPR244037)
  - Green Gold Group Inc (#MCR140491)
  - Green Valley Analytics LLC (#ILR267924)
  - Greenbridge Technologies, LLC (#MPR244032)
  - Greenbridge Technologies, LLC (#MCR140547)
  - Hennep Cultivation LLC (#MPR243989)
  - Hennep Cultivation LLC (#MCR140501)
  - Hidden Hemlock, LLC (#MBR169313)
  - HumboldtEast, LLC (#MPR244018)
  - HVV Massachusetts, Inc (#MPR244027)
  - N.S.A., Inc. (#MRR206560)
  - INDICA LLC (#MRR206434)
  - JAMACO, LLC (#MCR140468)
  - Life Essence, Inc. (#MCR140520)
  - Life Essence, Inc. (#MRR206449)
  - Major Bloom, LLC (#MRR206338)



- Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR206486)
- Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR206487)
- Mederi Inc. (#MCR140510)
- Noble Manna Inc. (#MRR206460)
- Nova Farms LLC (#MRR206521)
- NS AJO Holdings Inc. (#MRR206550)
- Patriot Care Corp (#MRR206567)
- Patriot Care Corp (#MRR206543)
- Patriot Care Corp (#MPR244023)
- Patriot Care Corp (#MCR140538)
- Pure Industries, Inc. (#MPR244020)
- Pure Lowell, Inc. (#MRR206526)
- Releaf Cultivation L.L.C (#MCR140525)
- Rhythm of Life Cannabis LLC (#MPR244028)
- Rhythm of Life Cannabis LLC (#MCR140551)
- Root 2 Naturals, LLC (#MBR169316)
- Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC (#MPR244010)
- Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC (#MCR140519)
- Silver Therapeutics of Palmer, Inc. (#MRR206558)
- Southcoast Apothecary, LLC (#MRR206533)
- STANDISH GREEN GROUP, LLC (#MPR244035)
- Temescal Wellness of Massachusetts, LLC (#MRR206549)
- Temescal Wellness of Massachusetts, LLC (#MRR206548)
- The Green Lady Dispensary II, Inc. (#MRR206553)
- Theory Wellness Inc (#MRR206518)
- Top Shelf Cannaseurs LLC (#MCR140533)
- True East Leaf LLC (#MRR206503)
- Uma Flowers Lunenburg LLC (#MRR206528)
- Union Twist, Inc. (#MRR206530)
- Union Twist, Inc. (#MRR206529)
- Witch City Gardens LLC (#MRR206541)
- Alternative Therapies Group, Inc. (#RMD065)
- Bountiful Farms, Inc. (#RMD1485)
- Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. dba Zen Leaf (#RMD1691)
- Garden Remedies, Inc. (#RMD205)
- Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#RMD425)
- Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. Danvers (#RMD1127)
- Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training, Delivery Core Curriculum
  - ACTA LLC (#DCCN462218)
  - Bartucca Consulting LLC (#DCCN462220)
  - Cannabis Trainers (#DCCN462217)
  - Ellen Brown (#DCCN462213)



- Grass Ceiling, LLC (#DCCN462225)
- Green CulturED (#DCCN462233)
- Kristi Talagan (#DCCN462216)
- Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals
  - Mary Buller (#RVR453134)
  - Willow Street Legal, LLC (#RVR453135)
- Meeting Packet
- E-mail from Edward DeSousa regarding Microbusinesses
- Enforcement Memo on Microbusinesses

#### In Attendance:

- Chair Shannon O'Brien
- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

#### **Minutes**:

- 1) Call to Order
  - The Chair recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
  - The Chair gave notice that the meeting was being recorded.
  - The Chair gave an overview of the agenda.
- 2) Commissioners' Comments and Updates 00:01:26
  - The Chair read a prepared statement regarding her disclosure about the Executive Director (ED) during the July 28 public meeting. She reflected on her vision for expanding the Commission's equity initiatives. She thanked the Commissioners for their individual work in key areas.
  - Commissioner Camargo expressed the importance of order and self-governance in the course of public meeting proceedings. She thanked Commission staff at large for their tireless efforts. She encouraged media outlets to reach out to the Communications department with inquiries to ensure accurate reporting.
  - Commissioner Concepcion opined that the Chair's remarks at the previous meeting overshadowed the significance of unveiling the new suitability standards. She recognized Associate General Counsel Andrew Carter (AGC Carter), Enforcement Counsel Rebecca Lopez (EC Lopez), and Director of Licensing Kyle Potvin (DOL Potvin) for their contributions on the July 28 public meeting. She recognized former Chairman Steven Hoffman and former Commissioners Doyle, Flanagan, Title and McBride for their work to initiate Host Community Agreement (HCA) reform. She reflected on the process of bringing the proposed regulations to fruition.
  - Commissioner Roy thanked the group for the candor of their remarks. She thanked Commissioner Concepcion for her comments about the work that went into the regulatory writing process. She shared that she recently participated in a roundtable



