



Cannabis Control Commission October Public Meeting

In-Person and Remote via Teams



Meeting Book - Cannabis Control Commission October Public Meeting Packet

Table of Contents

Call to Order & Commissioners' Comments/Updates

MEETING AGENDA 10.10.2024.docx

Minutes

20240711_Mins_PublicMeeting_For Commission Consideration.docx

20240719_Mins_PublicMeeting_For Commission Consideration.docx

20240808_Mins_PublicMeeting_For Commission Consideration.docx

20240814_Mins_PublicMeeting_For Commission Consideration.docx

Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report

Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership

F-COOXS-ASSURED TESTING LABORATORIES, LLC-v.2.docx

F-COOXS-GOOD FEELS, INC-v.1.docx

F-COOXS-GREEN CHOICE DISPENSARIES LLC-v.1.docx

F-COOXS-J-B.A.M., INC.-v.2.docx

F-COOXS-NEAMAT LLC-v.2.docx

F-COOXS-SILVER THERAPEUTICS INC-v.2.docx

F-COOXS-SILVER THERAPEUTICS OF PALMER INC-v.2.docx

Staff Recommendations on Renewals

F-ME-RENXS-OCTOBER 2024-v.2.docx

F-MTC-RENXS-OCTOBER 2024-v.2.docx

Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses

F-FLXS -APOTHO THERAPEUTICS DARTMOUTH-MR283521.v.2.docx

F-FLXS-GREEN GOLD GROUP-MR284703.v.2.docx

Staff Recommendation on Provisional Licenses

F-PLXS-MOTAH 420-MDA1327.v.2.docx

F-PLXS-SAWF ESTATE, LLC-MRN284312.v.2.docx

Enforcement Actions

Stipulated_Agreement_Ascend_Mass Signed (1).pdf

Stipulated Agreement_Curaleaf.pdf

Commission Discussion & Votes

CCC Seventh Annual Activities Report 2024.pdf

October 2024 Government Affairs Update.docx

Next Meeting Date & Adjournment

20241010PPT.pdf



October 8, 2024

In accordance with Sections 18-25 of Chapter 30A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Cannabis Control Commission. The meeting will take place as noted below.

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

**October 10, 2024
10:00 AM**

In-Person and Remote via [Microsoft Teams Live*](#)

PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Commissioners' Comments & Updates
- III. Minutes
- IV. Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report
 1. Operational Updates
 2. Commission's 7-Year Anniversary *Digital and Creative Services*
 3. Licensing Data and Updates
- V. Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
 1. Assured Testing Laboratories, LLC
 2. Good Feels, Inc.
 3. Green Choice Dispensaries LLC
 4. J-B.A.M., Inc.
 5. Neamat LLC
 6. Silver Therapeutics, Inc.
 7. Silver Therapeutics of Palmer, Inc.
- VI. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
 1. ACMJ, Inc. (#MCR140805)
 2. Alternative Therapies Group II, Inc. (#MRR206990)
 3. Analytics Labs, LLC. (#ILR267942)
 4. B Leaf Wellness Centre LLC (#MRR207023)



5. Bodelle's Edibles, LLC (#MBR169329)
6. Cannabakeri LLC (#MPR244200)
7. Cannabis Connection II, Inc (#MRR206917)
8. Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc. (#MPR244248)
9. Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc. (#MCR140809)
10. Dreamfields Massachusetts One, Inc. (#MPR244192)
11. Enlite Cannabis Dispensary, LLC (#MRR206926)
12. FCC Holdings LLC (#MBR169331)
13. FFD Enterprises MA, Inc. (#MRR206969)
14. FitzCAnna, Inc. (#MPR244228)
15. FitzCAnna, Inc. (#MXR126674)
16. Galil Greenery LLC (#MRR206801)
17. Gan Or LLC (#MCR140700)
18. Greater Goods, LLC (#MBR169337)
19. GTE Franklin LLC (#MRR207005)
20. Highmark Provisions, LLC (#MCR140822)
21. Major Bloom, LLC (#MPR244143)
22. Major Bloom, LLC (#MRR206882)
23. Major Bloom, LLC (#DOR5182971)
24. Mass Cannabis Growers Cooperative (#COR129713)
25. Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity LLC (#MRR207011)
26. Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity LLC (#MRR207002)
27. Mill Town Agriculture, LLC (#MCR140804)
28. New England Treatment Access, LLC. (#MRR206948)
29. Pharmacannis Massachusetts Inc. (#MRR206964)
30. Raices on the Hill LLC (#MRR206998)
31. Salty Farmers II, Inc. (#MCR140755)
32. Salty Farmers, LLC (#MRR206912)
33. Silver Therapeutics, Inc. (#MRR207009)
34. Smithers AMS LLC (#ILR267938)
35. Stafford Green, Inc. (#MCR140786)
36. SunnyDayz Inc. (#MCR140790)
37. Supercritical Mass Laboratories Inc. (#MPR244188)
38. The Corner Emporium LLC. (#MRR206820)
39. The Heirloom Collective, Inc. (#MPR244241)
40. The Heirloom Collective, Inc. (#MCR140814)



41. Tower Three, LLC (#MPR244157)
42. Underground Legacy Social Club, LLC (#MRR207013)
43. Union Leaf Inc. (#MRR206845)
44. Webber Road Ops, LLC (#MRR207034)
45. Alternative Compassion Services, Inc. (#MTC585)
46. Central Ave Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MTC145)
- VII. Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
 1. Motah 420, LLC (#MDA1327), Marijuana Delivery Operator
 2. SAWF Estate, LLC (#MRN284312), Marijuana Retailer
- VIII. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
 1. Apotho Therapeutics Dartmouth, Inc. (#MR283521), Marijuana Retailer
 2. Green Gold Group (#MR284703), Marijuana Retailer
- IX. Enforcement Actions
 1. Ascend Mass, LLC
 2. Curaleaf, Inc.
- X. Commission Discussion and Votes
 1. Executive Director Search - Subcommittee Update *Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek*
 2. Point-of-Sale Systems Discussion *Acting Chair Bruce Stebbins*
 3. Complaint Tipline Update *Commissioner Kimberly Roy*
 4. Seventh Annual Activities Report *Government Affairs and Policy*
 5. Independent Testing Laboratory Listening Session Overview *Commissioner Kimberly Roy*
- XI. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting
- XII. Next Meeting Date
- XIII. Adjournment

*Closed captioning available

If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the ADA Coordinator Debra Hilton-Creek in advance of the meeting. While the Commission will do its best to accommodate you, certain accommodations may not be available if requested immediately before the meeting.



CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

July 11, 2024
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
 - Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
- [Meeting Packet](#)
- Acting Chair Ava Callender Concepcion and Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek's July 11, 2024, joint statement to staff
- The High Ya Doin Show's episode eight summary
- Sale of Lottery Products by Marijuana Establishments Memorandum

In Attendance:

- Acting Chair Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

Minutes:

- 1) Call to Order
 - The Acting Chair (AC) recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
 - The AC gave notice that the meeting is being recorded.
 - The AC gave an overview of the agenda.
- 2) Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:01:49
 - Commissioner Stebbins highlighted recent visits to JAD's Mile High Smoke and Hotel 420 in Colorado. He added that himself and Commissioner Camargo were continuing to work with the Legal and Investigation and Enforcement departments to promulgate new regulations and also reminded viewers of the public comment period



on the accounts receivable topic. Commissioner Roy spoke about a recent engagement at the Concord Council on Aging and a networking event for the Massachusetts Cannabis Coalition in Springfield. Commissioner Camargo thanked Senator Paul Mark for meeting to discuss social consumption. The AC read a joint statement from herself and Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek (AED Hilton-Creek) assuring staff of stability during the current period of public scrutiny.

3) Minutes for Approval – 00:17:02

- The AC stated that there were no minutes up for approval.

4) Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report – 00:17:06

- AED Hilton-Creek presented a report on internal promotions and new hires within the Commission. Licensing Analyst Derek Chamberlin (Analyst Chamberlin) presented a high-level overview of licensing applications. Commissioner Roy highlighted the research license type and emphasized that she thought this would be important going forward in light of the potential rescheduling of cannabis. Analyst Chamberlin provided statistics on non-active licenses by stage and observed that there had not been much change since he began presenting this data. Commissioner Roy requested an average of how long it took Licensees to move from the Provisional License stage to receiving their Final License. Commissioner Camargo noted that the Commission was not solely responsible for the time it took Licensees to move from Provisional License to Final License and that Licensees and municipalities were also involved. Associate Enforcement Counsel Olivia Koval (Associate EC Koval) provided an update on the Host Community Agreement (HCA) review process and Commissioner Roy listed the municipalities which had used the Model HCA and HCA Waiver. The AC requested data on compliant HCAs which were associated with Social Equity Program (SEP) participants. Commissioner Roy asked for staff to highlight the municipalities which used the Model HCA and HCA Waiver and to broadcast that information to Licensees. Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Nomxolisi Khumalo (Chief Khumalo) stated she would work with the Communications team to do this. Acting General Counsel Andrew Carter and Chief of Staff (Chief Carter) suggested that this information could be included in the Commission’s municipal zoning tracker.

5) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership – 00:55:00

- Licensing Manager Tsuko Defoe (Manager Defoe) presented on behalf of the licensing department the Staff Recommendations for Changes of Ownership, Renewals, Provisionals, and Final licenses.

1. Bodelle’s Edibles, LLC.

- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes



- Commissioner Roy – Yes
- Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
- AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

6) Staff Recommendations on Renewals – 00:56:12

- Commissioner Roy noted that municipality’s costs had previously been included in the executive summaries for renewals and asked if it would be included going forward. Licensing Manager Anne DiMare (Manager DiMare) stated that information was no longer collected.
- Commissioner Stebbins made a motion to approve items numbered 1-23 as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal roster of items numbered 1-23 on the agenda.

7) Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses – 00:58:00

1. Fibonacci Farms, LLC (#MC283768), Cultivator, Tier 11 / Outdoor

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.
- Commissioner Camargo noted that the Licensee’s Positive Impact Plan included CORI sealing clinics. She stated that this was an attainable goal and advocated for other Licensees to take a similar approach.

2. Herbal Logic, LLC (#MRN285044), Retailer

- Commissioner Roy requested a condition.
 - Proposed condition: Prior to final licensure, in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.140 (6)(g) 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 or at any time after Commenced Operations, provide any updates to Positive Impact Plan



Goal #2 if additional charities are identified and supported in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs § 500.101(1)(a)11 and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.103(4)(b) and provide an update to CCC Licensing Division.

- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Provisional License, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Roy and Stebbins.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional Licenses, subject to the conditions requested by Commissioners Roy and Stebbins.

8) Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses – 01:02:44

1. Ahava, LLC (#MC283670), Cultivator, Tier 10 / Indoor
2. Ahava, LLC (#MP282159), Product Manufacturer
3. Fairway Botanicals, LLC (#MR281755), Retailer
4. Frozen 4 Corporation (#MP281749), Product Manufacturer
5. Gas, LLC (#MD1320), Delivery Operator
6. Northeast Alternatives Retail, LLC (#MR282659), Retailer
7. Pineapple Express, LLC (#MD1306), Delivery Operator
8. Social-J, LLC (#DO100155), Courier
9. Tradesman Exchange, LLC (#MD1316), Delivery Operator

- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Final License roster from one through nine as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Final License roster from one to nine.
- Commissioner Camargo read from episode eight of The High Ya Doin Show which Registered Agents of Gas, LLC had appeared on and congratulated them for crossing over from the legacy market.
- The Commission took short recess.

9) Commission Discussion and Votes – 01:22:46

1. Executive Director Search – Subcommittee and Membership Update



- AED Hilton-Creek provided an update on the Executive Director (ED) search. She explained that there had been 172 applicants and that a sub-quorum of three members had identified approximately sixty applicants who exceeded the minimum requirements. She stated that at the next meeting, the subcommittee would identify which applicants to virtually screen. AED Hilton-Creek described the timeline which would end with Commissioners choosing a candidate in late October. Commissioner Roy asked for clarification that the virtual screens did not constitute an interview, which AED Hilton-Creek confirmed. Commissioner Camargo asked when the process would be public and the AC stated that would occur after the first round of interviews. Commissioner Camargo suggested the list of applicants may provide an opportunity to find a Deputy ED and AED Hilton-Creek explained that it was Commission policy to keep applications on file in the event that candidates qualified for another position. The AC introduced motion language to designate Commissioner Stebbins as Vice-Chair of the ED search committee and Associate General Counsel Michael Bergquist (AGC Bergquist) as its counsel.
- Commissioner Roy moved to designate Commissioner Stebbins as vice-chair of the ED search subcommittee.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Abstained
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission approved the motion with three in favor and one abstention.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to designate AGC Bergquist as counsel to the ED search committee.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- Commissioner Stebbins asked that the lottery sales and disability employment tax credit discussion items be moved until later in the meeting as the Commission was ahead of schedule and external guests were participating on those topics.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to set aside these two agenda items until such time as the external guests may join the Commission.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes



- Commissioner Roy – Yes
- Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
- AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

2. Delivery Exclusivity Period Review Introductory Discussion

- Director of Government Affairs and Policy Matt Giancola (Director Giancola) introduced the topic. He described how on April 1, 2022, the first delivery license was issued which began the three-year exclusivity period for Certified Economic Empowerment Priority Applicants and SEP participants. He explained that a working group had been established to determine overall rates of participation in the marijuana industry by people from communities which were disproportionately harmed by prohibition as well as the business performance of Delivery Licensees. He stated that the working group would present their findings to the Commission in late fall. Commissioner Roy noted that a similar exclusivity period was extended in Colorado and asked that the working group look at other jurisdictions. Commissioner Camargo asked for a timeline on when this matter would be brought before Commissioners for a vote and Director Giancola suggested winter of 2024 to March 2025. He noted that the exclusivity period would expire if there was no vote to extend it. Commissioner Roy asked if there would be outreach to Licensees on this topic and Director Giancola confirmed that would be a crucial part of the process. Commissioners discussed Licensees who should be targeted for outreach.

3. Delivery in Banned Municipalities

- Commissioner Stebbins introduced the topic. He referenced the local control granted to municipalities under G.L. c. 94G § 3 and discussed how some municipalities had changed their stance on allowing Marijuana Establishments (MEs) and Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MTCs). He cited 935 Code Mass. Regs § 500.145(1)(1)3 which allowed for delivery in any municipality which had been notified by the Commission that delivery may operate within its borders. Commissioner Stebbins explained that this could give the Commission an opportunity to expand the industry of delivery operators and to reduce the illicit market. He discussed a draft letter which was included in the Meeting Packet which could be sent to municipalities to encourage them to allow for delivery. He suggested that Director Giancola maintain the letter while Commissioners requested edits. Commissioner Camargo asked Chief Carter if it was possible to continue efforts with the letter while working towards promulgating regulations to allow delivery to no-towns. Chief Carter stated that this topic would require a thorough legal review and suggested that the conversation continue offline. The AC requested information on how other jurisdictions have handled this from Director Giancola's team. Commissioner Roy suggested that Commissioner Stebbins seek testimony from public health and safety officials and Commissioner Camargo volunteered to reach out Chief John Carmichael. Director Giancola confirmed that he would work offline with Commissioners to incorporate suggestions.



- Commissioner Stebbins moved to direct the Government Affairs team to collect, coordinate and consolidate comments and input from Commissioners into a final draft.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- Commissioners agreed to recess until 1:00 p.m. (Returned at 2:53:55.)

4. Lottery Sales at Licensed Marijuana Retailers Update

- Commissioner Stebbins introduced General Counsel Greg Polin (GC Polin) and Chief Revenue Officer Steven Martins (Chief Martins) from the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission (MSLC) and summarized previous conversations regarding lottery sales at MEs. GC Polin provided a background on the products which the MSLC is charged with regulating, noting that the MSLC has discretion as to what products are sold at what locations. GC Polin and Chief Stevens took questions from Commissioners and described the equipment which their licensees were given to facilitate lottery sales, the MSLC background check process, financial considerations, signage, inspections, changes of ownership, inspections, suitability and the MSLC structure. Commissioner Stebbins suggested that the next steps could be to decide not to allow lottery sales at Licensed MEs or to prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to allow lottery sales at MEs. He suggested that Commissioners forward further questions to him and Chief Carter. The AC suggested moving ahead and drafting the MOU. Commissioner Camargo asked if the MOU was the path forward versus promulgating new regulations. Commissioner Stebbins stated that in his opinion, the MOU was the best path forward. Commissioner Camargo expressed that this topic needed more thought and suggested doing a walk-through before drafting the MOU. Commissioner Roy concurred and noted that compliance issues could become complicated in light of two sets of applicable regulations, but Chief Carter explained that was not a novel situation. Commissioner Stebbins reiterated his suggestion to solicit further questions over the next two weeks and stated he would forward them to the MSLC. Commissioner Camargo recommended that he discuss this with staff and asked that they solicit feedback from the public. She noted that the Commission had many competing priorities and it was a single Licensee who had prompted this discussion. Commissioner Stebbins stated that he understood this but did not want the topic to languish.

5. MA Disability Employment Tax Credit Discussion

- Commissioner Stebbins introduced the topic. He described how, due to the federal scheduling of Cannabis, there were many tax benefits which Licensees were excluded from. He described the Massachusetts Disability Employment Tax Credit which



allows employers to claim a state tax credit equal to \$5,000 or 30% of the wages paid to each qualified individual. Project Manager Joseph Reale (Manager Reale) of the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) described that the MRC's role in the process was to certify individual for participation in the program. He stated that this benefit was intended to benefit employers who had continuously employed individuals with disabilities for over twelve months. He described the application process which was intended to be simple and as inclusive as possible. Commissioner Camargo asked if the Commission's website could direct to the MRC's and Commissioner Stebbins stated that he would work with the Communications team to do this. AED Hilton-Creek asked for clarification on who could apply for the benefit, and Manager Reale responded that it was very broad to be as inclusive as possible. He stated that the employee needed to be located in Massachusetts and have worked for the company for one continuous year for a company to apply.

6. Regulatory Updates

- Chief Carter presented updated regulations on Microbusinesses, delivery Licenses, and to allow for telehealth consultation for initial certification. He requested that specific edits be requested at the next meeting. The AC stated that there would be a second meeting in July where Commissioners would have an opportunity to go through the new regulations line-by-line before submitting them for public comment. Commissioner Roy asked how the new regulations could be accessed and Chief Carter stated that Legal would work with Communications to get them posted to the website. Commissioner Roy asked if they would have a hearing to solicit public comment, or if that would happen solely through written testimony. Chief Carter stated that it was ultimately up to the Commissioners but in the past testimony at public hearings had always been informative. The AC asked Commissioners if they would want to hold the second meeting the weeks of July 15th or 22nd and the Commissioners indicated that they had already thoroughly reviewed the regulations and were prepared to go through line by line.

7. Governance Charter Introduction

- The AC stated that she would be seeking a motion to bring the draft Governance Charter to the public. She stated that the purpose of the document would be to provide clarity on roles and responsibilities within the Commission.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to release the Draft Governance Charter from Executive Session to Open Session.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.



- Commissioner Roy asked Chief Carter when the minutes for the executive sessions related to governance would be released. Chief Carter stated that the minutes would be released in the normal course and in compliance with Open Meeting Law. Commissioner Roy asked about the timeline on when the minutes would be released if they were requested through a public records request. Chief Carter confirmed that the request would have to be responded to within 10-days and the minutes produced by the next Public Meeting or within 30 days, whichever occurs first. Commissioner Roy asked about the recordings of the executive sessions related to governance. Chief Carter stated that those videos would be public records and requests for the videos would be treated as any other public records requests.

