

Ahava, LLC

MCN283670

MPN282159

APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

1. Name and address of the proposed Marijuana Establishment:

Ahava, LLC
333 N. Canal Street, Holyoke, MA 01040

2. Type of license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation) and information regarding the application submission:

Cultivation, Tier 10/Indoor (80,001 – 90,000 sq. ft.)
Product Manufacturing

The application was reopened two (2) times for additional information.

3. The applicant is a licensee or applicant for other Marijuana Establishment and/or Medical Marijuana Treatment Center license(s):

The applicant is not an applicant or licensee for any other license type.

Please note that individuals and/or entities associated with the proposed application(s) are also associated with other adult-use cultivation and product manufacturing application and/or license under the name of Exotica Farms, LLC.

4. List of all required individuals and their roles in the Marijuana Establishment:

Individual	Role
David Choy	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control / Capital Contributor
Karen Talton	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control

5. List of all required entities and their roles in the Marijuana Establishment:



No other entity appears to have ownership or control over this proposed Marijuana Establishment.

6. Applicant's priority status:

Expedited Applicant (Minority-Owned Business)

7. The applicant and municipality executed a Host Community Agreement on January 26, 2022.
8. The applicant conducted a community outreach meeting on March 7, 2022 and provided documentation demonstrating compliance with Commission regulations.
9. The Commission received a municipal response from the City/Town of Holyoke on July 7, 2022 stating the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances or bylaws.
10. The applicant proposed the following goals for its Plan to Positively Impact Disproportionately Harmed People:

#	Goal
1	Recruit 30% of its workforce past or present residents of the City of Holyoke and other areas of disproportionate impact, in particular, Holyoke, Amherst, Monson, Springfield, and West Springfield; Social Equity Program participants; Massachusetts residents who have past drug convictions; and Massachusetts residents with parent or spouses who have drug convictions.
2	Partner with at least 25% of vendors, contractors and suppliers who are past or present residents of the City of Holyoke and other areas of disproportionate impact, in particular, Holyoke, Amherst, Monson, Springfield, and West Springfield; Economic Empowerment Priority applicants; Social Equity Program participants; Massachusetts residents who have past drug convictions; and residents with parent or spouses who have drug convictions.
3	Donate no less than \$5,000 to OneHolyoke and at least 25% of its employees will donate at least six (6) hours, annually to OneHolyoke.

BACKGROUND CHECK REVIEW

11. There were disclosures of any past civil or criminal actions, occupational license issues, or marijuana-related business interests in other jurisdictions. None of the disclosures raised suitability issues.
12. There were no concerns arising from background checks on the individuals or entities associated with the application.

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS PROFILE REVIEW



13. The applicant states that it can be operational within 1.5 years of receiving the provisional license(s).

14. The applicant's proposed hours of operation are the following:

Day(s)	Hours of Operation
Monday-Sunday	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

15. The applicant submitted all required summaries of plans, policies, and procedures for the operation of the proposed establishment. The summaries were determined to be substantially compliant with the Commission's regulations.

16. The applicant proposed the following goals for its Diversity Plan:

#	Goal
1	Recruit at least (15%) minorities, (15%) women, (10%) veterans, (10%) individuals with disabilities, (15%) individuals that identify as LGBTQ+ for its hiring initiatives.
2	Contract with at least 15% of all equipment, materials and services required for the Company's operations that are women, minority, veteran owned business that are registered with the Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office.

17. Summary of cultivation plan (if applicable):

The applicant submitted a cultivation plan that demonstrates the ability to comply with the Commission's regulations.

18. Summary of products to be produced and/or sold (if applicable):

#	Product
1	Prepackaged cannabis flower
2	Pre-rolls

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend provisional licensure with the following conditions:

1. Final license is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
2. Final license is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with applicable state laws, local codes, ordinances or bylaws, and local licensing requirements.
3. Final licensure is subject to the applicant providing Commission staff, upon inspection, with a detailed list of all proposed products to be produced with specific information as to types, forms, shapes, colors, and flavors.



4. Final licensure is subject to the applicant ensuring that all remaining required individuals be fingerprinted pursuant to previous Commission notifications.
5. The applicant shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
6. Provisional licensure is subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee.

The applicant has demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth and suitability for licensure. Therefore, the applicant is recommended for provisional licensure.