discussion on HCAs during which time licensees were able to vocalize their concerns. She thanked Caroline's Cannabis and David O'Brien for hosting the discussion. She noted that she is looking forward to the regulatory public hearing in September. She offered a hiring update on the Chief People Officer and Deputy General Counsel positions. She thanked Grace O'Day and Kate Flanagan for their continued efforts.

• Commissioner Stebbins echoed Commissioner Concepcion's sentiments about the regulations as a milestone for the agency. He discussed the current state of the cannabis industry in Massachusetts, which has much more competitive pressures. He likewise thanked AGC Carter, EC Lopez, and DOL Potvin for their contributions to the regulatory discussions at the July 27-28 public meetings. He thanked those involved with facilitating the meetings. He shared that he had the opportunity to speak at the recent Let's Talk Weed event in Cambridge. and thanked those staff who were in attendance.

# 3) Minutes for Approval – 00:26:53

- May 11, 2023
  - The Acting Chair asked if the Commissioners had a chance to review the minutes and whether there were questions or edits.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the minutes for the May 11, 2023, Commission public meeting.
  - o Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - o The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the May 11, 2023, Commission public meeting.
- May 22, 2023
  - The Acting Chair asked if the Commissioners had a chance to review the minutes and whether there were questions or edits.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the minutes for the May 22, 2023,
     Commission public meeting.
  - o Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
  - o The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes



- The Commission unanimously approved the minutes for the May 22, 2023, Commission public meeting.
- 4) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership 00:28:44
  - 1. Kaycha MA, LLC
    - Licensing Manager Tsuko Defoe (Licensing Manager Defoe) presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
    - Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
    - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
    - The Chair took a roll call vote:
      - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
      - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
      - Commissioner Roy Yes
      - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
      - Chair O'Brien Yes
    - The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.
  - 2. Kapnos, Inc.
    - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for Change of Ownership.
    - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
    - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
    - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
    - The Chair took a roll call vote:
      - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
      - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
      - Commissioner Roy Yes
      - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
      - o Chair O'Brien Yes
    - The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.
- 5) Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses 00:30:37
  - 1. Cannabis Healing, LLC (#MRN283634), Retail
    - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
    - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
    - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
    - The Chair took a roll call vote:
      - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
      - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes



- Commissioner Roy Yes
- o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
- Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
- 2. Euphorium, LLC (#MCN283845), Cultivation, Tier 1 / Indoor
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, please inform the Commission of your additional operational plans for indoor Marijuana Cultivators as it relates to quality control samples in accordance with 935 CMR 500.120(12) and 935 CMR 500.120(14).
  - Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider review and update diversity hiring goals in Diversity Plan based on statistics of host community and region, in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(c)8k and provide any updates to CCC Licensing Division.
  - The Chair asked to clarify the rationale of the condition.
    - Commissioner Stebbins responded that he would like to encourage the applicant to reassess the feasibility of their plan.
  - Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.
  - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.
- 3. Euphorium, LLC (#MPN282263), Product Manufacturing
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, please inform the Commission of your additional operational plans for Product Manufacturers as it relates to quality control samples, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.135(k) and 935 CMR 500.139.



- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
  - Proposed Condition: Proposed Condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider review and update diversity hiring goals in Diversity Plan based on statistics of host community and region, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(1)(c)8k and provide any updates to CCC Licensing Division.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.

### 4. Euphorium, LLC (#MRN284560), Retail

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
  - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, in accordance with 935 CMR
     500.140(6) please include the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance
     Use Helpline on your consumer education.
- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
  - o Proposed Condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider review and update diversity hiring goals in Diversity Plan based on statistics of host community and region, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(1)(c)8k and provide any updates to CCC Licensing Division.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Stebbins.