8. Federal Public Comment on Rescheduling

- Director Giancola presented the final public comment to be submitted to the Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding the rescheduling of Cannabis from Schedule I to schedule III under the Controlled Substances Act and summarized its content. He explained that the DOJ would not move based solely on the number of public comments, but that those comments may impact their policy. Director Giancola explained that the DOJ may choose to (1) terminate the rule making (2) make minor changes to the rule or (3) move forward with the rule. Commissioner Roy requested that the comment include a question on how Interstate Commerce Clause and the Interstate Clause could be affected by rescheduling. Commissioner Stebbins suggested also including a question related to testing standards. The AC suggested that the comment encourage the DOJ to consider expungement. Director Giancola confirmed that the Commissioners' requested edits could be incorporated before the public comment deadline and that Commissioners were free to submit their own comments individually. Commissioner Roy suggested using the Marijuana Opportunity Reinvestment and Expungement Act as a reference. Chief Carter suggested motion language to submit the comment.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Commission to submit the public comment to the United States DOJ regarding the proposed rule to reclassify Marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III subject to their edits as discussed and approved by the Commission for final approval and further authorize staff to take all actions as necessary to effectuate this action.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

10) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting 05:24:24

- AED Hilton-Creek noted that roles of Director of Enforcement Training and First Assistant Enforcement Counsel were temporary roles.



11) Next Meeting Date – 05:25:07

- The AC noted that there would be another meeting next week to discuss new regulations which had not yet been noticed and the next regular meeting would be on Thursday, August 8, 2024.

12) Adjournment – 05:26:01

- Commissioner Roy moved to adjourn.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.



CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

July 19, 2024
10:00 AM

In-Person with Remote Access via [Microsoft Teams Live*](#)

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Documents:

- [Meeting Packet](#)
- Telehealth.HHS.gov Synchronous Direct-to-consumer Telehealth page

In Attendance:

- Acting Chair Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

Minutes:

1) Call to Order

- The Acting Chair (AC) recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
- The AC gave notice that the meeting is being recorded.
- The AC gave an overview of the agenda.

2) Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:00:50

- Commissioner Camargo stated her intent to have a refresher on Open Meeting Law with the Attorney General's Office and the AC discussed an upcoming public hearing in Great Barrington to hear from outdoor cultivators. Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek (AED Hilton-Creek) addressed negative media coverage of the Commission and praised staff for their work.

3) Commission Discussion and Votes – 00:15:24

1. Draft Regulations

- Acting Deputy General Michael Baker (ADGC Baker) began reading amendments to the draft adult-use regulations. Commissioner Stebbins suggested striking the word “written” in the definition of Clinical Visit and no Commissioners objected. Commissioner Roy requested that they circle back to the Microbusiness definition. ADGC Baker continued, and Commissioner Roy asked why Social Consumption was



- not identified in 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.005(1)(b)4. Enforcement Counsel Timothy Goodin (EC Goodin) explained Microbusinesses did not receive the 50% reduction in annual license fees that Economic Empowerment Applicants (EEA) and Social Equity Program (SEP) participants received. Commissioner Roy noted that was not clear in the table under 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.005(1)(d) and EC Goodin volunteered to draft new language offline to clarify.
- ADGC Baker noted that what appeared as a redline edit to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(1)(b)1 was erroneous and did not reflect an amendment. He read the amendments to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(1)(b)5 and EC Goodin explained that this was a clerical change to provide for more substantive amendments to the Microbusiness license type. ADGC Baker read the amendments to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(1)(b)6.c and Commissioner Roy suggested striking the word “combined.” The AC proposed new language and there were no objections. A DGC Baker continued to read the amended regulations and Commissioner Stebbins requested an edit to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(1)(b)8.a to clarify that Craft Marijuana Cooperatives could apply for more than one license type. EC Goodin stated that he would work on proposed language. There were no objections to any of the redline amendments until Commissioner Roy requested that “white labeling” be listed as one of the authorized activities of a Marijuana Delivery Operator under 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(11)(a). ADGC Baker continued to read the redline amendments to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(11) and the AC requested that the word “combined” be stricken from (h).
 - The Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 1:40:30)
 - ADGC Baker continued to read the redline amendments beginning with 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.104(1)(b)3.c.ii. Commissioner Stebbins requested an amendment to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.105(13)(a)9 to include “counting” as one of the activities that must be recorded on video when transporting Marijuana and Marijuana Products between Marijuana Establishments. Commissioner Roy asked if (b)(1) should include the word “accounting” to match (a)(7) and Commissioners discussed with input from staff. EC Goodin stated that he would work offline with Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Nomxolisi Khumalo (Chief Khumalo) and Acting Director of Investigations and Enforcement Katherine Binkoski (Acting Director Binkoski) to determine if this could have a substantial impact on Licensees. ADGC Baker continued through the redline amendments and Commissioner Roy asked if the hours of operation provided for in 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.145(1)(m)1 could infringe on municipalities’ local control. She was assured after EC Goodin explained the local control granted to municipalities under G. L. c. 94G and Commissioner Camargo provided a background on the conversations which had led to this amendment. Commissioner Stebbins asked if the working group had considered a reduction in the amount of product which a delivery licensee could transport with a single driver and suggested including a \$5,000 cap for public comment. Commissioner Camargo stated that had not been a focus of the group drafting the amendments. Commissioner Roy requested that Government Affairs provide Connecticut’s regulations on delivery licensees. Commissioners discussed how to incorporate this into an amendment and



ADGC Baker proposed language to amend 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.145(1)(h). Commissioner Roy noted that Independent Testing Laboratories were still required to use two drivers and Commissioner Camargo stated that requirement applied to Third-party Transporters as well. Chief Khumalo stated that she was not opposed to reducing the driver requirement for Independent Testing Laboratories, but Third-party Transporters would require more extensive deliberation. ADGC Baker continued reading the redline amendments. Regarding 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.145(6)(e), the AC requested that “Delivery Endorsements” be changed to the singular and Commissioner Roy asked about what Licensees should do in accordance with (f) when they had to return product which was not accepted by the Consumer but could not carry it back into their warehouse in one trip. A Licensee who was present stated that that would not be a concern in practice due to purchase caps. Commissioner Stebbins requested that “consumer” in 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.145(7)(a) be capitalized.

- EC Goodin walked Commissioners through edits to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.180(3)(c)6.a, Table D under 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.802, and Table E under 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.803 and there were no requested edits.
- The AC reviewed the sections which the Commission had decided to circle back to and read proposed language provided by EC Goodin to be incorporated 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(1)(b)8.a. She moved on to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.145(1)(h) and Commissioners discussed the language which had been provided by ADGC Baker.
- Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 4:22:26)
- The AC requested that they resolve the outstanding issues with the adult-use regulations before moving to medical. EC Goodin proposed language to address Commissioner Roy’s concerns relating to Microbusinesses’ reduced fees in 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.005(1)(b)4 and she confirmed that she was comfortable with his proposed amendment. The AC and ADGC Baker requested minor grammatical and formatting changes. Commissioner Stebbins requested an edit to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.050(5)(d) to prevent persons or entities having direct or indirect control in an existing License from applying for a Microbusiness license, which he stated was intended to prevent large operators from taking advantage of the License type. Commissioners discussed the requested edit and Commissioner Roy noted that it would prevent EEA and SEP participants with existing Licenses from applying for a Microbusiness License. Chief Khumalo stated that she would work with ADGC Baker and EC Goodin offline to rework Commissioner Stebbins’ edit to allow for EEA and SEP participants to apply for a Microbusiness license. EC Goodin provided amended language and Commissioner Roy stated that it still did not allow for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises to apply which Commissioners discussed. Commissioner Camargo cautioned that this amendment may have unintended consequences, but all Commissioners agreed to include it for the purpose of seeking public comment. The AC moved to 935 Code Mass Regs § 500.105(13)(a)9 and proposed that it end with “shall show each product being weighed, counted, the weight, the count and the manifest.” EC Goodin suggested a minor amendment and



- Commissioner Roy asked whether “inventory” should be included. Acting Director Binkoski described the regulatory requirements for inventories and EC Goodin proposed a revised amendment, which Commissioners discussed with input from staff. They reached consensus on “When videotaping the weighing, counting, inventorying and accounting of Marijuana Products before transportation or after receipt the video shall show the product being weighed or counted, the actual final weight or count, and the manifest.”
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the draft regulations of 935 Code Mass Regs § 500 as amended and direct the Legal department to make ministerial changes and take all necessary steps to file the regulations with the Secretary of the Commonwealth.
 - Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
 - Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 05:57:51)
 - ADGC Baker was experiencing technical issues and Acting General Counsel/Chief of Staff Andrew Carter (Chief Carter) began to present the amendments to the medical-use regulations. There were no requested edits which had not been requested of the adult-use regulations until 935 Code Mass Regs § 501.010(8) where Commissioner Roy asked whether “synchronous” was the right word and if it should be defined. Commissioners discussed with Chief Carter and EC Goodin and asked to seek feedback on this during the public comment period. Commissioners agreed to add “that happens in live real time settings where the patient interacts with the provider usually by phone or video” to the end of this section as well as to the definition of Clinical Visit and to mirror these edits in the adult-use regulations. They asked for staff to research this term to determine if was appropriately defined. ADGC Baker rejoined the meeting and continued reading the amendments and no additional amendments were requested which had not been made to the adult use regulations until 935 Code Mass Regs § 501.110(8)(b) where Commissioner Roy requested that “home” be replaced with “patient.” The AC found consensus on this, and ADGC Baker volunteered to make this amendment throughout the medical-use regulations and to replace “home” with “consumer” throughout the adult-use regulations. ADGC Baker continued through the amendments and EC Goodin noted an error to a citation in 935 Code Mass Regs § 501.181(3)(d), which ADGC Baker said he would amend to match the other citations in the section. Continuing, EC Goodin noted a formatting error in Table C under 935 Code Mass Regs § 501.803. No other amendments were requested which had not been requested for the adult-use regulations. Commissioner Roy reiterated the request for staff to research “synchronous.” EC Goodin proposed language for a further amendment to the definition of Clinical Visit and Commissioner Roy stated that the amendment did not allow for Clinical Visits to happen over the phone. Commissioners discussed how to task staff with finalizing



this definition and Chief Khumalo proposed an amendment which satisfied the Commissioners.

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the draft regulations of 935 Code Mass Regs § 501 as amended and direct the Legal department to ministerial changes and take all necessary steps to file the regulations with the Secretary of the Commonwealth
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.

2. Regulatory Timeline

- ADGC Baker provided a timeline and described how there would be a public hearing in September before the regulations were filed with the Secretary of State's Regulation Division twenty-one days prior to adoption in November. Commissioner Camargo asked about the length of the process and ADGC Baker volunteered to reach out to the Secretary of State to see if it could be expedited.

4) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting 07:40:20

- The AC requested that Commissioners Stebbins and Camargo take the lead on the delivery to no towns topic. Commissioner Roy asked for staff to consider whether medical reciprocity could be addressed through regulations or statute. Commissioner Camargo suggested setting up additional policy meetings throughout the year starting in September, which the AC said she would consider, but noted that the Executive Director search may cause conflicts.

5) Next Meeting Date – 07:47:33

- The AC stated that the next meeting date was August 8, 2024.

6) Executive Session – 07:48:16

- Commissioner Roy moved to adjourn.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.



CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

August 8, 2024
10:00 AM

Remote via [Microsoft Teams Live*](#)

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Documents:

- Application Materials associated with:
 - Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
 - Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
 - Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewals
- [Meeting Packet](#)

In Attendance:

- Acting Chair Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

Minutes:

1) Call to Order

- The Acting Chair (AC) recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
- The AC gave notice that the meeting is being recorded.
- The AC gave an overview of the agenda.

2) Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:01:21

- Commissioner Roy highlighted an editorial that she had contributed to in the Boston Globe regarding testing and requested to lead an internal working group to provide policy recommendations on the topic. Commissioner Stebbins noted an upcoming meeting with representatives Lindsay Sabadosa and Dawne Shand and discussed the response to the accounts receivable topic which had been put out for public comment. He said that he was continuing to work on the letter to no-towns and had met with Ellen Brown, the newest member of the Cannabis Advisory Board. The AC discussed a meeting with members of the Massachusetts Cannabis Coalition where members



discussed potential regulatory changes related to advertising, badging requirements, the two-driver rule for third party transporters and testing. She stated that the upcoming regulations on Social Consumption may include some of these topics and that she planned on holding regular public listening sessions going forward.

3) Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report – 00:17:33

- Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek (AED Hilton-Creek) presented an update on internal promotions, recruitment for open positions, and Chapter 180 implementation. Licensing Manager Anne DiMare (Manager DiMare) presented highlights from licensing data and discussed the process for moving from initial application to provisional licensure. Director of Investigations Katherine Binkoski (Director Binkoski) described the process of moving Licensees from provisional to final licensure. The AC discussed stakeholder feedback on the licensing process and that a FAQ had been requested. Director Binkoski stated she would work offline with Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Nomxolisi Khumalo (Chief Khumalo) to determine issues to clarify for Licensees. Associate Enforcement Counsel Olivia Koval (Associate EC Koval) presented an update on Host Community Agreement (HCA) review. She stated that she could have information on the number of Licensees who had used the Model HCA at the next meeting and Commissioner Roy requested data on how long the review process took. Commissioner Camargo said that she had heard feedback from municipalities experiencing difficulty in bringing their HCAs into compliance and asked what the challenges were. Commissioner Stebbins asked about a disparity between Licensees who had requested an extension on submitting a compliant HCA and the number of requests which had been granted and Associate EC Koval explained that there was a ten-day period after the request where the Licensee must pay prorated fees before the request was granted.

4) Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership – 01:13:38

- Licensing Manager Tsuko Defoe (Manager Defoe) presented on behalf of the licensing department the Staff Recommendations for Changes of Ownership, Renewals, Final licenses, and Responsible Vendor Trainer Renewals.

1. Berkshire Kind, Inc.

- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Change of Ownership.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

2. Mayflower Medicinals, Inc.

- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Change of Ownership.



- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Change of Ownership.

5) Staff Recommendations on Renewals – 01:17:32

- Commissioner Stebbins made a motion to approve items numbered 2 – 9 and 11 – 22 as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal roster of items numbered 2 – 9 and 11 – 22 on the agenda.

1. Alexsofia (MRR206862)

- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
 - Proposed condition: Within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, contact CCC Licensing Division and consider updates to goals for hiring disproportionately harmed individuals to licensee’s Positive Impact Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(a)11 and 935 Code Mass. Regs § 500.103(4)(b).
- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the renewal subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.

2. I.N.S.A. (MRR206927)

- Commissioner Stebbins requested a condition.
 - Proposed condition: Within thirty business days of approval of Application for Renewal, consider updates to licensee’s Positive Impact Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(a)11 and 935 Code Mass. Regs. §



500.103(4)(b) and Diversity Plan in accordance with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(1)(c)8.k and 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.103(4)(b) with respect to Host Community of Salem and nearby areas of disproportionate impact and contact CCC Licensing Division with any updates.

- Commissioner Roy experienced technical difficulties and Commissioners agreed to a short recess. (Returned at 01:40:14).
- Commissioner Stebbins repeated his condition for I.N.S.A.'s renewal.
- Commissioner Roy moved to approve the renewal subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal subject to the condition requested by Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Roy noted the difficulty in hiring from disproportionately impacted areas and stated that she looked forward to receiving an updated diversity plan from Green Flash Delivery LLC and updated Positive Impact Plan from JimBuddys Rec Shop, Inc.

6) Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses – 01:45:05

1. Lunar Xtracts, Inc. (#MP282247), Marijuana Product Manufacturer
2. New Leaf Enterprises, Inc. (#MR283203), Marijuana Retailer
3. UC Retail, LLC (#MR284774), Marijuana Retailer

- Commissioner Stebbins moved to approve the Final License roster from one through three as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Final License roster from one through three.

7) Responsible Vendor Training Trainer Renewal – 01:47:03

1. Grass Ceiling, LLC (#RVR453148)



- Commissioner Camargo moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo - Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training Renewal.
- Commissioner Stebbins suggested reviewing the Responsible Vendor Training (RVT) requirements in light of upcoming regulatory changes. The AC stated that a topic for a future meeting should be determining what regulatory changes the Commission should focus on.

8) Commission Discussion and Votes – 01:52:05

1. Executive Director Search – Subcommittee and Membership Update

- AED Hilton-Creek presented an update on the timeline for the Executive Director (ED) search. She explained how the virtual screens would begin on August 12th and first round interviews would be scheduled from September 1st to September 15th before the final round of interviews in a Public Meeting from October 1st to October 15th. Commissioner Camargo asked if there had been preparations to onboard the new ED. AED Hilton-Creek responded that she had begun preparing for the onboarding which had been informed by staff feedback. She stated that the process would be presented to Commissioners for their approval.

9) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting – 02:10:34

- The AC stated that there was no new business which was not anticipated at the time of posting. Commissioner Stebbins stated that he had spoken with a Registered Agent who felt that she was having a hard time getting approved for a mortgage due to working in the industry and pointed out that this situation may be addressed by federal rescheduling of cannabis.

10) Next Meeting Date – 02:13:27

- The AC stated that the next meeting was scheduled for August 14, 2024.

11) Adjournment – 02:15:22

- Commissioner Stebbins moved to adjourn.
- Commissioner Camargo seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - AC Concepcion – Yes



- The Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.



CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

August 14, 2024

10:00 AM

In-Person with Remote Access via [Microsoft Teams Live*](#)

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Documents:

- [Meeting Packet](#)

In Attendance:

- Commissioner Nurys Z. Camargo
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Commissioner Bruce Stebbins

Minutes:

1) Call to Order

- Commissioner Roy recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Roy gave notice that the meeting is being recorded.
- Commissioner Roy explained that they would be taking the agenda out of order and would start with new business not anticipated at the time of posting as Acting Chair (AC) Concepcion was not present.

2) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting – 00:00:35

- Commissioner Roy asked Acting General Counsel and Chief of Staff Andrew Carter (Chief Carter) for a legal opinion on how to move forward and he confirmed that three votes were necessary to elect a new AC. Commissioner Roy asked for a motion to designate a Commissioner as AC. Commissioner Stebbins asked Commissioner Camargo if she was open to serving as AC and she responded that she was not. She asked Commissioner Stebbins the same and he responded that he open to serving as AC.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to nominate Commissioner Stebbins to serve as AC until further notice that AC Concepcion returns.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes



- Commissioner Roy – No
- The Commission denied the motion by a vote of two in favor and one opposed.
- Commissioner Camargo asked Commissioner Stebbins if he had an opinion on how to proceed. Commissioner Stebbins asked Chief Carter for counsel, in light of the fact that the Governance Charter which they could approve today indicated that the Secretary would serve as AC in the Chair’s absence. Chief Carter counseled that the Governance Charter was not yet in effect. Commissioner Camargo reiterated that she was not interested in serving as AC and Commissioner Roy explained that she would not vote in favor of Commissioner Stebbins.
- Commissioner Stebbins moved to nominate Commissioner Roy as AC until AC Concepcion’s return.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – No
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
- The Commission denied the motion by a vote of two in favor and one opposed.
- Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 00:21:22.)
- Commissioner Roy summarized the previous votes.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to nominate Commissioner Roy as AC for the day’s meeting.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion and commented that he was reluctant to revisit this issue.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – No
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
- The Commission denied the motion by a vote of two in favor and one opposed.
- Commissioner Stebbins asked Commissioner Camargo if she would reconsider her declination in light of the Governance Charter.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to nominate Commissioner Roy as AC for the purpose of the next two meetings.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion
- Commissioner Roy took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – No
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
- The Commission denied the motion by a vote of two in favor and one opposed.
- Commissioner Camargo asked Chief Carter for advice on how to proceed and he responded that this was a matter for the Commissioners. He further clarified that if they could not find consensus on who should serve as AC, they should adjourn the



meeting as any decisions which they made could be challenged and the cleanest way to proceed would be to appoint an AC. Commissioner Camargo noted that this matter would need to be resolved before the public hearing in Great Barrington. Commissioner Camargo asked Chief Carter if they could enter Executive Session and he explained that the purpose of the noticed Executive Session was to discuss minutes.

- Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 00:42:36.)
- Commissioner Roy summarized the previous votes and expressed that the Commission recognized the need to appoint an AC. Commissioner Stebbins indicated that he would like to reconsider Commissioner Camargo's last motion.
- Commissioner Camargo moved to nominate Commissioner Roy to serve as Acting Chair for the day's meeting and for the purpose of next Thursday's meeting in Great Barrington.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- AC Roy gave an overview of the agenda.

3) Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:45:44

- Commissioner Stebbins stated that he was looking forward to the Public Hearing in Great Barrington.