- 5. FFD Enterprises MA, Inc. (#MRN284920), Retail
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider review and update diversity hiring goals in Diversity Plan based on statistics of host community and region and not only based on overall state statistics in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(1)(c)8k and provide any update to CCC Licensing Division.
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
  - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - o Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- 6. FitzCanna, Inc. (#MPN282212), Product Manufacturing
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, please inform the Commission of your additional operational plans for Product Manufacturers as it relates to quality control samples, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.135(k) and 935 CMR 500.139.
  - Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
  - Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - o Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.



- 7. FitzCanna, Inc. (#MXN281413), Transporter with Other ME License
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License.
  - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes

The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.

- 8. FreeMarketMA, LLC (#MCN283866), Cultivation, Tier 2 / Outdoor
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, please inform the Commission of your additional operational plans for outdoor Marijuana Cultivators as it relates to quality control samples, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.120(12) and 935 CMR 500.120(14).
  - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
  - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Roy.
- 9. Hoop City Ventures, LLC (#MR284806), Retail
  - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
  - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.140(6) please include the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline on your consumer education.



- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
  - Proposed Condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider review and update diversity hiring goals in Diversity Plan based on statistics of host community and region and not only based on overall 2010 state statistics in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(1)(c)8k and provide any update to CCC Licensing Division.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.

# 10. Mass Tree Holdings, LLC (#MPN282265), Product Manufacturing

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes

The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.

#### 11. On Root, LLC (#DOA100179), Marijuana Courier

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes



o Chair O'Brien - Yes

The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.

# 12. On Root, LLC (#MDA1301), Marijuana Delivery Operator

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes

The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.

# 13. Stone's Throw Cannabis (#MRN284843), Retail

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation for the Provisional License.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
  - Proposed Condition: Prior to final licensure, in accordance with 935 CMR
     500.140(6) please include the phone number for the Massachusetts Substance
     Use Helpline on your consumer education.
- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
  - Proposed Condition: Prior to Final Application for Licensure, consider review and update diversity hiring goals in Diversity Plan based on statistics of host community and region in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(1)(c)8k and provide any updates to CCC Licensing Division.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Abstained

The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioner Roy and Commissioner Stebbins by a vote of four in favor and one abstention.



#### 6) Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses – 00:53:11

- Adult-Use and Medical-Use Rosters
  - The Chair noted that the Final License roster will consist of items numbered 1 through 11, as identified on the agenda.
  - o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - o Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the roster of Final Licenses.
  - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
  - o The Commission unanimously approved the roster of Final Licenses.
- 1. Buuddha Brothers, LLC (#MC281939), Cultivation, Tier 1 / Product Manufacturing
- 2. Buudda Brothers, LLC (#MP281585), Product Manufacturing
- 3. Buudda Brothers, LLC (#MR282225), Retail
- 4. Comm Ave Canna, Inc (#MR282314), Retail
- 5. Holistic Industries, Inc d/b/a Liberty Cannabis (#MR281787), Retail
- 6. J-B.A.M., Inc (#MP282172), Product Manufacturing
- 7. KG Collective Brockton, LLC (#MR281374), Retail
- 8. SQ Causeway, (#DO100127), Marijuana Courier
- 9. ToroVerde (Massachusetts), Inc d/b/a Happy Feelings (#MR282320), Retail
- 10. ToroVerde (Massachusetts), Inc d/b/a Happy Feelings (#MR282601), Retail
- 11. JOLO Can, LLC d/b/a Harbor House Collective (#RMD3737)

#### 7) Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses – 00:54:00

- Adult-Use and Medical-Use
  - The Chair noted that the Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewal roster will consist of items numbered 1 through 12, as identified on the agenda.
  - o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the roster of Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewals.
  - o Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - o The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes

 The Commission unanimously approved the Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewals.

#### • Adult-Use

- The Chair noted that the Adult-Use Renewal roster will consist of items numbered 13 through 16, as identified on the agenda.
- o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the roster of Adult-Use Renewals.
- o Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- o The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Recused
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- o The Commission unanimously approved the Adult-Use Renewals by a vote of four in favor and one recused.

#### • Adult-Use and Medical-Use

- The Chair noted that the Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewal roster will consist of items numbered 17 through 41 as identified on the agenda.
- o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the roster of Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewals.
- o Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the roster of Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewals.

### • Mederi Inc. (#MCR140510)

- The Chair noted that the Adult-Use Renewal roster will consist of item numbered 42, as identified on the agenda.
- o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- o Commissioner Stebbins proposed a condition.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the roster of the Adult-Use Renewal, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- o Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- o The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes



- Commissioner Roy Yes
- Commissioner Stebbins Yes
- Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the roster of the Adult-Use Renewal, subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- The Chair suggested that the Commission may need to work more closely with early-stage licensees to ensure that they understand the objective of a Positive Impact Plan (PIP) and how it is intended to work in practice.
- Commissioner Stebbins shared that he, Commissioner Camargo and staff updated the guidance around diversity plans with additional information and resources. He added that applicants are producing stronger diversity plans as a result. He proposed revisiting the current PIP guidance.
- The Chair expressed that she would like to look into the development of a working group around updating the current PIP guidance. She added that she would like to gain a better understanding of the established working groups and the scope of their work. She clarified that her statutory imperative as Chair is to delegate and direct the work of the Commissioners.
- Adult-Use and Medical-Use
  - The Chair noted that the Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewal roster will consist of items numbered 43-76 as identified on the agenda.
  - o The Chair asked for questions or comments.
  - Commissioner Roy recognized Southcoast Apothecary, LLC for their dedicated work with the Last Prisoner Project using intervention, advocacy, and awareness campaigns to help secure clemency and record expungement for those incarcerated for cannabis-related drug offenses.
  - Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the roster of Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewals.
  - o Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - The Chair took a roll call vote:
    - Commissioner Camargo Yes
    - Commissioner Roy Yes
    - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
    - Chair O'Brien Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the roster of Adult-Use and Medical-Use Renewals.
- 1. 202 Trading Company, Inc. d/b/a Bud Barn (#MRR206517)
- 2. Ahava, LLC (#MCR140539)
- 3. Ahava, LLC (#MPR244036)
- 4. Analytics Labs, LLC. (#ILR267919)
- 5. Apotho Therapeutics Plainville, LLC (#MRR206562)
- 6. Atlas Marketplace & Delivery, LLC d/b/a Plymouth Armor Group (#MTR263109)



- 7. Baileys' Buds, LLC (#MBR169315)
- 8. Berkshire Kind Inc. (#MCR140528)
- 9. BeWell Organic Medicine, Inc. (#MCR140542)
- 10. CNA Stores, Inc. (#MCR140529)
- 11. CNA Stores, Inc. (#MPR244016)
- 12. Coastal Solutions (#MTR263110)
- 13. Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MRR206524)
- 14. Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MPR244007)
- 15. Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MRR206523)
- 16. Commonwealth Alternative Care, Inc. (#MCR140532)
- 17. DayDreamz Estates LLC (#MCR140481)
- 18. DMS Trinity, LLC (#MRR206542)
- 19. Evergreen Industries LLC (#MCR140555)
- 20. Four Score Holdings LLC (#MPR243902)
- 21. Four Score Holdings LLC (#MCR140369)
- 22. Frozen 4 Corporation (#MCR140536)
- 23. G7 Lab LLC (#ILR267923)
- 24. Gan Or LLC (#MPR244037)
- 25. Green Gold Group Inc (#MCR140491)
- 26. Green Valley Analytics LLC (#ILR267924)
- 27. Greenbridge Technologies, LLC (#MPR244032)
- 28. Greenbridge Technologies, LLC (#MCR140547)
- 29. Hennep Cultivation LLC (#MPR243989)
- 30. Hennep Cultivation LLC (#MCR140501)
- 31. Hidden Hemlock, LLC (#MBR169313)
- 32. HumboldtEast, LLC (#MPR244018)
- 33. HVV Massachusetts, Inc (#MPR244027)
- 34. N.S.A., Inc. (#MRR206560)
- 35. INDICA LLC (#MRR206434)
- 36. JAMACO, LLC (#MCR140468)
- 37. Life Essence, Inc. (#MCR140520)
- 38. Life Essence, Inc. (#MRR206449)
- 39. Major Bloom, LLC (#MRR206338)
- 40. Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR206486)
- 41. Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#MRR206487)
- 42. Mederi Inc. (#MCR140510)
  - o Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
    - Proposed Condition: Within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, contact CCC Licensing Division for an update to clarify goals in Operating Policies and Procedures 2023 Diversity Plan versus 2023 Renewal Final Diversity Plan in accordance with 935 CMR 500.103(4)(b) and 935 CMR 500.101(1)(c)8k.
- 43. Noble Manna Inc. (#MRR206460)
- 44. Nova Farms LLC (#MRR206521)