4) Commission Discussion and Votes – 00:46:52

1. Governance Discussion and Vote

- The AC explained how they would review the Charter and reach consensus on each section. She began by reading the Purpose and Background sections and confirmed that Commissioners had no proposed edits. The AC began to read the Roles and Responsibilities section and asked if No. 1(a)(iv) should include that Commissioners would receive annual training on Open Meeting Law (OML). Chief Carter responded that it may be helpful and the AC proposed language to include this point. Commissioner Camargo remarked that there was likely a leak in the Commission based on news coverage and suggested that confidentiality of personnel matters be included in the Charter. Commissioner Stebbins responded that this section may not be the place to address confidentiality but was not opposed to including it. Acting Executive Director Debra Hilton-Creek (AED Hilton-Creek) explained that the employee handbook was being updated and Human Resources was considering addressing confidentiality issues through updating the onboarding process and through trainings. The AC resumed reading the Roles and Responsibilities section of



the Charter. She suggested that No. 1(b)(ii) include that Commissioners may “undelegate” statutory responsibilities from the Executive Director (ED) and Chief Carter volunteered to work on language to address this. The AC requested an edit to include that the ED may not serve as an adjudicator and continued reading the Roles and Responsibilities section. Regarding No. 1(e)(v), she asked the other Commissioners if they would prefer to perform the ED performance review in a Public Meeting and Commissioners Stebbins and Camargo responded they were comfortable with the current process. Commissioners and AED Hilton-Creek discussed shifting the ED’s performance evaluation to the fiscal year and decided to leave it out of the Charter but to make it a goal for the next ED. The AC proposed language to include in No. 1(e)(v) that two Commissioners would be included in interview panels for Chiefs, Directors, and C Suite positions. Commissioner Stebbins suggested including only Chiefs and Directors and Commissioner Camargo suggested that this responsibility be optional. The AC proposed language to incorporate the other Commissioner’s suggestions in a new No. 1(e)(vii) and Commissioner Camargo asked why Directors needed to be included. AED Hilton-Creek added that including Directors could blur reporting. The AC proposed new language for a new No. 1(e)(vii). Commissioner Camargo asked for clarification on the word “significantly” in No. 1(e)(vi) relating to changes in job descriptions that would be brought before the Commission and AED Hilton-Creek explained that scenario was unlikely and would likely take the form of a new job description. Commissioners discussed how a job description may be significantly revised but not come before them for a vote and Commissioner Stebbins requested that they circle back to this point. The AC continued reading the Roles and Responsibilities section and stated that No. 1(g) needed to be clarified but Commissioners Stebbins and Camargo indicated that was not necessary.

- The AC moved to No. 2(a) in the Roles and Responsibilities section. Commissioners discussed whether “Commissioner” was a typo and meant to include the whole Commission. Chief Carter provided an overview of how to interpret statutes.
- Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 02:42:04.)
- The AC explained that a full review of the Charter would not be possible and another meeting would be noticed to finish. She continued discussing No. 2(a) under Roles and Responsibilities. Commissioner Stebbins suggested replacing “Commissioners” with “Commission” and to keep the footnote’s reference to G. L. c. 10, § 76 (h) and (i). Commissioner Camargo requested that they table the topic until they had a chance to review the Executive Session minutes. The AC continued to read No. 2 under Roles and Responsibilities and requested to add “the” before Executive Director in No. 2(d). The AC said that she was not comfortable with No. 2(f) as she read it as going beyond the statute. She discussed this with Commissioners and Chief Carter suggested potentially including a Vice-Chair which could be voted on at the same time as Secretary and Treasurer. The AC indicated that they would circle back to this section and continued. Regarding No. 2(i), she asked when Cannabis Advisory Board assignments occurred. Commissioners discussed and the AC indicated that they would circle back.



- The AC began reading No. 3 in the Roles and Responsibilities section of the Charter. Regarding No. 3(a), Commissioners discussed the one-year terms for the Treasurer and Chief Carter suggested including “or until a successor is appointed” in No. 3(a) and for the Secretary in No. 4(a). Regarding No. 3(c)(ii), the AC asked if “timely manner” should be better defined. Commissioner Camargo indicated that she was fine with the language as-is. The AC suggested including “consistent with reporting requirements” and there were no objections. She asked if an absence of the Treasurer or Secretary should be addressed in the Charter and suggested including “or their delegee.” Regarding No. 3(c)(iii), the AC asked if staff were identified correctly and Chief Carter suggested specifying “fiscal staff” and striking “appropriate staff,” The AC read the remainder of No. 3 under Roles and Responsibilities without any additional edits.
- The AC began to read No. 4 under Roles and Responsibilities and reiterated the earlier edit to include “or until a successor is appointed” under No. 4(a). Regarding No. 4(b)(i), the AC asked if “timely manner” should be better defined as she thought it was open for interpretation. Commissioner Stebbins advocated for leaving the language as-is. Commissioners discussed how to address the AC’s concern and she suggested including a footnote which referenced OML. Commissioners further discussed and agreed to circle back to this point. The AC moved to No. 4(b)(iii) and asked for clarification on what “Keeper of the Records” meant in practice. Chief Carter explained that this was a statutory responsibility of the Secretary mostly related to litigation and that, in practice, it was often best handled by the General Counsel. The AC stated that this delegation should be documented and asked for how that should be reflected in the Charter. Chief Carter suggested including “in writing” and Commissioner Stebbins suggested moving footnote twelve to follow “Keeper of the Records.” The AC read No. 4(b)(iv) and asked if the bi-annual updates on public records requests had occurred before. Commissioner Camargo and the AC discussed their experiences as Secretary and how the responsibilities discussed in this section had not occurred during their tenures. Commissioner Stebbins suggested breaking No. 4(b)(iv) into two romanettes with the second to include a footnote citing Massachusetts records retention schedule. The AC asked if the responsibility of the Treasurer to track promulgation timelines described in No. 4(b)(v) was statutory and Chief Carter responded that it was not and was likely intended to include Commissioners in the promulgation process. Commissioners discussed what this responsibility would look like in practice and Chief Carter suggested striking “Review Commission-approved draft and final regulatory changes and.” The AC read No. 4(b)(vi) and asked Chief Carter if he had thoughts on how to better coordinate trainings. Commissioner Camargo responded that this section may not be the correct place and suggested that trainings may be better addressed during Commissioner’s onboarding. Commissioners agreed to circle back to this section. The AC read No. 4(c) and suggested replacing “Communications Staff” with “appropriate staff,” and there were no objections. Commissioners agreed to circle back to No. 4(d).
- Commissioners agreed to take a short recess. (Returned at 04:19:42.)



- The AC acknowledged time constraints and stated that the meeting would adjourn at 4:00 PM. She asked that they circle back to No. 2 under Roles and Responsibilities and asked if it was the Chair’s place to hold weekly meetings with Chiefs or if that interfered with the work of the ED. Commissioners discussed this point and asked AED Hilton-Creek for her thoughts. AED Hilton-Creek explained that she would prefer to have that conversation offline.
- The AC began to read No. 5 under Roles and Responsibilities. Regarding No. 5(j)(i), the AC noted that AED Hilton-Creek had indicated that the employee handbook was being revised and renamed, so its reference here may not be appropriate. Chief Carter suggested simply including “personnel policies” rather than naming specific documents and no Commissioners objected. The AC continued reading and suggested that the Treasurer should be included in No. 5(n). Commissioners discussed and Commissioner Stebbins expressed that No. 5(n-q) seemed redundant and suggested working offline to consolidate this section. He volunteered to work with the Legal team to revise and Chief Carter suggested including Finance staff in that process. The AC continued and Commissioner Stebbins suggested striking No. 2(i) and combine it with No. 5(u). The AC continued reading and said that No. 5(x) did not make sense to her Commissioners discussed and Chief Carter explained that the responsibilities described in that section were important and should be discussed further. The AC stated that they would circle back and read the remainder of the section.
- The AC expressed concern regarding No. 5 as it related to the motion language delegating AED Hilton-Creek’s responsibilities on June 13, 2024. She stated that vote would be in conflict with the Charter once it was ratified. Chief Carter explained that the Charter was a forward-looking document and would supersede the previous vote. He suggested that he would draft motion language offline. Commissioner Camargo cautioned that this was a delicate topic and they should be careful. The AC read from the enabling statute. Commissioner Stebbins noted that the word “stripped” was not used in the motion, and that motion was an example of the Commissioners exercising their statutory power to direct the AED. Commissioners discussed the June 13, 2024, vote and whether it conflicted with the Charter. Commissioner Camargo asked what language Legal had been tasked with drafting and Chief Carter explained that he would prepare language to clarify how the Charter may affect previous delegations.

5) New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting – 05:21:17

- Commissioner Camargo stated that she would like to discuss expired Provisional Approvals in a Public Meeting and that she would like to offer extensions. The AC suggested a conducting a forensic audit of the Commission to guide policy decisions.

6) Adjournment – 05:29:56

- Commissioner Camargo moved to adjourn.
- Commissioner Stebbins seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Camargo – Yes
 - Commissioner Stebbins – Yes



- AC Roy – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion to adjourn.



Assured Testing Laboratories, LLC 0287-COO-01-0624

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	Assured Testing Laboratories, LLC
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2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
IL281360	Independent Testing Laboratory

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Cornel Catuna	Persons with Direct or Indirect Control

5. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

6. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.

COO Executive Summary 1



5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



Good Feels, Inc.
0267-COO-03-0324

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	Good Feels, Inc.
Licensee d/b/a Name:	N/A

2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MP282192	Marijuana Product Manufacturer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Joseph Croteau	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Christopher French	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Entities Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Entity	Role
Dirigo Cannabis MA LLC	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control

6. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

7. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.

8. Commission staff conducted an organizational and financial inspection into the parties associated with this request and found no issues or inconsistencies with the information provided to the Commission.



RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



Green Choice Dispensaries LLC 0281-COO-02-0624

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	Green Choice Dispensaries LLC
Licensee d/b/a Name:	N/A

2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MR283234	Marijuana Retailer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Kyle Seyboth	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Entities Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Entity	Role
GC2, LLC	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control

6. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

7. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.

8. Commission staff conducted an organizational and financial inspection into the parties associated with this request and found no issues or inconsistencies with the information provided to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

COO Executive Summary 1



Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



J-B.A.M., Inc.
0276-COO-01-0424

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	J-B.A.M., Inc.
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2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MC282510	Cultivator
MP282172	Product Manufacturer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Jason Boze	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Chirag Sadana	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

6. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.



4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



Neamat LLC 0282-COO-03-0624

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	Neamat LLC
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2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MC282693	Marijuana Cultivator
MP282004	Marijuana Product Manufacturer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Brian Gaultier	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Chris Maiorano	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Nick Fermano	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Brandon Sylvester	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Entities Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Entity	Role
Mega Holdings Company LLC	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control

6. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

7. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.



8. Commission staff conducted an organizational and financial inspection into the parties associated with this request and found no issues or inconsistencies with the information provided to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



Silver Therapeutics, Inc. 0261-COO-03-0124

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	Silver Therapeutics, Inc.
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2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MC282461	Marijuana Cultivator
MP281779	Marijuana Product Manufacturer
MR283074	Marijuana Retailer
MR281271	Marijuana Retailer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Joshua Joseph	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Michael Mook	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Adam Cossman	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Entities Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Entity	Role
Big Plan of Maine LLC	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control
Silver Parent Co.	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control

6. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

7. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.



8. Commission staff conducted an organizational and financial inspection into the parties associated with this request and found no issues or inconsistencies with the information provided to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



Silver Therapeutics of Palmer, Inc. 0262-COO-03-0124

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVERVIEW

1. Licensee Information:

Licensee Business Name:	Silver Therapeutics of Palmer, Inc.
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2. License(s) Affected by this Change Request:

License Number	License Type
MR284328	Marijuana Retailer

3. The licensee has paid the applicable fees for this change request.

4. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Persons Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Individual	Role
Joshua Joseph	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Michael Mook	Person with Direct or Indirect Control
Adam Cossman	Person with Direct or Indirect Control

5. The licensee is proposing to add the following as Entities Having Direct or Indirect Control:

Entity	Role
Big Plan of Maine LLC	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control
Silver Parent Co.	Entity with Direct or Indirect Control

6. Background checks were conducted on all proposed parties and no suitability issues were discovered.

7. The proposed parties do not appear to have exceeded any ownership or control limits over any license type.



8. Commission staff conducted an organizational and financial inspection into the parties associated with this request and found no issues or inconsistencies with the information provided to the Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the request for change of ownership and control, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the following conditions:

1. The licensee and proposed parties may now effectuate the approved change.
2. The licensee shall notify the Commission when the change has occurred.
3. The licensee shall submit a change of name request following this approval if any business or doing-business-as names associated with the license(s) will require modification.
4. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
5. The licensee shall remain suitable for licensure.
6. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
7. The licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) and/or 935 CMR 501.105(1) after effectuating the change, if applicable, and shall give Commission staff adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.



MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT RENEWALS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY COMMISSION MEETING: OCTOBER 10, 2024

RENEWAL OVERVIEW

- Name, license number, renewal application number, host community, and funds deriving from a Host Community Agreement allocated for the municipality for each Marijuana Establishment presented for renewal:

	Licensee Name	License Number	Renewal Application Number	Location
1	ACMJ, Inc.	MC283322	MCR140805	Holyoke
2	Alternative Therapies Group II, Inc.	MR281255	MRR206990	Salem
3	Analytics Labs, LLC.	IL281280	ILR267942	Holyoke
4	B Leaf Wellness Centre LLC	MR281356	MRR207023	Ware
5	Bodelle's Edibles, LLC	MB281356	MBR169329	Northampton
6	Cannabakeri LLC	MP281903	MPR244200	Worcester
7	Cannabis Connection II, Inc	MR284816	MRR206917	West Springfield
8	Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc.	MP281318	MPR244248	Webster
9	Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc.	MC281309	MCR140809	Webster
10	Dreamfields Massachusetts One, Inc.	MP282054	MPR244192	Tyngsborough
11	Enlite Cannabis Dispensary, LLC	MR281867	MRR206926	Northampton
12	FCC Holdings LLC	MB282029	MBR169331	Northampton
13	FFD Enterprises MA, Inc.	MR284920	MRR206969	West Springfield
14	FitzCanna, Inc.	MP282212	MPR244228	Clinton
15	FitzCanna, Inc.	MX281413	MXR126674	Clinton
16	Galil Greenery LLC	MR281978	MRR206801	Northampton
17	Gan Or LLC	MC283548	MCR140700	Northampton
18	Greater Goods, LLC	MB282344	MBR169337	Taunton
19	GTE Franklin LLC	MR282766	MRR207005	Franklin
20	Highmark Provisions, LLC	MC283492	MCR140822	Holliston
21	Major Bloom, LLC	MP281879	MPR244143	Worcester
22	Major Bloom, LLC	MR283033	MRR206882	Worcester



23	Major Bloom, LLC	DO100119	DOR5182971	Worcester
24	Mass Cannabis Growers Cooperative	CO281452	COR129713	Holyoke
25	Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity LLC	MR284009	MRR207011	Boston
26	Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity LLC	MR284097	MRR207002	Boston
27	Mill Town Agriculture, LLC	MC282596	MCR140804	Holyoke
28	New England Treatment Access, LLC.	MR283065	MRR206948	Franklin
29	Pharmacannis Massachusetts Inc.	MR281252	MRR206964	Wareham
30	Raices on the Hill LLC	MR284380	MRR206998	Boston
31	Salty Farmers II, Inc.	MC282276	MCR140755	Eastham
32	Salty Farmers, LLC	MR282640	MRR206912	Eastham
33	Silver Therapeutics, Inc.	MR283074	MRR207009	Boston
34	Smithers AMS LLC	IL281355	ILR267938	Wareham
35	Stafford Green, Inc.	MC281964	MCR140786	Cheshire
36	SunnyDayz Inc.	MC283692	MCR140790	Deerfield
37	Supercritical Mass Laboratories Inc.	MP281321	MPR244188	Worcester
38	The Corner Emporium LLC.	MR281408	MRR206820	Worcester
39	The Heirloom Collective, Inc.	MP281407	MPR244241	Bernardston
40	The Heirloom Collective, Inc.	MC281438	MCR140814	Bernardston
41	Tower Three, LLC	MP281783	MPR244157	Taunton
42	Underground Legacy Social Club, LLC	MR284914	MRR207013	Boston
43	Union Leaf Inc.	MR282570	MRR206845	Somerville
44	Webber Road Ops, LLC	MR283559	MRR207034	Brimfield

2. All licensees have submitted renewal applications pursuant to 935 CMR 500.103(4) which include the licensee's disclosure of their progress or success towards their Positive Impact and Diversity Plans.
3. All licensees have submitted documentation of good standing from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, Department of Revenue, and Department of Unemployment Assistance, if applicable.
4. All licensees provided a compliant HCA or HCA Waiver, that was accepted by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3).
5. All licensees have paid the appropriate annual license fee.
6. The licensees, when applicable, have been inspected during the current renewal period.
7. Commission staff certify that, to the best of our knowledge, no information has been found that would prevent renewal of the licenses mentioned above pursuant to 935 CMR 500.450.



RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the above-mentioned licenses applying for renewal, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the licensee remaining in compliance with the Commission regulations and applicable law.





MEDICAL MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTER RENEWALS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY COMMISSION MEETING: OCTOBER 10, 2024

RENEWAL OVERVIEW

1. Name, license number, host community, for each Medical Marijuana Treatment Center presented for renewal:

	Licensee Name	License Number	Host Community (Cultivation)	Host Community (Dispensing)
45	Alternative Compassion Services, Inc.	MTC585	Bridgewater	Bridgewater
46	Central Ave Compassionate Care, Inc.	MTC145	Ayer	Ayer

2. All licensees have submitted renewal applications pursuant to 935 CMR 501.100(5).
3. All licensees have paid the appropriate annual license fee.
4. All licensees provided a compliant HCA or HCA Waiver, that was accepted by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3).
5. The licensees, when applicable, have been inspected during the current renewal period.
6. Commission staff certify that, to the best of our knowledge, no information has been found that would prevent renewal of the licenses mentioned above pursuant to 935 CMR 501.405.

Commented [AM1]: FYI: Annie saved the templates for us to work out of, but we noticed they look slightly different from the Sept documents.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend review and decision on the above-mentioned licenses applying for renewal, and if approved, request that the approval be subject to the licensee remaining in compliance with the Commission regulations and applicable law.



Apotho Therapeutics Dartmouth, Inc.

MR283521

ESTABLISHMENT OVERVIEW

1. Name and address of the Marijuana Establishment:

Licensee Business Name:	Apotho Therapeutics Dartmouth, Inc.
Licensee d/b/a Name:	Apotho Therapeutics
Licensed Location:	747 State Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747

2. Type of final license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

License Type(s) Sought:
Marijuana Retail

3. The licensee is associated with the following license type(s):

Type	Status	Location
Marijuana Cultivator, Tier 2/Indoor (5,001 – 10,000 sq. ft.)	Provisional License	Dartmouth

LICENSING OVERVIEW

4. The licensee was approved for provisional licensure for the above-mentioned license(s) on January 12, 2023.
5. The licensee has paid all applicable license fees.
6. No new information has been reported to Commission staff regarding the organizational structure of the entity since the issuance of the provisional license(s).
7. No new information has been discovered by Commission staff regarding the suitability of the licensees previously disclosed since the issuance of the provisional license(s).

INSPECTION OVERVIEW

8. Commission staff inspected the licensee’s facility on the following date(s): July 1, 2024.
Final License Executive Summary 1



9. The licensee's facility was inspected by Commission staff and found to be in full compliance with the requirements listed in 935 CMR 500.105 through 935 CMR 500.160 as applicable.
10. No evidence was discovered during the inspection(s) that indicated the licensee was not in compliance with all applicable state laws and local bylaws or ordinances.
11. Specific information from Commission staff's inspection is highlighted below:

- a. Security

Enforcement staff verified that all security-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. The security of all entrances and exits;
- ii. Visitor procedures;
- iii. Limited access areas;
- iv. Verification of a primary and back-up security company;
- v. Presence of perimeter and duress alarms; and
- vi. All cameras complied with Commission requirements.