- 45. NS AJO Holdings Inc. (#MRR206550)
- 46. Patriot Care Corp (#MRR206567)
- 47. Patriot Care Corp (#MRR206543)
- 48. Patriot Care Corp (#MPR244023)
- 49. Patriot Care Corp (#MCR140538)
- 50. Pure Industries, Inc. (#MPR244020)
- 51. Pure Lowell, Inc. (#MRR206526)
- 52. Releaf Cultivation L.L.C (#MCR140525)
- 53. Rhythm of Life Cannabis LLC (#MPR244028)
- 54. Rhythm of Life Cannabis LLC (#MCR140551)
- 55. Root 2 Naturals, LLC (#MBR169316)
- 56. Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC (#MPR244010)
- 57. Salisbury Cultivation and Production Manufacturing, LLC (#MCR140519)
- 58. Silver Therapeutics of Palmer, Inc. (#MRR206558)
- 59. Southcoast Apothecary, LLC (#MRR206533)
- 60. STANDISH GREEN GROUP, LLC (#MPR244035)
- 61. Temescal Wellness of Massachusetts, LLC (#MRR206549)
- 62. Temescal Wellness of Massachusetts, LLC (#MRR206548)
- 63. The Green Lady Dispensary II, Inc. (#MRR206553)
- 64. Theory Wellness Inc (#MRR206518)
- 65. Top Shelf Cannaseurs LLC (#MCR140533)
- 66. True East Leaf LLC (#MRR206503)
- 67. Uma Flowers Lunenburg LLC (#MRR206528)
- 68. Union Twist, Inc. (#MRR206530)
- 69. Union Twist, Inc. (#MRR206529)
- 70. Witch City Gardens LLC (#MRR206541)
- 71. Alternative Therapies Group, Inc. (#RMD065)
- 72. Bountiful Farms, Inc. (#RMD1485)
- 73. Four Daughters Compassionate Care, Inc. dba Zen Leaf (#RMD1691)
- 74. Garden Remedies, Inc. (#RMD205)
- 75. Mayflower Medicinals, Inc. (#RMD425)
- 76. Sanctuary Medicinals, Inc. Danvers (#RMD1127)
- 8) Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training, Delivery Core Curriculum 01:09:20
  - 1. ACTA, LLA (#DCCN462218)
    - Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
    - The Chair asked for questions or comments.
    - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
    - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
    - The Chair took a roll call vote:



- o Commissioner Camargo Yes
- o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
- Commissioner Roy Yes
- o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
- Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

### 2. Bartucca Consulting LLC (#DCCN462220)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

#### 3. Cannabis Trainers (#DCCN462217)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

### 4. Ellen Brown (#DCCN462213)

 Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.



- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

### 5. Grass Ceiling, LLC (#DCCN462225)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

### 6. Green CulturED (#DCCN462233)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes

• The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

#### 7. Kristi Talagan (#DCCN462216)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Program, Delivery Core Curriculum.

## 9) Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals – 01:15:51

### 1. Mary Buller (#RVR453134)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - o Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.

### 2. Willow Street Legal, LLC (#RVR453135)

- Licensing Manager Defoe presented the Staff Recommendation on the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- The Chair asked for questions or comments.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.



- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - o Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes

The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.

Commissioner Camargo moved to take a thirty-minute recess.

- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved taking a thirty-minute recess, returning at 11:45 AM (01:39:02)
- 10) Commission Discussion and Votes 01:39:16
  - 1. Update on Social Equity Program Cohort Four
    - The Chair noted she recently met with a group that runs a job board for individuals seeking work in the cannabis industry in Massachusetts. She added that the Commission will soon enter a contract with a similar group. She added that these developments have prompted her to consider how the Commission interacts with ancillary businesses.
    - Chief Communications Officer Cedric Sinclair (CCO Sinclair) noted that the agency's commitment to equity has always included support for entrepreneurship, workforce development, and auxiliary opportunities. He clarified that the contract with Premier Virtual has been executed and will produce employment, contracting and mentorship opportunities within the cannabis arena in the form of an online portal. He added that the project is in the buildout phase with a projected launch at some point during FY24.
      - Commissioner Camargo asked CCO Sinclair if every Social Equity Program (SEP) participant will have access to the portal and for more information about how the portal will function.
      - O CCO Sinclair explained that Commissioner Stebbins has been working with the team. The portal is in development and the Communications team will work closely with the Commissioners with regard to features and functionality. He noted that Premier Virtual is contracted with MassHire, which utilizes their specific portal to host virtual statewide job fairs, among other things. He further noted that the platform will allow licensees to meet



- their PIP requirements and diversity hiring goals more efficiently. He offered an overview of other benefits the portal will provide.
- Commissioner Roy remarked on the timeliness of the portal. She asked to clarify the timeline of the buildout, whether the portal will be open to all registered agents, and if the Commissioners will receive training on how to use it.
- CCO Sinclair responded that Commissioners would receive training and also be given access to the forum if desired. He added that training and support will be provided to licensees as well. He explained how the portal could be set up to allow varying levels of access in order to prioritize users with certain designations.
- Commissioner Camargo thanked Commissioner Stebbins for his involvement in getting the project underway. She remarked that many people have expressed to her how helpful such a platform would be.
- Commissioner Stebbins discussed how the partnership with Premier Virtual came about.
- Commissioner Concepcion thanked Commissioner Stebbins for his important work in a multitude of areas.

## 2. Microbusiness License Type Discussion

- Commissioner Stebbins thanked the Chair for organizing the June policy meeting. He clarified that he is not seeking any change to the current regulatory language. He noted that that microbusiness model is intended to be a way for people to get a foothold in the industry and comes with regulatory limitations around size and growth potential. He indicated that microbusinesses would have to surrender their license to pursue another license. He thanked DOL Potvin and others for their involvement with the creation of a memo outlining the necessary regulatory changes needed to expand on and update the model. He noted the memo presented a redline version. He said that he would like to continue the discussion from June and review the proposed amendments from the memo in preparation of the next regulatory round.
- The Chair stated that she would like to begin convening working groups in anticipation of the next set of regulations in the interest of time and resources. She expressed the desire to invest in a standing regulatory writing group so that the regulations can be adapted on a more ongoing basis.
- Commissioner Camargo concurred. She acknowledged the work Commissioner Roy
  and Commissioner Stebbins have done around the subject of microbusinesses. She
  asked how any microbusinesses have reached the commence operations stage, how
  many of those are SEP or Economic Empowerment Priority Applicant (EEPA)
  businesses, and how many have a delivery endorsement. She encouraged
  Commissioner Stebbins to elaborate for the public on why the matter is important and
  timely.
  - Commissioner Stebbins replied that 11 Microbusinesses have commenced operations and 23 more have been provisionally approved. He explained how limited growth potential impacts microbusinesses in particular EEPA/SEP



participants. He added that there are two microbusinesses with SEP designation and one which has a delivery endorsement.

- Commissioner Roy disclosed that there are many microbusiness applicants at varying stages of pre-certification and licensure waiting to move forward in the process. She cited figures. She emphasized the timeliness of the discussion. She raised the question of what can be done during the meeting to advance the matter.
- The Chair underscored the need to devise an actionable, short-term solution. She suggested devising a way for the Social Equity team to help some of the provisionally licensed applicants access the Cannabis Social Equity Trust Fund.
- Commissioner Concepcion asked Commissioner Roy to explain the combination of pre-certification and delivery endorsement.
  - Commissioner Roy explained how a business can hold both designations. She invited DOL Potvin to elaborate.
  - DOL Potvin provided context and clarification around the cited figures. He added that of the 23 provisionally approved microbusinesses, zero hold the EEP designation and five hold the SEP designation.
- Commissioner Camargo asked DOL Potvin to confirm that the ownership of microbusinesses must be comprised of at least 51 percent of Massachusetts residents.
  - o DOL Potvin responded that 51 percent of the ownership and executives must be Massachusetts residents within 12 months.
  - o AGC Carter noted that the residency requirement has been the subject of litigation most recently in Maine and New York.
- The Chair asked Commissioner Stebbins to clarify what he is proposing.
  - Commissioner Stebbins expressed that he would like to begin the process of rewriting the regulatory language and would like to establish a consensus in that regard.
  - The Chair again raised the question of how to advance the matter efficiently. She noted that progress has been made to produce suggested amendments to the regulatory language. She opined that waiting until next year to advance the matter will not leave enough time for proper contemplation.
  - Commissioner Stebbins expounded on the financial challenges imposed by the license model. He reiterated that he does not want the discussion to lose momentum.
  - o Commissioner Roy invited AGC Carter to comment.
  - AGC Carter acknowledged the hard work of Commissioner Stebbins and the Enforcement team to produce the memo on Microbusinesses. He recommended designating a point person to convene staff to produce a policy proposal or regulatory language.
  - o Commissioner Stebbins stated that he is willing to convene staff. He suggested inciting microbusiness owners to provide feedback.
- Commissioner Concepcion asked if Commissioner Stebbins has conducted any manner of impact analysis around the fact that microbusinesses must cease operations in pursuit of a more expansive license-type. She further asked for more information about the businesses he has received feedback from.