- b. Inventory and Storage

Enforcement staff verified that all inventory-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Secure storage of marijuana and marijuana products;
- ii. Sanitation and pest control measures; and
- iii. Inventory controls and procedures.

- c. Retail Operation

Enforcement staff verified that all retail-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Verification of identifications for access;
- ii. Layout of the sales floor; and
- iii. Availability and contents of adult-use consumer education materials.

- d. Transportation

The licensee will not be performing transportation activities at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend final licensure with the following conditions:



1. The licensee may possess and otherwise acquire marijuana, but shall not dispense, sell, or otherwise transport marijuana to other Marijuana Establishments, or to consumers, until upon inspection, receiving permission from the Commission to commence full operations.
2. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
3. The licensee remains suitable for licensure.
4. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
5. Licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) prior to the issuance of a commencement of operations and that Commission staff be given adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.

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

As part of the approval of final licensure, the Commission authorizes staff to take all necessary actions to review compliance with the above-referenced conditions and to approve the commencement of operations.



Green Gold Group

MR284703

ESTABLISHMENT OVERVIEW

1. Name and address of the Marijuana Establishment:

Licensee Business Name:	Green Gold Group
Licensed Location:	1140 Thorndike Street, Palmer, MA 01069

2. Type of final license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

License Type(s) Sought:
Marijuana Retailer

3. The licensee is associated with the following license type(s):

Type	Status	Location
Marijuana Retail	Commence Operations	Charlton
Marijuana Cultivator, Tier 1/Indoor (up to 5,000 sq. ft.)	Final License	North Brookfield
Product Manufacturing	Final License	North Brookfield
Retail	Commence Operations	Marlborough
MTC	Application Submitted	Douglas-Northampton
MTC	Commence Operations	North Brookfield-Charlton

LICENSING OVERVIEW

4. The licensee was approved for provisional licensure for the above-mentioned license(s) on February 9, 2023.
5. The licensee has paid all applicable license fees.
6. No new information has been reported to Commission staff regarding the organizational structure of the entity since the issuance of the provisional license(s).

Final License Executive Summary 1



7. No new information has been discovered by Commission staff regarding the suitability of the licensees previously disclosed since the issuance of the provisional license(s).

INSPECTION OVERVIEW

8. Commission staff inspected the licensee's facility on the following date(s): September 3, 2024.
9. The licensee's facility was inspected by Commission staff and found to be in full compliance with the requirements listed in 935 CMR 500.105 through 935 CMR 500.160 as applicable.
10. No evidence was discovered during the inspection(s) that indicated the licensee was not in compliance with all applicable state laws and local bylaws or ordinances.
11. Specific information from Commission staff's inspection is highlighted below:

- a. Security

Enforcement staff verified that all security-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. The security of all entrances and exits;
- ii. Visitor procedures;
- iii. Limited access areas;
- iv. Verification of a primary and back-up security company;
- v. Presence of perimeter and duress alarms; and
- vi. All cameras complied with Commission requirements.

- b. Inventory and Storage

Enforcement staff verified that all inventory-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Secure storage of marijuana and marijuana products;
- ii. Sanitation and pest control measures; and
- iii. Inventory controls and procedures.

- c. Retail Operation

Enforcement staff verified that all retail-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Verification of identifications for access;
- ii. Layout of the sales floor; and
- iii. Availability and contents of adult-use consumer education materials.



d. Transportation

Enforcement staff verified that all transportation-related requirements were in full compliance with Commission regulations. Some of the requirements verified include the following:

- i. Vehicle and staffing requirements;
- ii. Communication and reporting requirements; and
- iii. Inventory and manifests requirements.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommend final licensure with the following conditions:

1. The licensee may possess and otherwise acquire marijuana, but shall not dispense, sell, or otherwise transport marijuana to other Marijuana Establishments, or to consumers, until upon inspection, receiving permission from the Commission to commence full operations.
2. The licensee is subject to inspection to ascertain compliance with Commission regulations.
3. The licensee remains suitable for licensure.
4. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
5. Licensure is subject to notification to the Commission of any update to written operations plans required by 935 CMR 500.105(1) prior to the issuance of a commencement of operations and that Commission staff be given adequate opportunity to review said plans at the business location or the location where any such plans are maintained in the normal course of business.

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

As part of the approval of final licensure, the Commission authorizes staff to take all necessary actions to review compliance with the above-referenced conditions and to approve the commencement of operations.



Motah 420, LLC
MDA1327

APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

1. Name, address, and license type(s) sought of the proposed License Applicant:

License Applicant Business Name:	Motah 420, LLC
License Applicant d/b/a Name:	Motah
Proposed Location:	6 Renfrew St., Adams, MA 01220

2. Type of final license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

License Type(s) Sought:
Marijuana Delivery Operator

3. The license applicant is associated with the following license type(s):

Type	Status	Location
Marijuana Cultivator, Tier 1/Indoor/Outdoor (up to 5,000 sq. ft.)	Provisional License	Adams

4. The license applicant was pre-certified by the Commission on January 10, 2023. Pursuant to 935 CMR 500.101(2)(b)(2), the applicant demonstrated a propensity to successfully operate a license.

5. List of all required individuals and their roles:

Individual	Role
Carl Nickerson	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control / Capital Contributor

6. List of all required entities and their roles:

No other entity appears to have ownership or control over this license applicant business.

7. License Applicant's Status:



Expedited Applicant (Social Equity Program Participant)
Carl Nickerson / 100% / SE305091)

8. The license applicant submitted or resubmitted their application on or after March 1, 2024 and provided a compliant HCA that was certified by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3) and/or comparable medical regulations.
9. The Commission received a municipal response from the host community on September 4, 2024 stating the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances or by-laws.
10. The license applicant proposed the following goals for its Positive Impact Plan:

#	Goal
1	The license applicant proposes to engage with businesses operating in or individuals living in or from Holyoke, Pittsfield, and the closest ADI, or employ residents of ADIs and at least one (1) Social Equity-owned ancillary business and engage with eligible SE participants in Adams for Cohort for employment.
2	The license applicant proposed to donate \$1,000 to Blue Skies Unlimited, LLC.

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

#	Goal
1	The license applicant proposes to hire the following: 50% Women, 20% People of color, particularly Black, African American, Hispanic, Latinx, and Indigenous peoples, 20% Veterans, 20% Persons with Disabilities, and 20% LGBTQ+ People.
2	The license applicant proposes to engage with a minimum of two (2) diverse-owned suppliers by accessing the SDO supplier list.

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. The license applicant shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
4. Provisional licensure is subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee.

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



SAWF Estate, LLC

MRN284312

APPLICATION OF INTENT REVIEW

1. Name, address, and license type(s) sought of the proposed License Applicant:

License Applicant Business Name:	SAWF Estate, LLC
License Applicant d/b/a Name:	Baked Cannabis Dispensary
Proposed Location:	879 Blue Hill Avenue, Boston, MA 02124

2. Type of final license sought (if cultivation, its tier level and outside/inside operation):

License Type(s) Sought:
Marijuana Retailer

3. The license applicant is associated with the following license type(s):

The license applicant is not associated with any other license applications or licenses.

4. List of all required individuals and their roles:

Individual	Role
Eric DiNicola	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control
Nicholas Earls	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control
John Staal	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control
Shayne Cranmore	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control
Sunny Aroustamian	Person Having Direct/Indirect Control/Capital Resources

5. List of all required entities and their roles:

Entity	Role
Winterspring Cannabis, LLC	Entity Having Direct/Indirect Control/Capital Contributor
Sunny Aroustamian Revocable Trust	Entity Having Direct/Indirect Control

6. License Applicant's Status:

Provisional License Executive Summary 1



Expedited Applicant (Social Equity Program Participant)
Shayne Cranmore / 51% / SE304958)

7. The license applicant and host community executed a Host Community Agreement (“HCA”) on July 18, 2024. The license applicant submitted or resubmitted their application on or after March 1, 2024 and provided a compliant HCA that was certified by Commission staff pursuant to 935 CMR 500.180(3) and/or comparable medical regulations.
8. The Commission received a municipal response from the host community on September 3, 2024 stating the applicant was in compliance with all local ordinances or by-laws.
9. The license applicant proposed the following goals for its Positive Impact Plan:

#	Goal
1	The license applicant proposes to serve individuals and organizations in areas of disproportionate impact, specifically census tracts of Boston, through the contribution of employee volunteer time courtesy of the company with a goal of donating eight (8) hours per employee per year.
2	The license applicant proposes to donate \$5,000 to CultivatED annually.

BACKGROUND CHECK REVIEW

10. There were no disclosures of any past civil or criminal actions, occupational license issues, or marijuana-related business interests in other jurisdictions.
11. There were no concerns arising from background checks on the individuals or entities associated with the application.

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS PROFILE REVIEW

12. The license 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.
13. The license applicant proposed the following goals for its Diversity Plan:

#	Goal
1	The license applicant proposes to hire the following: 50% Women, 25% People of color, particularly Black, African American, Hispanic, Latinx, and Indigenous peoples, 15% Veterans, 5% Persons with Disabilities, and 10% LGBTQ+ People.
2	The license applicant proposes to prioritize working with 15% of businesses, in its supply chain and required ancillary services, that are Women, People of color, particularly Black, African American, Hispanic, Latinx, and Indigenous peoples, Veterans, Persons with Disabilities, and LGBTQ+ People- owned.



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. The license applicant shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission staff.
4. Provisional licensure is subject to the payment of the appropriate license fee.

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



September 26, 2024

Ascend Mass, LLC
272 Friend Street
Boston, Massachusetts, 02114
MR282077

Case No. ENF-2023-0000001349

FINAL ORDER AND STIPULATED AGREEMENT

This Final Order and Stipulated Agreement (herein, “Order”) between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission (the “Commission”) and Ascend Mass, LLC (“Respondent”) (together, the “Parties”) is offered for the purposes of settlement and in lieu of further administrative action. The Commission finds that resolution of this matter serves the purposes of G.L. c. 94G, 935 CMR 500.360, and 935 CMR 500.500 because Respondent has accepted responsibility for the violations set forth in this Order, and further, where Respondent agrees to enhanced Commission oversight for a probationary period.

Accordingly, the Commission and Respondent stipulate to the following facts of record, applicable law, findings, and remedies:

Legislative, Statutory, and Regulatory Authority

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the conduct and operations of licensed Marijuana Establishments and the subject matter herein pursuant to the provisions of the Commonwealth’s marijuana laws, including G.L. c. 94G and 935 CMR 500.000 *et seq.*;
2. The Commission possesses all powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate its purposes including conducting investigations to ensure compliance with Commission laws, imposing fines, or otherwise restricting a license for violations of G.L. c. 94G or any regulation promulgated by the Commission;
3. In accordance with its statutory mandate, the Commission has adopted regulations for the administration, clarification, and enforcement of laws regulating and licensing Marijuana Establishments which include:
 - a. Requirements for maintaining real time inventory. *See* 935 CMR 500.105(8)(b);
 - b. Requirements for ensuring that the record of each inventory includes, at a minimum, the date of the inventory, a summary of the inventory findings, and the names, signatures, and titles of the individuals who conducted the inventory. *See* 935 CMR 500.105(8)(d);
 - c. Requirements for ensuring that any distribution and acquisition of Marijuana and Marijuana Products is tracked in the Commonwealth seed-to-sale System of Record (Metrc) in a form and manner determined by the Commission. *See* G.L. c. 94G, § 4(a½)(xiii); *see also* 935 CMR 500.105(8)(g);



- d. Requirements for having and following written Standard Operating Procedures. *See* 935 CMR 500.105(1).
4. Pursuant to its authority under G.L. c. 94G, § 4, the Commission may issue a Notice of Fines to show cause as to why a fine or other financial penalty against a Licensee should not be imposed for any acts or omissions determined to be in violation of the state Marijuana laws. *See* 935 CMR 500.360;
5. Respondent was subject to an investigation by Commission investigators (“Investigators”). From that investigation, the Commission alleges violations of Commission regulations, 935 CMR 500.000, relative to Respondent’s retail operations at its facility in Boston, Massachusetts (the “Boston Store”);
6. On March 21, 2024, the Commission issued a Letter of Enforcement Intent against Respondent;
7. On April 1, 2024, Respondent submitted a request for Informal Dispute Resolution, which stayed enforcement proceedings relative to the Notice of Fines;
8. On June 25, 2024 and July 2, 2024, Respondent engaged in Informal Dispute Resolution, the result of which is memorialized herein.

Facts of Record

9. Respondent is a Marijuana Retailer located at 272 Friend Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, under License no. MR282077;
10. Respondent applied for licensure on December 6, 2018. The Commission approved Respondent’s provisional retail license on January 9, 2020, and issued Respondent its final license on March 11, 2021. Respondent commenced retail operations on April 21, 2021;
11. Metrc is the Commission-designated Seed-to-sale System of Record that licensees must use to electronically track everything that happens to each Marijuana plant, from seed to cultivation, including the activities of all registered Marijuana Establishment Agents relative to the cultivation, manufacture, transport, sale and/or delivery of all Marijuana and Marijuana Products under a licensee’s custody and control;
12. On August 16, 2022, Bret Bender (“Bender”), Regional Vice President of Compliance for Respondent, emailed Commission Investigators to notify the Commission of inventory discrepancies discovered at the Boston Store following an internal audit;
13. On August 26, 2022, Bender sent Investigators a follow-up incident report detailing the inventory discrepancies, including several inventory-related mistakes and failure to follow Respondent’s Inventory and Recordkeeping SOP (the “Inventory SOP”);



14. Respondent's Inventory SOP stated, "[t]he inventory manager agent shall use Metrc to conduct and document an audit of the daily inventory, monthly inventory, and a comprehensive audit at least once every year after the date of the previous comprehensive inventory check";
15. Respondent's Inventory SOP further stated that: "pursuant to 935 CMR 500.110(9)(a)(1), Ascend shall notify the Commission and the appropriate law enforcement authorities of any breach of security or other reportable incident... immediately, and in no instance more than 24 hours following the discovery of the breach or incident. This includes notification upon the discovery of any inventory discrepancies";
16. The incident report described several compliance issues that were discovered following Respondent's inventory audit. Respondent staff did not conduct monthly inventory audits since "at least May 2022" and audits that were performed were done using its Point of Sale (POS) system, LeafLogix (now known as Dutchie), instead of Metrc. As a result, staff failed to identify "synching [sic] errors" between LeafLogix and Metrc during operations. Further, Respondent staff did not investigate the inventory discrepancies to resolve them within 24 hours and did not notify the Commission of the discrepancies. Respondent staff also misrepresented the location of inventory in Metrc by placing inventory items into its virtual quarantine room when the physical products could not be located;
17. The discrepancies emerged because Marijuana and Marijuana Products were set aside for pre-orders and were marked as sold. Sales staff then used the set aside pre-orders to fulfill orders from walk-in customers. This practice resulted in sales staff refilling the pre-orders, sometimes from an entirely new product batch. This caused pre-ordered items to be recorded as sold, yet appear as physically present in the store;
18. Respondent staff also placed vendor sample products into a virtual quarantine room and dispensed these products to its employees;
19. On August 26, 2022, Respondent proffered an initial Plan of Correction to address inventory noncompliance, including instituting monthly inventory audit procedures effective August 26, 2022;
20. On September 1, 2022, Bender sent Investigators an update on Respondent's inventory reconciliation effort. Respondent had determined that its inventory discrepancies were due to errors in the receiving process, staff neglecting to virtually destroy products marked for waste, and staff improperly documenting product returns. Bender provided Investigators with the results of Respondent's internal assessment, estimating four hundred sixty-three (463) physical packages that Respondent could not reconcile with its virtual, Metrc inventory;



21. On October 27, 2022, Investigators conducted an unannounced inspection at the Boston store where they observed substantial Metrc deficiencies. Marijuana and Marijuana Products tracked in Respondent's virtual rooms—identified as “Batch Swap” and “Vault”—in Metrc could not be physically found onsite at the Boston store;
22. Furthermore, some Metrc packages reflected a negative inventory of varying amounts. Virtual inventory sales units were still not being transferred from LeafLogix to Metrc, which continued to cause inventory negative inventory counts;
23. Many product tags were not identified by the Metrc Radio Frequency Identification (“RFID”) scanners due to LeafLogix failing to sync with Metrc. Some product batches had zero physical units onsite but did not reflect zero virtual units in Metrc. As a result, Investigators could not find Metrc tags onsite for product batches that appeared as active (*i.e.*, physically present) in Metrc;
24. Commission Investigators found that audits were still being conducted using LeafLogix inventory reports rather than Metrc reports, which led to the inventory records in Metrc remaining inaccurate;
25. Commission Investigators witnessed Respondent staff conducting transactions using one Metrc tag ID for all similar product type purchases. For example, when selling a pre-roll, Respondent staff would scan the same Metrc tag ID for that pre-roll sale regardless of the form of product, or product batch of origin rather than scanning the unique Metrc tag ID affiliated with each individual pre-roll product item. This led to erroneous unit counts for virtual inventory in Metrc and LeafLogix;
26. Investigators also observed violations of Respondent's SOPs on ID Verification and Limits on Sales (the “Verification SOP”), Storage and Waste (the “Waste SOP”), and Retail Security;
27. Respondent's Waste SOP provides that “Pursuant to 935 CMR 500.105(12)(d), no fewer than two Respondent agents must witness and document how the solid waste or organic material containing marijuana is handled on-site, including, but not limited to, the grinding up, mixing, storage, and removal from the establishment in accordance with 935 CMR 500.105(12). When marijuana waste products are disposed or handled, Respondent shall create and maintain a record of the date, the type and quantity disposed or handled, the manner of disposal or other handling, the location of disposal or other handling, and the names of the two Respondent agents present during the disposal or other handling, with their signatures...Where waste and finished products that cannot be sold may be vulnerable, marijuana that is outdated, damaged, deteriorated, mislabeled, or contaminated, or whose containers or packaging have been opened or breached, is stored in a separate area, until such products are destroyed”;



28. At the inspection, Investigators found that not all Marijuana and Marijuana Products in the vault were being tracked and accounted for in Metrc, and wasted products were not being documented on waste logs or in Metrc;
29. Respondent's Verification SOP in effect on October 27, 2022, stated: "Agents shall conduct a visual inspection and utilize the IDVISOR V2 ID Scanner to verify the authenticity of a consumer's government-issued identification. Access to the premises shall not be granted to anyone who is unable to produce valid proof of identification... At the security area, an agent shall complete a visitor log. This record shall include the date, visitor's name, company, reason for visit, visitor badge number issued, time in and out, and agent initials... Authorized Visitors shall be issued a Visitor badge and escorted by an authorized Ascend agent at all times";
30. Respondent's Retail Security SOP in effect on October 27, 2022, stated that agents would verify customer IDs by visual inspection and ID scanner before granting access to the premises. The Retail Security SOP also provided that "[a]uthorized visitors (e.g., outside vendors, contractors, and visitors pursuant to 935 CMR 500.110(4)(e)) shall be positively identified outside and then directed to the security kiosk area. At the security area, an agent shall complete a visitor log";
31. At the inspection, Investigators found that customers' IDs were not checked until the customer reached the sales floor and visitors were allowed to enter the premises without being checked in to the visitor log;
32. Respondent's Retail Security SOP further provided Respondent shall use the YourSix Security Solutions Platform to monitor and control all access points. "In addition to the identification badges worn by all agents, proximity card readers shall secure all Limited Access Areas and proximity access cards shall grant access to specific zoned areas according to employee job function." The Retail Security SOP further stated: "During business hours and at other times as needed, a security agent shall be stationed outside the door of the store and shall determine the age and purpose of any individual seeking entry. Immediately upon entry to the building, all individuals (visitors, employees, vendors, etc.) shall proceed to the check-in kiosk area for identification verification and visitor badge issuance if applicable." The Retail Security SOP also required that "[s]ecurity Agents assigned outside shall manage the line for consumers and control all access into the facility";
33. At the inspection, Investigators found that the door leading from the security vestibule to the sales floor was unlocked. Additionally, the RFID readers that automatically lock the doors leading to the Limited Access Areas behind the registers, were inoperable;
34. No security personnel were present onsite and there was no "check in" area in the security vestibule. Further, Investigators observed outside vendors were not asked to sign into Respondent's visitor log prior to entering the facility to deliver Marijuana products and complete a cash courier pick-up;



35. On November 7, 2022, the Commission's Investigations and Enforcement department issued a Notice of Deficiency (NOD) to Respondent and cited 22 deficiencies, including Respondent's failure to follow its own SOPs and failure to maintain real-time inventory;
36. Respondent submitted an amended Plan of Correction on December 7, 2022, identifying two-hundred and two (202) unaccounted for Marijuana and/or Marijuana Products physically located at the facility. Additionally, another six-hundred eighty-nine (689) Marijuana and/or Marijuana Products that should have been present in the facility according to Metrc could not be located. This ultimately required a manual adjustment in Metrc to 0 to reconcile.