- Commissioner Stebbins replied that he is working with Director of Data
   Analytics Marianne Sarkis (DDA Sarkis) to track the impact. He noted that he
   has received feedback primarily from microbusinesses that have commenced
   operations.
- Commissioner Roy read an e-mail statement on the plight of microbusiness owners by Edward DeSousa of RiverRun Gardens, which is the second microbusiness in the state.
- Commissioner Stebbins reiterated that he would like to establish a consensus on rewriting the regulatory language around microbusinesses so that owners do not have to surrender their license in the course of pursuing another license-type.
  - o Commissioner Camargo expressed approval.
  - Commissioner Concepcion stated that she would first like to review impact data
  - o The Chair expressed that she is in favor.
  - o Commissioner Roy concurred.

#### 3. Two-Driver Rule Discussion

- The Chair noted that she would be willing to withdraw the discussion of the "two-driver rule" from the agenda. She cited a perceived lack of communication and consensus.
  - Ocommissioner Camargo stated that the public is expecting a discussion or vote on the matter since it is on the agenda. She recommended keeping it on the agenda. She offered to help produce a formal memo or presentation. She added that there are also other matters within the scope of transportation that require their attention, such as delivery to "no-towns", liability and more.
- Commissioner Roy thanked Commissioner Camargo and Commissioner Concepcion
  for their leadership around the "two-driver rule" and delivery model as a whole. She
  noted that she has met with individuals from across the cannabis delivery spectrum
  and learned that they are struggling under the current model. She expressed that she is
  looking forward to a presentation on the subject and is open to suggestions of possible
  interventions.
- Commissioner Stebbins expressed the desire to have agenda-setting sessions. Commissioner Stebbins indicated that he has many questions about the subject. He added that he would also like input from those working in cannabis delivery as well as Commission staff. He noted that he would especially like to hear from the seven marijuana courier license holders who have commenced operations. He emphasized the need to ensure that all license-types are appealing and lucrative.
- AGC Carter clarified that the "two-driver" rule applies to all manners of transporting marijuana, including from business to business. He suggested that the group consider a sweeping amendment to the rule.
- Commissioner Concepcion asked a clarifying question about the waiver process as it is applicable to the "two-driver rule".
  - EC Lopez outlined the standard process of applying for a waiver and the applicable criteria per 935 CMR 500.850 and 935 CMR 501.850. She noted



- that the Commission has received a total of eight waiver requests specific to the "two-driver rule" which were largely denied. She added that the waiver process cannot be used to effectuate a policy change.
- Commissioner Concepcion asked to clarify that one of the waiver requests was approved.
- o EC Lopez clarified that one application was approved with one reconsideration, for reasons related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Commissioner Concepcion asked if there is anything that can be done short of a regulatory change to provide delivery operators with easier access to waivers.
- AGC Carter noted that ultimately the Commission has decided on the matter by way of the regulatory process. He added that effectuating a change to that policy would require the same process. He discussed related topics for potential contemplation, including expanding delivering areas.
- O EC Lopez noted that individuals requesting exemptions that are based on a hardship affecting a subset of people are directed to explore the agency's petition process which leads directly to the regulatory process. She added that there is precedent for the Commission predetermining hardship, as in the case of telehealth waivers.
- o Commissioner Concepcion raised the question of whether a similar predetermination could be made with regard to imposed financial hardship.
- o EC Lopez indicated that the hardship would have to be determined conclusively through a formal research study.
- Commissioner Concepcion acknowledged that the regulatory process is long and would like to explore what actionable options are available in the short-term.
  - Commissioner Camargo proposed convening staff to determine the most expedient course of action. She encouraged being mindful of resource constraints.
  - AGC Carter suggested that the best path forward is to initiate the necessary research and contemplation, and ensure the proposed amendments are primed for the next regulatory round. He emphasized that policy must be based on fact.