Applicable Law

36. The Commission, through its Acting Executive Director, and supported by facts and evidence, has determined that the following violations are substantially supported by the Facts of Record and the Commission's Findings:
 - a. Respondent failed to track the distribution of Marijuana and Marijuana Products in Metrc in violation of 935 CMR 500.105(8)(g);
 - b. Respondent failed to follow its Standard Operating Procedures in violation of 935 CMR 500.105(1)(a)(d) & (g);
 - c. Respondent's failure to conduct inventory audits, failure to maintain real time inventory, and failure to adhere to its SOPs amount to incompetent or negligent operations in violation of 935 CMR 500.450(7)(f).

Stipulated Findings

37. The Commission, through its Acting Executive Director, and Respondent have come to mutual agreement and understanding, and jointly propose to the Commission a resolution of the alleged violations in lieu of proceeding with an administrative hearing to determine the merits of such allegations;
38. The terms and conditions of this Order are expressly subject to ratification by the full Commission. Pursuant to G.L. c. 10, § 76, three Commissioners shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of three Commissioners shall be required for ratification of this Order;
39. Respondent agrees to the stipulated findings set forth in Paragraphs 40 through 42, inclusive of all subparagraphs;
40. Respondent failed to maintain real-time inventory as specified by the Commission and in 935 CMR 500.105(8)(c). Respondent accepts responsibility for the following acts supported by the Facts of Record:



- a. Respondent staff failed to properly track and account for products pre-ordered by customers and products sold to walk-in customers;
- b. Respondent staff failed to complete monthly and yearly inventory audits;
- c. Respondent staff virtually moved Marijuana and Marijuana Products to quarantine in LeafLogix when the products could not be physically found in the store and performed inaccurate inventory adjustments;
- d. Marijuana and Marijuana Products tracked in Respondent's virtual rooms—identified as "Batch Swap" and "Vault"—in Metrc could not be physically found onsite at the Boston store. Furthermore, some Metrc packages reflected a negative inventory of varying amounts;
- e. Respondent could not account for at least two hundred and two (202) Marijuana and/or Marijuana Products within the facility, with another six-hundred eighty-nine (689) Marijuana and/or Marijuana Products that should have been in the facility requiring an adjustment to zero in Metrc because the physical inventory could not be found on the Premises;
- f. Respondent acknowledges that these facts constitute a violation of 935 CMR 500.105(8)(c).

41. Respondent failed to have and follow a set of detailed written operating procedures in accordance with 935 CMR 500.105(1)(a)(d) and (g):

- a. On October 27, 2022, Respondent did not follow its Verification and Retail Security SOPs when it allowed customers to enter the premises without checking proof of identification and when it allowed external vendors to enter the facility without requiring them to check into the Visitor log and obtain a Visitor badge;
- b. On October 27, 2022, contrary to its Retail Security SOP, there were no security agents stationed outside of Respondent's Boston store to control access into the facility, nor were there any security agents in the entrance vestibule to check customers in. In addition, the door to the Limited Access Areas had inoperable RFID readers which resulted in the doors being unlocked;
- c. On October 27, 2022, Respondent failed to follow its Waste SOP when it could not produce waste records to Commission Investigators;
- d. Respondent failed to adhere to its Inventory SOPs as Respondent staff did not notify the Commission within 24 hours regarding their failure to reconcile the inventory of pre-ordered bags. Further, Respondent staff misrepresented the location of inventory in Metrc by placing inventory items into its virtual quarantine room even when the physical products could not be located;
- e. Respondent did not follow its Inventory SOP when it failed to track all Marijuana and Marijuana Products using Metrc during a period from at least June 1, 2022, until August 26, 2022, and again on October 27, 2022, and failed to conduct daily or monthly inventory;
- f. Respondent staff failed to conduct audits using Metrc and instead used its Point-of-Sale system, LeafLogix, resulting in Respondent's failure to identify syncing errors between Metrc and Leaflogix;



- g. From June 1, 2022, to August 26, 2022, and again on October 27, 2022, Respondent failed to follow its SOPs in violation of 935 CMR 500.105(1)(a), (d), and (g).

42. Respondent's conduct constitutes incompetent operations in violation of 935 CMR 500.450(7)(f):

- a. Respondent exhibited a systemic failure to follow its SOPs, in particular related to security and inventory processes, which endangered public health, safety, and welfare;
- b. The Respondent's ongoing challenges with inventory tracking and the lack of regular inventory audits led to several marijuana products being distributed without comprehensive seed-to-sale tracking;
- c. Respondent's failure to conduct inventory audits, failure to maintain real time inventory, and failure to adhere to its SOPs amount to incompetent or negligent operations in violation of 935 CMR 500.450(7)(f).

Stipulated Remedy

43. In lieu of proceeding with an administrative hearing and subsequent proceedings, Respondent further agrees to the stipulated remedies and terms set forth in Paragraphs 44-48, inclusive of all subparagraphs;

44. Respondent agrees to pay a monetary fine in the amount of eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000.00), made payable by check or money order to the Cannabis Control Commission Marijuana Regulation Fund;

45. Payments shall be postmarked thirty (30) calendar days from the date this Order is ratified by Commission vote and be mailed to the following address:

- a. Via USPS:

Cannabis Control Commission
PO Box 412144
Boston, MA 02241-2144

- b. Via Courier/Overnight:

Bank of America Lockbox Services
Cannabis Control Commission 412144
MA5-527-02-07
2 Morrissey Boulevard
Dorchester, MA 02125

46. Respondent shall submit to a twelve-month probationary period (the "probationary period") for license no. MR282742 which will take effect on the date this Order is ratified:



- a. Any substantial noncompliance with any Commission laws by Respondent during the probationary period may constitute full and adequate grounds for license suspension or revocation;
 - b. Prior to enforcing this provision, the department agrees to send Respondent a Letter of Warning giving notice of the alleged substantial noncompliance and providing an opportunity for Respondent to correct the deficiencies.
47. During the probationary period, Respondent shall identify an audit manager who will serve as primary point-of-contact and shall conduct a twice monthly audit of all the Marijuana and Marijuana Products at its Boston facility, for a total of twenty-four (24) inventory audits;
- a. The first audit report shall be due to the department on the 15th of each month, and the second audit report shall be due on the last day of each month;
 - b. The audit reports shall identify all inventory discrepancies in a clear and concise manner describing the nature of the discrepancy and any steps taken to resolve it;
 - c. The audit reports shall be generated in a form or manner acceptable to the lead investigator;
 - d. Respondent must continue to comply with regulatory requirements under 935 CMR 500.105(8).
48. Respondent shall complete the following continuing education before the end of the probationary period and must provide a certificate or other documentation demonstrating completion of each course to the department within five days of completion unless such training has been completed within the past 20 days of the ratification of this agreement, in which case certification shall be provided to the department:
- a. Respondent shall develop and conduct SOP training for its employees at its Boston location on: (1) inventory, (2) recordkeeping, and (3) reporting obligations to the Commission. Respondent shall provide a curriculum to the department for approval prior to engaging in the training;
 - b. All Respondent's employees, including Management, shall complete the Basic Core Curriculum for Responsible Vendor Training;
 - c. All Respondent's staff, including Management staff, shall take and complete the following courses: (1) the Massachusetts Metrc New Business Training; (2) the Metrc Learn training courses for Sales Journey Levels 1, 2, and 3; and (3) the Massachusetts Advanced Retailer Webinar;
 - d. Respondent's failure to comply with the stipulations under Paragraphs 43–48, inclusive of all subparagraphs, during the probationary period shall result in a written warning. If after the receipt of the written warning, Respondent fails to correct the deficiencies within the timeframe specified in the written warning, it shall result in an automatic penalty assessment of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) per defaulted obligation. Respondent waives its rights



pursuant to Commission regulations or Massachusetts law to contest any fines imposed pursuant to this paragraph, other than as provided in Paragraph 49.

49. Upon receiving a demand for payment from the Commission in accordance with Paragraph 48, inclusive of all subparagraphs, Respondent shall provide such payment by check or money order payable to the Cannabis Control Commission Marijuana Regulation Fund within 30 days. Payments for penalties assessed against Respondent pursuant to this Paragraph shall be mailed to the following address, as applicable:

Via USPS:

Cannabis Control Commission
PO Box 412144
Boston, MA 02241-2144

Via Courier/Overnight:

Bank of America Lockbox Services
Cannabis Control Commission 412144
MA5-527-02-07
2 Morrissey Boulevard
Dorchester, MA 02125

50. Upon receiving a demand for payment from the Commission, Respondent shall provide such payment by check or money order payable to the Cannabis Control Commission Marijuana Regulation Fund within 30 days. Payment for penalties assessed against the Respondent under this clause shall be mailed to one of the addresses listed in Paragraph 49;
51. This Order may be admissible as evidence in any future hearing before the Commission or used in connection with any future licensure or administrative actions by the Commission;
52. Any issues relating to the underlying complaint and investigation that formed the basis for this Order against Respondent, and any defenses that Respondent may have to such complaint or investigation, shall not be at issue in a proceeding against Respondent for failing to comply with the terms of this Order;
53. Respondent agrees that the Commission may consider the Order and the facts and circumstances described therein in connection with review of an application for licensure, renewal of licensure, or suitability review;
54. Respondent acknowledges advisement of hearing rights and process of the proceedings and wishes to resolve all issues which were the subject of the investigation or in any way related to the investigation by entering into this Order;



55. If approved by the Commission and upon execution of all parties, this Order shall have the same force and effect as an order entered after formal hearing pursuant to 935 CMR 500.500(12), except that it may not be appealed. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order, including but not limited to failure to make a timely payment in accordance with Paragraph 50, may constitute the basis for further administrative action against Respondent;
56. Respondent acknowledges that the Commission advised Respondent of its opportunity to consult with an attorney of their choosing and Respondent represents that they have had an opportunity to do so prior to signing the Order. Respondent acknowledges that they have been given a reasonable period of time in which to consider the terms of this Order before signing it. Respondent acknowledges and confirms that they have entered into this Order voluntarily and of their own free will, without duress or coercion, and that they are competent to enter into this Order. Respondent acknowledges that they have carefully read and fully understand the meaning and intent of this Order;
57. Respondent further understands and knowingly and voluntarily waives the following rights:
 - a. The right to proceed with the adjudicatory proceeding;
 - b. The right to cross-examine witnesses, subpoena witnesses, present evidence and testify on Respondent's own behalf at that hearing;
 - c. The right to appeal this Order.
58. Respondent consents to the terms and conditions described herein and agrees to waive its right to judicial review of this Order pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 14;
59. Upon execution by all parties, this Order shall represent the entire and final agreement of the parties. In the event that any provision of this Order is deemed unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be severed, and the remainder of the Order shall be given full force and effect;
60. This Order shall be binding upon Respondent and shall inure to the benefit of the parties to this Order and their respective successors and assignees and shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;
61. Upon ratification of this Order by the Commission, this Order shall become a permanent part of Respondent's record and shall be open to public inspection and disclosure pursuant to the Commission's standard policies and procedures or applicable law;
62. The Commission may reject the terms of this Order or otherwise deny ratification and entry of the Order. In such event, the terms of the Order shall be null and void, including but not limited to Respondent's admissions, and the parties may proceed to hearing;



63. This Order may be executed by e-mail and any signature delivered by either email or first-class mail shall be deemed to be as valid as an original signature;
64. All costs and expenses incurred by Respondent to comply with this Order shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent and shall not in any way be the obligation of the Commission; and
65. For purposes of addressing any future violations of the Order, the Commission regulations, 935 CMR 500.000, *et seq.*, shall include all later adopted regulations that are in effect at the time of the subsequent violation.


This Order is subject to ratification by the Commission. Upon ratification, this Order becomes binding on the Parties. Failure to comply with the above conditions may result in administrative action against Respondent up to any including suspension and/or revocation of registration.

[SIGNATURE BLOCK ON NEXT PAGE]





Ascend Mass, LLC

DocuSigned by:

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9/26/2024

Ascend Mass, LLC

Date Signed

Ratified by Commission vote (___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstain) on October ___, 2024.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission

Debra Hilton Creek, Acting Executive Director

Date Signed





October 7, 2024

Curaleaf, Inc.
MC281255
RMD385-C
101 Accord Park Drive
Unit 102
Norwell, MA 02031

Case No. ENF-2022-0000001193

FINAL ORDER AND STIPULATED AGREEMENT

This Final Order and Stipulated Agreement (herein, “Order”) between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission (the “Commission”) and Curaleaf, Inc. (the “Respondent”) is offered for the purposes of settlement and in lieu of further administrative action. The Commission finds that resolution of this matter serves the purposes of G.L. c. 94G, 935 CMR 500.360 and 501.360, and 935 CMR 500.500 and 501.500 because Respondent has accepted responsibility for the violations set forth in this Order, has cooperated with the Commission’s investigation, and further, where contaminated Marijuana was destroyed.

Accordingly, the Commission and Respondent stipulate to the following facts of record, applicable law, findings, and remedies:

Legislative, Statutory, and Regulatory Authority

1. The Commission has jurisdiction over the conduct and operations of licensed Marijuana Establishments and licensed Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MTCs) and the subject matter herein pursuant to the provisions of the Commonwealth’s marijuana laws, G.L. c. 94G, 935 CMR 500.000 *et seq.*, and 935 CMR 501.000 *et seq.*;
2. The Commission possesses all powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate its purposes including conducting investigations to ensure compliance with Commission laws, imposing fines, or otherwise restricting a License for violations of G.L. c. 94G or any regulation promulgated by the Commission;



3. In accordance with its statutory mandate, the Commission has adopted regulations for the administration, clarification, and enforcement of laws regulating and licensing Marijuana Establishments and MTCs, which include:
 - a. requirements relative to the furnishing of information by licensees relating to the licensee's employees and maintenance of employee personnel records. *See* G.L. c. 94G, § 4(a½)(ix); *see also* 935 CMR 500.102(9)(d); and
 - b. health and safety standards for the cultivation of Marijuana including requirements that Marijuana Cultivators utilize best practices to limit contamination, including contamination by pesticides not approved for use on Marijuana. *See* G.L. c. 94G, § 4(a½)(xxiii); *see also* 935 CMR 500.120(9) and 501.120(9);
4. Pursuant to its authority under G.L. c. 94G §§ 4(a) and 4(a½), the Commission may issue a Notice of Fines to show cause as to why a fine or other financial penalty against a Licensee should not be imposed for any acts or omissions determined to be in violation of the state Marijuana laws. *See* 935 CMR 500.360 and 501.360;
5. Respondent was subject to an investigation by Commission investigators. From that investigation, the Commission alleges violations of Commission regulations, 935 CMR 500.000 and 935 CMR 501.000, relative to Respondent's cultivation operations at its facilities in Amesbury, Massachusetts and Webster, Massachusetts;
6. On November 3, 2023, the Commission issued a Letter of Enforcement Intent to Respondent;
7. On November 12, 2023, Respondent submitted a request for Informal Dispute Resolution;
8. An Informal Dispute Resolution conference was held on January 17, 2024;

Facts of Record

9. Respondent Curaleaf North Shore, Inc. is a Colocated Marijuana Operator located at 10 Industrial Way, Amesbury MA 01913, which includes a tier 5 cultivation facility, License No. MC281255 (the "Amesbury Facility");
10. Alternative Therapies Group ("ATG") originally owned the Amesbury Facility and received a medical license from the Department of Public Health ("DPH"). On December 13, 2018, the Commission granted ATG a final license to cultivate Marijuana for the adult-use market. ATG commenced operations under License MC281255 on May 20, 2019. In 2020, Respondent acquired the Amesbury Facility from ATG through a Change of Ownership and Control;



11. Respondent Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc. is a Colocated Marijuana Operator located at 30 Worcester Park, Webster, MA 01570, which includes a tier 11 cultivation facility, License No. RMD385-C (the “Webster Facility”);
12. Respondent received a medical license from DPH to cultivate Marijuana at the Webster Facility on July 27, 2016;
13. Both Curaleaf North Shore, Inc. and Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc. are owned by Curaleaf, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Curaleaf Holdings, Inc. Curaleaf, Inc. is a multi-state operator that holds cannabis licenses, either directly or via subsidiary companies, in at least 18 states;
14. In 2020, Respondent began maintenance on the exterior of its Amesbury Facility, which included general lawn maintenance. On April 6, 2020, as part of that maintenance, Respondent hired a third-party contractor that applied Talstar Professional, an insecticide registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) (Registration No. 279-3206) containing the pesticide Bifenthrin as an active ingredient, on the exterior of its Amesbury Facility to treat for crawling insects on a monthly basis from May 2020 until September 2020;
15. On or about September 23, 2020, Respondent began construction to add additional parking at the Amesbury Facility, which required the removal of grass and soil that had been treated over the preceding five months with Talstar Professional;
16. From May 2020 until September 2020, Respondent completed additional work at the Amesbury Facility that resulted in exterior doors being propped open for extended periods of time and the disturbance of contaminated soil;
17. On December 17, 2020, an Independent Testing Laboratory (ITL) issued two Certificates of Analysis (“COAs”) relative to plant samples originating from the Amesbury Facility. One COA detected the Bifenthrin at a concentration exceeding 10 parts per billion (ppb), and the second COA showed a detection of Bifenthrin Below the Quantification Limit (BQL);
18. On December 18, 2020, Respondent reported the test result indicating the presence of Bifenthrin in excess of 10 ppb to the Commission;
19. On December 29, 2020, after receiving the COAs indicating bifenthrin contamination on Marijuana grown at Respondent’s Amesbury Facility, Respondent’s employee performed a “full chemical inspection” of the Amesbury Facility and identified at least two unauthorized chemicals held on-site—Ancora, a microbial insecticide, and Kelp4Less, a



plant growth regulator;

20. Ancora is a microbial insecticide registered with the EPA (Registration No. 70051-19-59807) used to control insect and mite pests on vegetables, fruits, and other plants. Kelp4Less is a plant growth regulator that is not registered with the EPA. Both products are pesticides. At that time, neither product was approved for use on cannabis;
21. On January 6, 2021, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (“MDAR”) and Commission investigators conducted a joint unannounced inspection at the Amesbury Facility;
22. During the inspection, MDAR staff collected samples from various locations at the Amesbury Facility for analysis by the Massachusetts Pesticide Analysis Laboratory (“MPAL”);
23. At the Amesbury Facility, Commission investigators discovered pesticide application forms that documented Respondent’s application of a mixture of ZeroTol 2.0 and CapSil in multiple flower rooms during various stages of growth;
24. ZeroTol 2.0 is a liquid bactericide and fungicide registered with the EPA (Registration No. 70299-12) used to treat and control plant pathogens. Its active ingredients are Hydrogen Peroxide and Peroxyacetic Acid. At the time of inspection, ZeroTol 2.0 was not approved for use on Marijuana;
25. CapSil is a nonionic spray adjuvant and surfactant that is not registered with the EPA;
26. During the inspection, Respondent’s employees told MDAR and Commission staff that the ZeroTol 2.0 and CapSil mixture had been sprayed in multiple flower rooms while plants were present and at various stages of growth;
27. On January 19, 2021, MPAL issued its report of analysis regarding the wipe samples taken at the Amesbury Facility on January 6, 2021. The report showed a detection for Bifenthrin at a concentration of 0.32 micrograms (µg) per square foot on one wipe sample taken next to the entry door;
28. On April 6, 2021, after receiving COAs indicating that two test samples originating from the Webster Facility tested positive for the pesticide Imidacloprid, Respondent completed an internal report that identified several problems at the Webster Facility including Respondent’s failure to properly seal gaps and leaks in doorways, improperly sealed ducts, leaving doors open for hours during harvesting, and allowing contractors to prop exterior doors open for several hours at a time;



29. On June 2, 2021, during an unannounced inspection of the Amesbury Facility, Commission Investigators asked to inspect personnel records for certain employees as part of its overall investigation into the pesticide contaminations at said facility;
30. On June 4, 2021, Respondent emailed Investigations staff to inform them that Respondent located written warnings for two employees—one of which had been a subject of investigators' request on June 2, 2021—that had not been included in their personnel records at the time of the inspection;
31. Said written warnings were issued to both employees for the application of Ortho Bed Bug Killer, an over-the-counter pesticide containing Bifenthrin that was not approved for use in the facility;

Applicable Law

32. The cultivation process shall use best practices to limit contamination including, but not limited to, mold, fungus, bacterial diseases, rot, pests, Pesticides not in compliance with 935 CMR 500.120(5) for use on Marijuana, mildew, and any other contaminant identified as posing potential harm. Best practices shall be consistent with state and local law including, but not limited to, the Commission's Guidance on Integrated Pest Management. 935 CMR 500.120(9);
33. State law defines Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as "a comprehensive strategy of pest control whose major objective is to achieve desired levels of pest control in an environmentally responsible manner by combining multiple pest control measures to reduce the need for reliance on chemical pesticides; more specifically, a combination of pest controls which address conditions that support pests and may include, but is not limited to, the use of monitoring techniques to determine immediate and ongoing need for pest control, increased sanitation, physical barrier methods, the use of natural pest enemies and a judicious use of lowest risk pesticides when necessary." 333 CMR 14.02;
34. The Commission's Guidance on IPM describes the basic concepts of effective IMP strategy as: 1. Knowledge; 2. Prevention; 3. Monitoring; and 4. Intervention. The four recommended primary strategies of pest and disease control are Cultural, Mechanical, Biological, and Chemical Control. Integrated Pest Management best practices further include keeping the cultivation facility clean and organized, including sealing potential points of entry for pests including cracks, crevices, and voids;
35. A lack of responsible operation of the Marijuana Establishment as shown by incompetent or negligent operations, constitutes full and adequate grounds for licensure suspension or revocation. 935 CMR 500.450(7)(f) and 501.450(7)(d);



36. Records of a Marijuana Establishment shall be available for inspection by the Commission, on request. Written records that are required and are subject to inspection include, but are not necessarily limited to, personnel records. 935 CMR 500.105(9)(d);
37. A personnel record for each Marijuana Establishment Agent shall be maintained for at least 12 months after termination of the individual's affiliation with the marijuana establishment and shall include, among other things, a record of any disciplinary action taken. 935 CMR 500.105(9)(d)2.f.;
38. Acceptance of a provisional or final license constitutes an agreement by the Marijuana Establishment that it will adhere to the practices, policies, and procedures that are described in its application materials, as well as all relevant laws, regulations, and any conditions imposed by the Commission as part of licensure. 935 CMR 500.103(2)(d);

Stipulated Findings

39. The Commission, through its Acting Executive Director, and Respondent have come to mutual agreement and understanding, and jointly propose to the Commission a resolution of the alleged violations in lieu of proceeding with an administrative hearing to determine the merits of such allegations. The terms and conditions of this Order are expressly subject to ratification by the full Commission. Pursuant to G.L. c. 10, § 76, three Commissioners shall constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of three Commissioners shall be required for ratification of this Order;
40. Respondent admits to the stipulated findings set forth in Paragraphs 41 and 42, inclusive of all subparagraphs;
41. Respondent failed to utilize best practices to limit contamination of Marijuana, in violation of 935 CMR 500.120(9) and 501.120(9), and exhibited negligence in its cultivation operations at its Amesbury and Webster Facilities, in violation of 935 CMR 500.450(7)(f) and 501.450(7)(d):
 - a. On April 6, 2020, Respondent hired a third-party contractor to treat the exterior of its Amesbury Facility for crawling insects in connection with general lawn maintenance. During that maintenance a third-party contractor applied Talstar Professional, a pesticide containing Bifenthrin, on the exterior of the Amesbury Facility on a monthly basis from May 2020 until September 2020;
 - b. The Amesbury Facility was not properly sealed from outside contaminants. This failure led to the contamination of the Amesbury Facility and Marijuana cultivated therein, which risked the public health, safety, and welfare;
 - c. Respondent did not take any additional precautions to prevent the contamination of Marijuana cultivated at said facility while application of pesticides to the exterior of the building was ongoing;



- d. Respondent contracted a vendor to add additional parking to its Amesbury Facility in September 2020, which required the removal of grass and soil that had been treated over the preceding five months with Talstar Professional. The construction of the additional parking disturbed the contaminated soil, increasing the risk of contamination of Marijuana cultivated at said facility;
 - e. From May 2020 until September 2020, Respondent allowed additional work to be completed by other vendors at the Amesbury Facility. While this work was being performed, Respondent did not prevent the vendors from propping open exterior doors for extended periods of time risking contamination of Marijuana cultivated within the facility;
 - f. Respondent further held unauthorized chemicals on-site at its Amesbury Facility, which risked contamination of Marijuana cultivated at that facility;
 - g. Respondent's internal assessment identified several problems at the Webster Facility including Respondent's failure to properly seal gaps and leaks in doorways, improperly sealed ducts, leaving doors open for hours during harvesting, and allowing contractors to prop exterior doors open for several hours at a time;
 - h. Respondent's actions, including its failure to properly seal the Amesbury and Webster Facilities to prevent exterior contaminants from entering said facilities and failing to take additional precautions to limit contamination while pesticides were being applied to the exterior of the facility, represent a failure to maintain best practices to limit contamination of Marijuana at both cultivation facilities resulted in multiple pesticide detections on Marijuana originating from both facilities in violation of 935 CMR 500.120(9) and 501.120(9);
 - i. Respondent's actions amounted to negligent operation of these facilities that led to contamination of Marijuana cultivated at the Amesbury and Webster Facilities in violation of 935 CMR 500.450(7)(f) and 501.450(7)(d);
42. Respondent did not maintain Marijuana Establishment Agent personnel records in accordance with 935 CMR 500.105(9)(d)2.f.:
- a. As part of its investigation into the pesticide contaminations at Respondent's cultivation facilities, Commission Investigators asked to inspect personnel records for certain employees at the Amesbury Facility during an on-site, unannounced inspection on June 2, 2021;
 - b. Two days after said inspection, Respondent emailed Investigations staff to inform them that Respondent located written warnings for two employees that were not included in their personnel records at the time of the inspection;
 - c. The written warnings were both issued on January 19, 2021, 13 days after the Commission and MDAR performed a joint inspection of the Amesbury Facility;
 - d. The written warnings were issued to both employees for the unauthorized application of an over-the-counter pesticide containing Bifenthrin, in violation of Commission regulations;



- c. As a result the Agents' personnel records inclusive of the written warnings were not available for inspection, on request, which limited Commission investigators' ability to conduct a thorough inspection and consider relevant information to the ongoing investigation into pesticide contamination at the Amesbury Facility;
- f. By failing to include the written warnings, Respondent has failed to maintain Marijuana Establishment Agent personnel records in violation of 935 CMR 500.105(9)(d)2.f.;

Stipulated Remedy

- 43. In lieu of proceeding with an administrative hearing and subsequent proceedings, Respondent further agrees to the stipulated remedies and terms set forth in Paragraphs 44–52, inclusive of all subparagraphs;
- 44. Respondent agrees to pay a monetary fine in the amount of eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00) by check or money order and made payable to the Cannabis Control Commission Marijuana Regulation Fund;
- 45. Payments shall be postmarked within 30 calendar days from the date this Order is ratified by Commission vote and be mailed to the following addresses, as applicable:
 - a. Via USPS:
 - Cannabis Control Commission
 - PO Box 412144
 - Boston, MA 02241-2144
 - b. Via Courier/Overnight:
 - Bank of America Lockbox Services
 - Cannabis Control Commission 412144
 - MA5-527-02-07
 - 2 Morrissey Boulevard
 - Dorchester, MA 02125
- 46. Respondent shall submit to a six-month probationary period (the “probationary period”) for license nos. MC281255 and RMD385-C, which will take effect on the date this Order is ratified:
 - a. Any substantial noncompliance with any Commission laws by Respondent during the probationary period may constitute full and adequate grounds for license suspension or revocation;
 - b. Prior to enforcing this provision, the Investigations and Enforcement department agrees to send Respondent a Letter of Warning giving notice of the alleged substantial noncompliance and providing an opportunity for Respondent to correct the deficiencies;



47. During the probationary period any and all test results reporting the detection of pesticide contamination at a level other than Non-Detect, whether written or verbal, shall be reported by Respondent to the Commission within 24 hours;
48. During the probationary period, any pesticide contamination detection on Marijuana cultivated at either the Amesbury or Webster Facility shall result in an automatic penalty in accordance with the terms below:
- a. For any detection of pesticide contamination at or above 10 ppb, Respondent shall pay monetary fine of \$1,000.00;
 - b. For any detection of pesticide contamination at or above 25 ppb, Respondent shall pay monetary fine of \$1,500.00;
 - c. For any detection of pesticide contamination at or above 50 ppb, Respondent shall pay monetary fine of \$2,000.00;
 - d. Respondent waives its rights pursuant to Commission regulations or Massachusetts law to contest any fines imposed pursuant to this paragraph, other than as provided in Paragraph 49;
49. Upon receiving a demand for payment from the Commission in accordance with Paragraph 48, inclusive of all subparagraphs, Respondent shall provide such payment by check or money order payable to the Cannabis Control Commission Marijuana Regulation Fund within 30 days. Payments for penalties assessed against Respondent pursuant to this Paragraph shall be mailed to the following address, as applicable:
- a. Via USPS:
Cannabis Control Commission
PO Box 412144
Boston, MA 02241-2144
 - b. Via Courier/Overnight:
Bank of America Lockbox Services
Cannabis Control Commission 412144
MA5-527-02-07
2 Morrissey Boulevard
Dorchester, MA 02125
50. For any pesticide contamination detections, prior to remitting payment of a monetary fine in accordance with Paragraphs 48 and 49, Respondent may elect to seek a confirmatory test from a Commission-specified Independent Testing Laboratory;
51. During the probationary period, Respondent shall submit ten percent of its total test samples as duplicate or quality control samples in accordance with Section 5.4 of the *Protocol for Sampling and Analysis of Finished Marijuana and Marijuana Products for Marijuana Establishments, Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers, and Colocated Marijuana Operations* to a licensed Independent Testing Laboratory not currently or formerly utilized by Respondent and approved by the Commission;



52. During the probationary period, Commission staff may take random test samples at Respondent's cultivation facilities, in accordance with the Commission's authority pursuant to 935 CMR 500.160(3); 935 CMR 500.301(5); 935 CMR 501.160(3); and 935 CMR 501.301(5);
53. This Order may be admissible as evidence in any future hearing before the Commission or used in connection with any future licensure or administrative actions by the Commission;
54. Any issues relating to the underlying complaint and investigation that formed the basis for this Order against Respondent, and any defenses that Respondent may have to such complaint or investigation, shall not be at issue in a proceeding against Respondent for failing to comply with the terms of this Order;
55. Respondent agrees that the Commission may consider the Order and the facts and circumstances described therein in connection with review of an application for licensure, renewal of licensure, or suitability review;
56. Respondent acknowledges advisement of hearing rights and process of the proceedings and wishes to resolve all issues which were the subject of the investigation or in any way related to the investigation by entering into this Order;
57. If approved by the Commission and upon execution of all parties, this Order shall have the same force and effect as an order entered after formal hearing pursuant to 935 CMR 500.500(12), except that it may not be appealed. Failure to comply with the terms of this Order, including but not limited to failure to make a timely payment in accordance with Paragraphs 43-44 and Paragraphs 48-49 may constitute the basis for further administrative action against Respondent;
58. Respondent acknowledges that the Commission advised Respondent of its opportunity to consult with an attorney of their choosing and Respondent represents that they have had an opportunity to do so prior to signing the Order. Respondent acknowledges that they have been given a reasonable period of time in which to consider the terms of this Order before signing it. Respondent acknowledges and confirms that they have entered into this Order voluntarily and of their own free will, without duress or coercion, and that they are competent to enter into this Order. Respondent acknowledges that they have carefully read and fully understand the meaning and intent of this Order;
59. Respondent further understands and knowingly and voluntarily waives the following rights:
 - a. The right to proceed with the adjudicatory proceeding;



- b. The right to cross-examine witnesses, subpoena witnesses, present evidence and testify on Respondent's own behalf at that hearing;
 - c. The right to appeal this Order;
60. Respondent consents to the terms and conditions described herein and agrees to waive its right to judicial review of this Order pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, § 14;
61. Upon execution by all parties, this Order shall represent the entire and final agreement of the parties. In the event that any provision of this Order is deemed unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be severed, and the remainder of the Order shall be given full force and effect;
62. This Order shall be binding upon Respondent and shall inure to the benefit of the parties to this Order and their respective successors and assignees and shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;
63. Upon ratification of this Order by the Commission, this Order shall become a permanent part of Respondent's record and shall be open to public inspection and disclosure pursuant to the Commission's standard policies and procedures or applicable law;
64. The Commission may reject the terms of this Order or otherwise deny ratification and entry of the Order. In such event, the terms of the Order shall be null and void, including but not limited to Respondent's admissions, and the parties will proceed to hearing;
65. This Order may be executed by e-mail and any signature delivered by either email or first-class mail shall be deemed to be as valid as an original signature;
66. All costs and expenses incurred by Respondent to comply with this Order shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent and shall not in any way be the obligation of the Commission; and
67. For purposes of addressing any future violations of the Order, the Commission regulations, 935 CMR 500.000, *et seq.*, shall include all later adopted regulations that are in effect at the time of the subsequent violation.

This Order is subject to ratification by the Commission. Upon ratification, this Order becomes binding on the Parties. Failure to comply with the above conditions may result in administrative action against Respondent up to any including suspension and/or revocation of registration.

[SIGNATURE BLOCK ON NEXT PAGE]



Respondent Curaleaf, Inc.



James Shorris, Chief Compliance Officer
and Counsel

October 7, 2024

Date Signed

Ratified by Commission vote (___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstain) on July __, 2024.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission

Debra Hilton Creek, Acting Executive Director
and Chief People Officer

Date Signed





Cannabis
Control
Commission

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

7th Annual Activities Report

October 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LEGISLATIVE MANDATE.....	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
INTRODUCTION	5
IMPLEMENTATION OF ADULT- AND MEDICAL-USE MARIJUANA PROGRAMS	6
Law	6
Licensing	7
Enforcement	10
Communications.....	13
Equity Programming and Community Outreach.....	17
Constituent Services	22
Government Affairs and Policy.....	23
Legal.....	25
Finance	27
Revenue.....	28
Personnel	29
Research	30
CONCLUSION.....	32



LEGISLATIVE MANDATE

Under Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017, An Act to Ensure Safe Access to Marijuana (Act), the Cannabis Control Commission (Commission) is charged with implementing the statutory and regulatory schemes governing the adult-use, and now medical-use, marijuana programs. The following report is issued pursuant to Section 31 of the Act, which provides in relevant part:

“The commission shall annually submit a complete and detailed report of the commission’s activities, including a review of the implementation and enforcement of this chapter and the governance structure established in this chapter, not more than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year to the governor, the attorney general, the treasurer and receiver-general, the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the chairs of the joint committee on marijuana policy and the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and means.” St. 2017, c. 55, § 31.

On November 9, 2022, Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022 came into effect, marking the first-time major changes were made to the Commission’s governing legislation. This new law [addressed the Commission’s policy recommendations](#) by entrusting the agency with new oversight and bringing clarity to the terms of Host Community Agreements (HCAs), creating a publicly administered social equity trust fund administered by the Executive Office of Economic Development, and adopting a technical change to allow municipalities to opt-in to host social consumption licenses within their borders. It also requires cities and towns to incorporate equitable policies at the local licensing level, eliminates certain suitability restrictions that prevented prospective agents with certain criminal backgrounds from participating in the industry, and codifies Massachusetts’ first-in-the-nation Social Equity Program (SEP), among other fixes. The Commission promulgated regulations pertaining to HCAs, minimum standards for local equity, and Marijuana Establishment agent suitability on October 27, 2023, ahead of the legislative deadline. Since October, the Commission has been implementing the changes into policies, procedures and documents.





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose

This report provides information regarding the implementation, under the Act, of the adult-use marijuana program pursuant to the aforementioned legislation, inclusive of the Medical Use of Marijuana Program, which [the Commission successfully transferred](#) from the Department of Public Health on December 24, 2018 with 47 Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers (MTCs), roughly 57,000 patients and 7,000 personal caregivers. Activities contained herein cover the 2023 fiscal year. Data included in the report are the most recent available as of June 30, 2024, unless stated otherwise.

Findings

The Commission has built upon its legislative mandate to implement a successful adult-use marijuana industry and Medical Use of Marijuana Program and has matured beyond a startup organization. To that end, the agency continues to make significant progress in priority areas identified by the Legislature and is well prepared to implement and execute critical new statutes while continuing to serve as a national leader in promoting public health and safety in the industry and building an inclusive marketplace.



INTRODUCTION

Within the evolving landscape of the licensed cannabis industry, the Commission is committed to providing responsible oversight and comprehensive regulation to uphold public health and safety and for a sustainable and equitable industry. The previous year has marked a pivotal chapter in the Commission’s history due to the implementation of major, critical updates in state laws regarding municipal equity requirements, oversight of HCAs, and new abilities for municipalities to opt-in to allow for social consumption licensing within their borders. It also included significant milestones, such as back-to-back record setting months of Marijuana Retail sales in June, July and August 2023, culminating in more than \$6 billion in aggregate gross adult-use sales in August.

Established in September 2017, the mission of the Commission is to honor the will of Massachusetts voters by safely, equitably, and effectively implementing and administering the laws enabling access to medical and adult-use marijuana in the Commonwealth.

The Commission is led by five Commissioners who craft policy and vote on applications for licensure. These include four Commissioners who were appointed in 2021—Nurys Camargo, Bruce Stebbins, Ava Callender Concepcion, and Kimberly Roy—as well as Chair Shannon O’Brien, who was appointed in September 2022. In September 2023, Commissioner Concepcion was appointed Acting Chair by her peers in the absence of the appointed Chair. In November 2023, the Commission appointed Chief People Officer Debra Hilton-Creek as the Acting Executive Director.

The Commission has continued to evolve and grow since its inception seven years ago. Last year, the Commission began reviewing its governance structure to solidify and refine agency processes and procedures that will outlast the individuals who have been instrumental in getting the organization off the ground and building upon its foundation. To comply with the Open Meeting Law, which protects mediation sessions, Commissioners voted in April 2022 to “have the Commission participate in mediation between the Commissioners and staff leadership, for the purpose of finding common ground and obtaining buy-in from all parties, in our efforts to establish a durable and effective governance structure.” Since then, all Commissioners have engaged in this process and a draft Governance Charter outlining a clear governance structure for the Commission was released on July 11. The Commission is in the process of refining this document with the aim of approving a durable Governance Charter in August 2024.

The Acting Executive Director, Acting Chair Ava Concepcion, Commissioner Bruce Stebbins, and staff from various departments serve on the Executive Director Search Subcommittee – the panel tasked with hiring and onboarding the agency’s next Executive Director.

The Commission’s successful implementation of a hybrid public meeting structure with remote access for the public ensures inclusivity and accessibility. Operating from headquarters in Worcester and a satellite office in Boston, physical assemblies, conferences, and speaking



engagements persist across the Commonwealth with Commission representatives effectively engaging in a hybrid operational framework.