Commissioner Camargo moved to take a ten-minute recess.

- Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
- The Chair took a roll call vote:
  - o Commissioner Camargo Yes
  - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
  - Commissioner Roy Yes
  - Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - Chair O'Brien Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved taking a ten-minute recess, returning at 01:55 PM (03:48:43)



# 4. Investigative Report Update

- Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Yaw Gyebi (CIE Gyebi) noted that the Investigations and Enforcement department has been working diligently on the Trulieve matter. He extended his condolences to the family and friends of the deceased, Lorna McMurrey. He explained that the department is collaborating with related agencies including OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and the Department of Health for assistance. He noted that as the matter is still pending, he cannot provide any additional information.
  - The Chair thanked CIE Gyebi and staff for the process updates that have been furnished to the Commissioners.
- Director of Investigations Nomxolisi Khumalo (DOI Khumalo) disclosed that the Curaleaf investigation has been closed. She added that based on the findings, it was determined that Roman Abramovich holds no control or ownership over the business and that the relationship is of a customary lender-borrower nature.
  - Commissioner Stebbins asked to clarify if the investigation could be reopened if new information was brought forth.
  - o DOI Khumalo responded affirmatively.
- Commissioner Roy thanked CIE Gyebi, DOI Khumalo and EC Lopez for the briefings around these matters.
  - o The Chair concurred. She thanked CIE Gyebi and the team for their efforts.
  - CIE Gyebi thanked the Chair and Commissioners for their engagement in procedural discussions.
- The Chair noted that the MCR investigation has concluded and advised the Commissioners to contact Human Resources with any inquiries.

# 5. Return to Office Update

- Chief Operations Officer Alisa Stack (COO Stack) noted that the staff has grown to 125 people and counting. She noted that the ED set forth guidance on the return-to-work policy which will be a flexible hybrid model. She added that the plans will be due back on August 15.
- Commissioner Roy thanked COO Stack and those involved with the effort for their diligent work. She noted that many other entities are in the process of considering their return-to-office policy. She further noted the value of both remote and in-office work. She added that the plan will take effect on September 11.
- The Chair asked COO Stack to provide an overview of the new policy.
  - COO Stack offered an overview of the parameters and requirements of the policy, which namely will require that employees report to their individual place of duty four times monthly.
  - Commissioner Camargo expressed her support for the plan. She thanked those involved for their efforts.
- Commissioner Roy asked COO Stack to read what the office space guidelines will be for Commissioners.





- COO Stack reviewed the guidelines. She raised the question of what "inoffice" means for Commissioners with consideration of the Open Meeting
  Law.
- The Chair expressed that she would like more time for further contemplation and to revisit the matter.
- Commissioner Concepcion concurred. She thanked COO Stack and Commissioner Roy for their work on the matter. She noted that the Commissioners' schedules are highly variable. She asked to clarify the next steps and what is expected from the Commissioners.
- The Chair appointed Commissioner Roy as Acting Chair while she stepped away momentarily.
- COO Stack set forth her expectations for the August 15 deadline.
- 11) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting 04:25:18
  - No new items were identified.
- 12) Next Meeting Date 04:25:35
  - Acting Chair Roy noted that the next meeting would be on September 8, 2023.
  - The group discussed the logistics of the public hearing.
  - Commissioner Roy gave a tentative schedule for the remainder of the calendar year.
- 13) Adjournment 04:33:40
  - Commissioner Concepcion moved to adjourn.
  - Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
  - The Acting Chair took a roll call vote:
    - o Commissioner Camargo Did not vote
    - o Commissioner Concepcion Yes
    - o Commissioner Roy/Acting Chair Yes
    - o Commissioner Stebbins Yes
  - The Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.