This year's annual report presents a comprehensive analysis of the initiatives, challenges, achievements, and prospects that have defined the Massachusetts cannabis landscape throughout the past year. The Commission has not only continued to shape the industry's upward trajectory but has also upheld its commitment to public health and safety, social equity, and business vitality. From regulatory advancements to economic empowerment endeavors, from analyzing market trends to increasing public engagement, the Commission has taken a multifaceted approach to keep the Commonwealth at the forefront of responsible cannabis compliance.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ADULT- AND MEDICAL-USE MARIJUANA PROGRAMS

Law

Promulgation of Regulations

On March 23, 2018, the first iteration of regulations, 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.000: *Adult Use of Marijuana*, were published in the Massachusetts Register. On December 24, 2018, the Medical Use of Marijuana Program successfully transferred from the Department of Public Health to the Commission, as was mandated by Section 64 of the Act. The Commission then promulgated 935 CMR 501.000: *Medical Use of Marijuana* and 935 CMR 502.000: *Colocated Adult Use and Medical Use Marijuana Operations*. On January 8, 2021, the Commission promulgated amendments to 935 CMR 500.000: *Adult Use of Marijuana* and 935 CMR 501.000: *Medical Use of Marijuana*; and repealed 935 CMR 502.000: *Colocated Adult-use and Medical-use Marijuana Operations*, which was incorporated, as applicable, in 935 CMR 500.000 and 935 CMR 501.000. St. 2022, c. 180, [An Act Relative to Equity in the Cannabis Industry](#). Chapter 180 went into effect on November 9, 2022, and further amends M.G.L. c. 94G. The Commission filed new regulations implementing changes outlined in Chapter 180 with the Secretary of State's Regulations Division on October 27, 2023. The Commission is also currently working on another round of revisions to the regulations adding in additional opportunities for microbusinesses, removing restrictions for delivery operators and providing additional access for medical patients.

Guidance

In addition to its regulations, the Commission regularly drafts, revises, and adopts guidance for licensing and other administrative processes implicated by its legislative mandate. To date, the Commission has published 20 guidance documents, and three protocols designed to assist consumers, patients, applicants, business owners, equity programming participants, and local



officials. Guidance documents are available on the Commission's website at <https://masscannabiscontrol.com/public-documents/guidance-documents/>.

After promulgation of new regulations, the Commission reviews and updates guidance documents to ensure the public has adequate resources to understand the new requirements. The Commission continues to issue guidance documents from time to time as matters arise to aid the public in complying with the various regulations or avoiding public health risks.

Implementation of Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022

On October 27, 2023, the Commission promulgated historic new adult and medical use of marijuana regulations in accordance with Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022, *An Act Relative to Equity in the Cannabis Industry*. These regulations include new requirements relative to the agency's oversight of HCAs, minimum equity standards for host communities and municipalities, and reforms to the Commission's suitability standards and review.

The Commission has published a Model HCA and HCA Waiver to assist licensees and host communities in adopting an agreement that complies with these new regulatory requirements. Since March 1, 2024, the Commission has received 304 HCAs as part of the license application and renewal process including executed Model HCAs and HCA Waivers. The Commission's oversight of HCAs includes:

- The review, approval, and certification of HCAs;
- The authority to deem an HCA provision invalid or unenforceable, or voidable; and
- The authority to issue sanctions against a host community that is noncompliant with HCA regulatory requirements, abstain from considering new license applications in that host community, or publish a list of communities that are out of compliance.

In furtherance of the state's efforts to increase equity in the licensed cannabis industry, the Commission published a Model Municipal Equity By-Law or Ordinance Template, along with a Guidance on Municipal Equity and Industry Participation, to assist Host Communities with establishing local licensing policies that support meaningful participation in Massachusetts' marketplace by communities that have been disproportionately harmed by previous marijuana prohibition and enforcement.

Licensing

Through the legalization of adult-use marijuana in the Commonwealth, the Legislature required the Commission to certify priority applicants, license Marijuana Establishments, register



agents, and approve applicants for a Social Equity Program. To that end, the Commission and its vendors designed and implemented the Massachusetts Cannabis Industry Portal (MassCIP) as an electronic registration system, and Metrc, the state's seed-to-sale tracking system of record.

As of January 2020, the administration of the medical marijuana program shifted from the previously responsible Department of Public Health to the Commission. With this transition, the electronic application, licensing, and agent registration through MassCIP extended to include MTCs.

Priority Applicants

Between April 17, 2018, and May 22, 2018, the Commission offered an application process for economic empowerment priority certification in accordance with state law. In total, the Commission received 322 submitted applications and ultimately granted priority certification to 81 MTC applicants and 122 EEAs. As of July 2024, the Commission has issued 28 commence operations approvals to economic empowerment priority applicants and 51 commence operations approvals to SEP participants, enabling them to begin various licensing operations in the Commonwealth.

Provisional and Final Licensees

As of July 2024, the Commission had received 1,782 license applications for adult-use Marijuana Establishments (MEs). At the time of this report, Commission staff are reviewing 206 adult-use license applications and further reviewing and inspecting 13 provisional licensees. The following is a summary breakdown of the 1,782 ME and MTC license applications fully submitted to the Commission as of July 2024:

- 259 MTC Priority Applicants (which, according to state law, is an MTC previously approved by the Department of Public Health when it administered the Medical Use of Marijuana Program and had at least obtained an MTC provisional license as of April 1, 2018);
- 135 EEAs (as certified by the Commission in 2018 in accordance with state-mandated timelines);
- 347 SEP Applicants (as approved through the Commission's Social Equity Program);
- 680 Expedited Applicants (as allowed through Commission policy approved in November 2019 as part of a process for certain businesses to receive expedited review. These applicants consist of minority-, women-, and veteran-owned businesses as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office as well as Independent Testing Laboratories, Outdoor

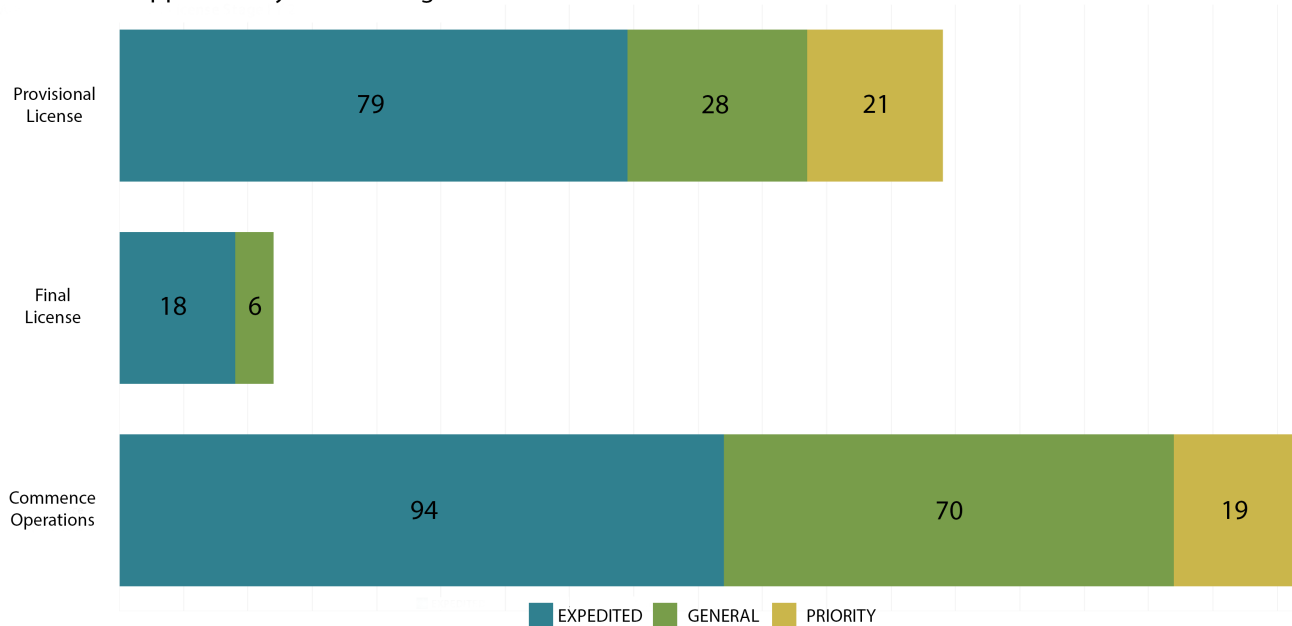


Cultivators, Marijuana Microbusinesses, and Craft Marijuana Cooperatives. SEP Participant Applicants also receive expedited review.); and

- 722 General Applicants which do not meet any of the aforementioned criteria.

As of July 2024, 673 licensees have received notices from the Commission that authorize them to commence business operations in the Commonwealth, another 57 entities currently possess final licenses, and 560 have been approved for provisional licenses. Each year, the licensing team has authorized more businesses to commence operations and approved more final licenses than the previous year.

Adult-Use Applicants by License Stage FY 2024



Closures

Of the 673 adult-use ME licenses the Commission has authorized to commence operations, 37 licenses, or 5.4%, have either surrendered, not renewed their license, or have had their license revoked/voided by the agency and are no longer operating in Massachusetts.

Adult-use Marijuana Retailers, which are the most sought-after license type, have seen even fewer closures. Since November 2018, 367 dispensaries have been approved to commence operations and open their doors to adult-use cannabis consumers in Massachusetts. Only nine licensees, or 2.4% have either surrendered or not renewed their license, leaving 358 active and operational Marijuana Retailers in the Commonwealth.



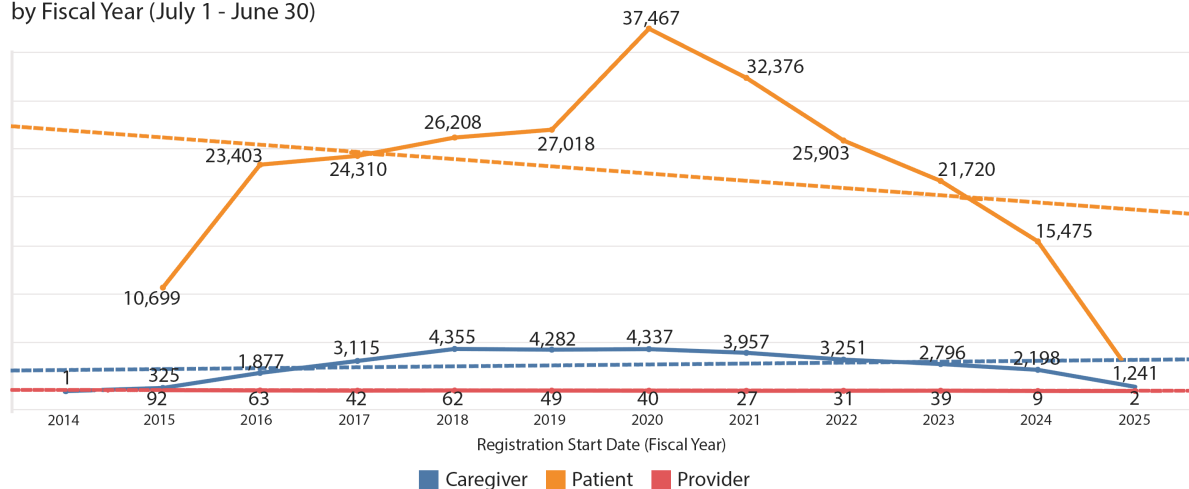
Changes of Ownership (Entities)

Between July 2023 and July 2024, Enforcement staff has made approximately 29 recommendations for Change of Ownership applications involving entities with direct and indirect control.

Medical Provisional and Final Licenses

In addition to regulating the adult-use cannabis industry in Massachusetts, the Commission has overseen the Medical Use of Marijuana Program since it was transferred from the Department of Public Health in December of 2018. As of July 1, 2024, the medical-use cannabis industry is comprised of the following: 107 licensees that have commenced full operations to serve registered qualifying patients and caregivers through vertically integrated MTCs, as well as 24 provisional licensees, and 61 expired licenses. As of July 2024, the Medical Use of Marijuana Program is composed of 91,758 Certified Active Patients, 86,617 Active Caregivers and 448 Certifying Healthcare Providers.

New Registrations Patients, Providers, and Caregivers by Fiscal Year (July 1 - June 30)



Enforcement

The Commission is proud of the fair and comprehensive investigatory process it has developed and employed since the agency's inception in 2017 to ensure licensees comply with state law and regulations. Massachusetts' regulations are some of the strongest in the nation, and the agency stands by its policies and procedures that are building a safe, effective, and equitable industry.



Enforcement Referrals

Since July 2023, Enforcement staff has made approximately eight investigative referrals to Enforcement Counsel, which reviews findings for possible litigation. During this period, Enforcement staff has completed approximately 990 total inspections, including unannounced inspections, license closure inspections, change of location inspections, structural change completion inspections, post-provisional license inspections, post-final license inspections, vehicle and vessel inspections, and audits. From these inspections, Enforcement staff has issued approximately 450 Notices of Deficiencies to licensees. Enforcement staff have also processed approximately 187 architectural review and structural change applications, and approximately 14 alternative security provisions.

Enforcement Actions

Since July 2023, the Commission—through its Enforcement Counsel staff—has initiated nine enforcement actions in response to regulatory noncompliance. The subject of these actions range from noncompliant pest management practices and contamination of marijuana and marijuana products to required seed-to-sale tracking. These enforcement actions are intended to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public when engaging with the legal cannabis industry.

Additionally, over the past year the Commission has resolved four enforcement actions via Final Order and Stipulated Agreement negotiated by Enforcement staff through Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) conferences. In each instance, Enforcement staff secured affirmative relief in furtherance of the public interest and to ensure future regulatory compliance. These actions, combined, resulted in fine payments totaling \$620,000. All fines collected during this fiscal year were the result of a negotiation between the parties during IDR.

Testing

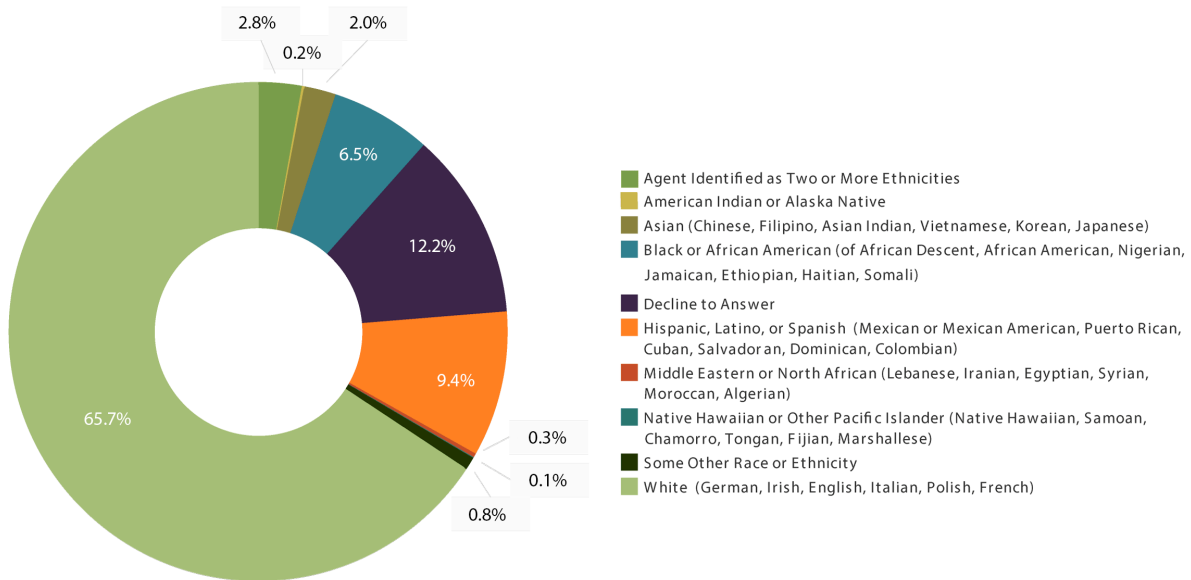
The Commission hired four Laboratory Testing Analysts to create a new team within the Investigations and Enforcement Department that currently oversees 14 Independent Testing Laboratories (ITLs) and two laboratory facilities on the Island Counties. The Testing team provides analytical expertise in technical matters regarding analysis of cannabis and cannabis products through issuance of bulletins, and assists Enforcement, Research, and Data staff. Along with the Director of Testing and Laboratory Testing Manager, the team actively conducts unannounced inspections of ITLs to ensure compliance with regulations and resolves matters in the Commission's seed-to-sale record system, Metrc, to ensure transfer and sale of safe products to adult-use and medical patients.



Agents

As of July 2024, the Commission had received 23,394 applications for Marijuana Establishment agent registrations. 35.7% (8,342) of the applicants identified as female, 62.9% (14,717) identified as male, 0.6% (131) identified by a different gender and 0.9% (204) declined to answer. The Commission has also received 29,429 applications for agent registrations for MTCs where 62.1% (18,283) of the applicants identified as male, 37.5% (11,049) identified as female and 0.3% (97) declined to answer.

Race/Ethnicity of Active Agents FY 2024



Responsible Vendor Training (RVT)

Commission regulations 935 CMR 500.105(2)(b) and 935 CMR 501.105(2)(b) outline the Responsible Vendor Training (RVT) Requirement for all current ME and MTC agents. The Licensing Department manages the RVT Program, including the application process, communication with applicants and current vendors, and any regulatory updates regarding RVT. To date, the Commission has approved 41 applicants, out of which 32 applicants are Certified RVT Vendors of the Basic and Delivery Core Curriculum. Of the Certified Vendors, 11 run their operations in Massachusetts while the remaining vendors operate outside of the state using either synchronous or asynchronous learning methods.

In May 2023, the Commission unveiled new training curricula for cannabis business employees. These RVT curricula are designed to cater to both MTCs and adult-use MEs. The mandatory Basic Core Curriculum, already in place, covers essential topics such as product knowledge, responsible serving procedures, risk mitigation strategies, and public safety. An



optional Advanced Core Curriculum is now available, enabling Agents to build on the knowledge, skills, and practices covered in the Basic Curriculum and specialize in areas such as cultivation, product manufacturing, social equity, and more. In addition to the Basic Core Curriculum, the Delivery Core Curriculum is required for all agents working under a delivery license type to ensure compliance with regulations and will provide training on how to safely conduct deliveries, cash handling policies, strategies for de-escalating potentially dangerous situations, collecting and communicating information to assist in investigations, and more.

The Commission published [RVT Guidance](#) and [FAQ](#) documents to guide applicants through the RVT certification process as well as an updated [RVT Checklist](#) in the public documents section of the Commission’s website.

Communications

The Commission is in constant contact with members of the public through various media and platforms. Beyond the agency’s monthly public meeting, which consistently features Commissioners’ availability to the media after adjournment, Commissioners regularly attend and present at public events throughout the Commonwealth, the Northeast, and nationwide. Commission principals have made or participated in numerous press opportunities, presentations, speeches, panel discussions, roundtables, and other forums before stakeholder groups such as community organizations, senior citizen groups, municipal officials, financial institutions, industry, peer regulators, and law enforcement. The agency takes seriously its responsibility to address questions raised by members of the press efficiently and transparently, and to proactively promote agency updates that will impact constituent groups through web updates, email communications, social media, and more.

Several examples in the past year alone range from communications around the passage of draft and final regulations to implement Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022, as well as the agency’s progress to enact HCA review and new municipal equity requirements, among other provisions; the opening of applications for the fourth cohort of the agency’s SEP and a related “Faces of Equity” campaign to build brand awareness of the Commission’s equity initiatives and progress; important Investigations and Enforcement updates, such as a bulletin related to public health and safety announcements for licensees, agents, and Certifying Healthcare Providers stemming from the Department of Public Health’s Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) report and Occupational Lung Disease Bulletin; and communications related to stakeholder engagement opportunities, such as public comment periods for the agency’s model HCA, model municipal equity bylaw or ordinance, and general accounts receivable issues.



Website

From July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, the Commission’s website received more than 1,500,000 page views and over 750,000 unique visits, and continues to provide a high level of transparency and self-service for the public by regularly maintaining various tables and tools such as the [Licensing Tracker](#), [Municipal Zoning Tracker](#), [Responsible Vendor Trainer directory](#), and [Find a Retailer map](#) as well as posting all enforcement actions and announcements, and provisional and final Executive Summaries and License Applications following the Commission’s monthly Public Meetings.

Virtual Engagement

The Commission sent, on average, nine email campaigns to subscribers per month with an open rate of 43% (35.63% being the average email open rate across all industries and 40.56% for Government entities). The Commission’s social media presence includes Instagram (@CannabisControlCommission, 4,200 followers) and LinkedIn (@CannabisControlCommission, 10,500) in addition to Twitter, now called X, (@MA_Cannabis, 9,200 followers) and Facebook (@MassCCC, 2,9403,100 followers). Through these various channels, the Commission continues to communicate with the public regarding the work of the agency and its regulation of the developing industry.



Public Awareness Campaign

The Commission utilized organic promotion in Fiscal Year 24 to highlight evergreen content from its state-mandated public awareness campaign, More About Marijuana (<http://www.MoreAboutMJ.org/>). Previously, the campaign’s educational messaging was developed in partnership with MORE Advertising, and utilized third-party research, surveys, and focus groups of Massachusetts residents to implement content. Although More About Marijuana was not funded for Fiscal Year 2024, Communications utilized this past April 20—a date sometimes recognized by adult-use cannabis consumers—as an opportunity to create in house [and promote](#) to licensees new, branded outreach materials that are now available through the [Massachusetts Health Promotion Clearinghouse](#). All resources are available to the public to order or download instantly for free.

The latest resources include a new “Understanding Labels” flyer, a revamped “Marijuana Products” flyer, and a “More About Marijuana” public education campaign logo sticker with a QR code that points recipients to MoreAboutMJ.org. All materials can be housed and/or provided by licensees to patients and patrons of Marijuana Retailers, delivery businesses, and dispensing MTCs, or distributed during community engagement events and other opportunities that promote education and awareness around responsible marijuana consumption.

Additional Commission work is underway to restructure existing content on MoreAboutMJ.org to make the public aware of recent Investigations and Enforcement updates around cannabinoid reporting by Independent Testing Laboratories that may have an impact on the information available to constituents on their product labels. Communications staff are also reviewing and drafting messaging towards the implementation of mandates under *Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022* that pertain to the public education campaign, including components “to educate the public on health risks associated with marijuana and tetrahydrocannabinol consumption, including, but not limited to, the risks: (A) to mental health; (B) of use during pregnancy; (C) of use of high potency products; and (D) of home extraction of marijuana concentrates....”

With that in mind, the Commission took advantage of July 10, 2024, or 7/10, otherwise recognized as “OIL” Day by nationwide industry participants and enthusiasts, by highlighting previously existing messaging around the dangers of manufacturing marijuana products at home, which was originally deployed in 2020 in accordance with *Chapter 55 of the Acts of 2017*.

“Faces of Equity” Campaign

Through Fiscal Year 23 and the first half of Fiscal Year 24, the Commission worked with a creative agency to develop the “Faces of Equity” public awareness campaign, an integrated multimedia campaign designed to communicate the Commission’s equity mission, policies, and



programming using the voices and profiles of actual participants and industry agents, and how the program has produced real benefits and life-changing opportunities for those who have been most harmed by the War on Drugs.

The campaign had three goals: to raise awareness of the Commission's various equity programming, to recruit participants for Cohort IV of the Social Equity Program, and to inspire potential applicants to visualize themselves as participants who can obtain success for themselves and their families in the legal cannabis industry.

The campaign consisted of a wide array of creative collateral, the cornerstone being a 10-minute mini-documentary that showcases the history of the War on Drugs, the legalization of cannabis in Massachusetts, including the creation of the Commission and its equity mandate, and the successes equity programming participants are finding in the legal cannabis industry today. The participants' stories were then further broken down into two-minute personal interviews where they delved into their backgrounds, past experiences in the legacy and legal markets, and how the Commission's equity programming has been a truly life-changing experience. Advertising collateral was also developed such as print and digital ads, bus shelter posters, and radio spots. The Commission then partnered with an advertising vendor on a strategic media buy to place this collateral, in English and Spanish, in local outlets within and adjacent to the 30 communities in Massachusetts identified by the Commission as Disproportionately Impacted Areas (DIAs).

The Commission also created a suite of creative collateral in-house to educate the public on the agency's various equity offerings and how to apply for the SEP. This collateral consisted of rack cards, updated website content, and an application video tutorial series. The Commission promoted all collateral and the SEP's open application period through social media and an email drip campaign from January 15th to April 30th, 2024.



Equity Programming and Community Outreach

The Commission continues to assess and build upon the nation's first statewide Social Equity Program (SEP). The Equity Programming and Community Outreach (EPCO) team is led by the Director of Equity Programming and Community Outreach, a redesigned role that reaffirms that a lens of equity is placed on the Commission's work. The department has expanded to include staff to support the agency's robust community outreach needs to DIAs, the medical community, municipalities and government officials, academia, and other priority constituents.

Social Equity Program

The SEP is designed to build a pathway into the legal cannabis industry for individuals disproportionately impacted by previous prohibition. The SEP focuses on those most impacted by the War on Drugs, marijuana prohibition, disproportionate arrest and incarceration, and provides training, technical assistance, and mentorship for entry into the regulated marketplace across four areas: entrepreneurship, entry- and managerial-level workforce and professional development, and ancillary business support. Its overall mission is to decrease the disparities in life outcomes for impacted individuals and improve the quality of life for those from DIAs. Commission staff have initiated a three-year strategic planning process to ensure the SEP continues to effectively meet its intended goals.

Approved SEP Participants and EEAs are eligible for expedited application review within the Commission's licensing queue when they submit a licensing application, receive certain fee waivers, and have exclusive access to Commission pre-certification and delivery and social consumption license types. The agency previously expanded SEP criteria and increased participation in the program to any individual listed as an owner on the original certification of a Certified Economic Empowerment Priority Applicant who satisfies certain criteria.

SEP Program goals are to:

- Reduce barriers to entry in the commercial marijuana industry, regardless of desired specialty within the industry;
- Provide professional and technical services as well as mentoring for individuals and businesses facing systemic barriers; and
- Promote sustainable, socially and economically reparative practices in the commercial marijuana industry in Massachusetts.



To qualify for the program, an applicant must meet one of the following criteria:

- Residency in a DIA for at least five of the past 10 years and income not exceeding 400% of the Area Median Income in the applicant's respective town/city;
- A past drug conviction, continuance without a finding, or an equivalent conviction in other jurisdictions, and residency in Massachusetts for at least the preceding 12 months;
- Married to, or the child of, a person with a drug conviction, a continuance without a finding, or an equivalent conviction in other jurisdictions, and residency in Massachusetts for at least the preceding 12 months;
- Any individual listed as an owner on the original certification of a Certified Economic Empowerment Priority Applicant who satisfies one or more the following criteria:
- Lived for five of the preceding 10 years in a DIA, as determined by the Commission;
- Experience in one or more previous positions where the primary population served were disproportionately impacted, or where primary responsibilities included economic education, resource provision or empowerment to disproportionately impacted individuals or communities;
- Black, African American, Hispanic, or Latino descent; or
- Other significant articulable demonstration of past experience in or business practices that promote economic empowerment in DIAs.

Since its inception, the Commission has accepted 872 participants into the free technical assistance and training program. Cohort III has been the largest class to date, consisting of 446 participants, of which approximately 65% of participants self-identify as Black, African American, Hispanic, or Latino descent.

Advanced Courses

As the Commission continued refining its programming, the need for additional advanced courses became apparent. Using survey results collected from participants, the Commission worked with its technical assistance and training vendor to develop and deliver advanced-level courses in April and May of 2023. The SEP curriculum will continue to evolve as the industry grows and as new resources are discovered to assist SEP Participants in entering the cannabis industry.



Priority Licensees

The Commission remains fully committed to its mission of encouraging and enabling full participation within the marijuana industry from individuals and communities that have previously been disproportionately harmed by marijuana prohibition and enforcement through strategic, intentional, and supportive programming. The Commission has approved licenses owned by SEP Participants and EEAs totaling 137 Provisional Licenses, 5 Final Licenses, and 79 Licenses have commenced operations.

Exclusive Licenses

The Commission’s delivery license types, including Delivery Courier, Delivery Operator, and Microbusiness with Delivery Endorsements, are exclusively available to approved SEP Participants and EEAs. The exclusivity period began on April 1, 2022, when the first Marijuana Delivery Operator received their notice to commence operations in the Commonwealth and will span a minimum of 36 months. As of June 30, 2024, 211 businesses have been pre-certified as either a Delivery Courier, Delivery Operator, or Microbusiness with Delivery Endorsement.

Social Equity, Economic Empowerment, Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
Final Licenses FY2024

	#SEP	#EE	#DBE	Grand Total
Delivery Operator	7		4	11
Cultivation	2		6	8
Delivery Courier	1			1
Independent Testing Labs			2	2
Marijuana Transporter w/ Other Existing License	1			1
Microbusiness Delivery Endorsement	1			1
Product Manufacturing	3		8	11
Retail	7	6	32	45
Delivery Couriers Pre-Certification	3	5		8
Grand Total	25	11	52	88

Engagement and Events

EPCO has held and attended a plethora of events in the past and is committed to ongoing engagement with the community. Throughout the year, the EPCO team actively promoted the SEP



and advanced its initiatives.

In September 2023, the EPCO team organized a major engagement at the 2023 Fierce Urgency of NOW Festival. The event was hosted by the Commission and highlighted the SEP and other equity programming opportunities. It included detailed presentations on outreach efforts, eligibility requirements, benefits, technical assistance, and training programming. This event took place on September 13th, 2023, at the Roxbury Community College (RCC) Reggie Lewis Center. The event featured SEP resource tables, engagement with Commissioners, and a comprehensive presentation/clinic by Mass CultivatED, which focused on program services, expungement and sealing resources, and industry entry opportunities.

The application period for SEP Cohort IV was open from February 5th to April 30th, 2024. During this period, the EPCO team held six application clinic events aimed at increasing engagement and applications for the SEP. These clinics featured SEP resources and facilitated direct engagement with Commissioners and staff. Strategic partners, including Mass CultivatED, provided critical information on program services, expungement and sealing resources, and industry entry opportunities, further supporting potential applicants.

In addition to the application clinics, the EPCO team has been actively engaged with the community and strategic partners to extend their outreach efforts. On February 24th, 2024, the team participated in an expungement and information clinic organized by Mass CultivatED and AyrWellness. This event aimed to provide additional resources and support to the community, focusing on expungement and sealing processes and opportunities within the cannabis industry.

The EPCO team continues to work diligently on outreach initiatives across various regions to engage potential applicants and stakeholders. These initiatives include providing detailed information about the SEP, such as eligibility criteria, application processes, and the extensive support available to participants. The team's ongoing efforts ensure that the SEP remains accessible and beneficial to those it aims to serve.

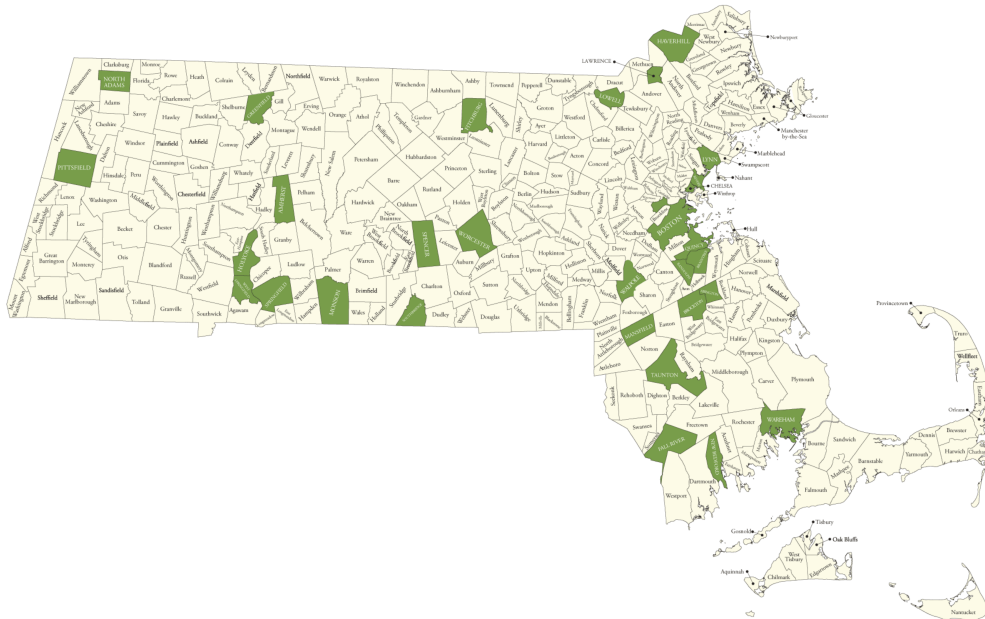
EPCO will continue to organize robust community outreach events to provide current and prospective equity participants with resources intended to help them enter the legal cannabis industry as an owner, employee, or ancillary services vendor.





Areas of Disproportionate Impact (DIAs) Work

Consistent with the statutory and regulatory mandate, the Commission has been reviewing its initial 2018 list of DIAs, defined as a geographic area identified by the Commission for the purposes identified in M.G.L. c. 94G, § 4(a½)(iv), and which has had historically high rates of arrest, conviction, and incarceration related to Marijuana crimes. *See* 935 CMR 500.002 and 501.002. *A Study Identifying Disproportionately Impacted Areas by Cannabis Prohibition in Massachusetts* (“Study”) was completed by the Donahue Institute and the University of



Massachusetts Amherst and presented to the Commission in March 2021. This study produced a new list of DIAs. The study was referred to the Commission’s internal Access and Equity workgroup (“workgroup”) to evaluate its findings. The workgroup presented a history of the DIA list at its August 2022 meeting and presented its policy recommendations in September 2022. The Commission has since approved including two new DIAs – the City of Lawrence, and a census tract in the City of Worcester that the workgroup identified as having been inadvertently left off the initial list.

Constituent Services

The Commission ensures timely responses to all inquiries from the public. Constituents may contact the agency through the [MassCannabisControl.com “Contact” page](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masscannabiscontrol-com-contact-page), email, call, or write the agency with their opinions, questions, comments, and concerns. The Commission receives more than 100 inquiries per day directed to its Constituents Services phone line and email box. The Director of Constituent Services liaises with other departments and staff to resolve constituent cases. Similarly, staff members under the Chief of Investigations and Enforcement regularly respond to questions about licenses and applications, compliance, ownership, suitability, and other matters related to operating businesses.

Regarding concerns about whistleblower complaints, the Commission takes the safety and welfare of Registered Agents, patients, and consumers seriously, and follows up on concerns and allegations such as whistleblower and citizen complaints pertaining to regulatory violations by licensees. The Commission also [requires](#) licensees’ SOPs as part of the post-provisional license inspection—ahead of the final license phase. Licensees are required to have personnel records and policies available upon request by the Commission, and a licensee that cannot produce these records upon request will be in violation of 935 CMR 500.105(9)(d)4b. If the Commission does not have jurisdiction based on the nature of the complaint, it can take steps to ensure the complaint is referred to the appropriate agency.

Prior to the pandemic, staff attended community meetings and other public events to ensure people can speak directly with Commission representatives. The most frequently received questions and comments typically pertain to the Medical Use of Marijuana Program, compliance, marijuana policy, the legal industry, Marijuana Establishments, social equity, and related state laws.

In Fiscal Year 2024, the Commission implemented a new call center system that has improved the Commission’s ability to collect and use data on constituent inquiries. In Fiscal Years 2024-2025, the Commission plans to use this information to improve services where appropriate and build in budget requests.





Patient Support for Medical Use of Marijuana Program

On December 24, 2018, the Medical Use of Marijuana Program was transferred from the Department of Public Health and fully integrated into the Commission. Commission staff routinely respond to patient inquiries in addition to processing patient, caregiver, and provider registrations.

The Commission also eliminated patient registration and renewal fees, introduced an Initial Access certification process for Patients and Caregivers to streamline access to medicine, expanded the use of Telehealth certification during the COVID-19 state of emergency, and provided digital applications for interested physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants to join the program, among other updates.

As of July 2024, the Medical Use of Marijuana Program is composed of 119,673 Certified Active Patients, 6,588 Active Caregivers, and 448 Certifying Healthcare Providers. Staff in Constituent Services assist patients, caregivers, and providers with registration and troubleshooting technical issues.

Government Affairs and Policy

The Commission continues to monitor the legislative process and is grateful for the Legislature’s collaboration over the last seven years. As the agency continues to meet the demands of the booming licensed cannabis industry, it will seek to continue that deep collaboration with legislative partners. The Commission is in regular contact with the Legislature and Executive departments on a variety of topics. Most often, legislative offices are in contact with the Commission on behalf of their constituents. From time to time, however, the Commission will reach out to the Legislature to request insight and/or consideration of matters within the Legislature’s purview.



In August 2023, a delegation of state legislators and officials from Hawaii's Executive Offices visited the Commission to consult with our staff on crafting their own regulations and implementing a recreational marijuana marketplace. During the course of their visit, they relied on the expertise of the Commission to create strategies for safeguarding their medical marijuana program, ensuring public safety and creating a robust industry. Massachusetts is widely regarded as a national leader in marijuana policy, as evidenced by the volume of our publications and the frequent consultation requests from other states and federal agencies.

On April 23, 2024, the Commission hosted its second annual State of Cannabis event at the State House. Commissioners and staff from multiple departments had the opportunity to engage with legislators and staff, provide comprehensive insights into the Commission's functions, programs, and initiatives. Commission staff were available after the presentation to connect with legislative staff. The Commission debuted a new video at the State of Cannabis, providing an overview of the [Seed to Sale](#) process in Massachusetts, as well as collateral materials with statistics and data from the past year.



Statements of Commission Policy

Per the Commission's legislative outreach policy, the Commission does not weigh in on specific bills but rather, may advocate for general policies to support an industry that protects public safety, health, and welfare, and that promotes an equitable and fair marketplace. The Commission may also, by majority vote, approve policy statements to aid the Legislature on topics that fall under the agency's purview. Under this process, the Commission approved one Statement of Commission Policy during the previous year.

On June 11, 2024, Commissioner Kimberly Roy [testified](#) in front of the Joint Committee on Agriculture and Joint Committee on Cannabis Policy regarding Hemp Regulations in the Commonwealth. Commonwealth.

The Commission voted in July 2024 to submit a [public comment](#) to the United States Department of Justice regarding the Drug Enforcement Administration's proposed rule to



reschedule marijuana to Schedule III. The Commission applauded the Administration's acceptance of cannabis as holding medicinal benefits to some patients, and shared questions and areas for our partners in federal government to consider.



Legal

The Legal Department advises the Commission and its staff on the interpretation and implementation of its governing laws and on applicable areas of state and federal law. In addition, Legal coordinates, as needed, on responding to external inquiries from members of the public and from federal and state agencies and officials, including agency counsel. Staff also supports professional groups and academic institutions focused on the developing area of cannabis law.

Regulatory Working Groups

In response to Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022: An Act Relative to Equity in the Cannabis Industry, the Commission assigned three Working Groups composed of Commissioners and staff to discuss policies to implement reforms based on three subject areas: HCAs, Municipal Equity, and Suitability. The recommendations from the working group were incorporated into draft regulations and were made available for public comment before these were promulgated in the fall of 2023.

The Social Consumption Regulatory Working Group, formed under Chapter 180, was not beholden to the November 9, 2023, deadline and has continued its work through the Fiscal Year. The Social Consumption Working Group is tasked with reviewing the Commission's existing social consumption regulations to consider whether any new regulations or amendments to the existing regulations are needed to move the Social Consumption Marijuana Establishment license forward in Massachusetts. The Working Group continues to meet with regulators from other states with existing social consumption establishments, stakeholders, and receive public input.





Litigation

The Legal Department works closely with the Office of the Attorney General on litigation and other matters implicating the interpretation and implementation of the Commission’s laws and associated areas of the law. As of the date of this report, the Commission is not a party to any pending court litigation matters. Legal staff also monitors and alerts Commissioners and staff to important decisions made by federal and state courts.

Open Meeting Law Compliance

The Commission conducts its public meetings in compliance with the Open Meeting Law, G. L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25, which includes posting notice and materials at least 48 hours in advance of its meetings. The Commission’s public meetings are held in virtual and/or hybrid formats and, over the past few years, have been consistent with the Governor’s executive order related to the Open Meeting Law and the Legislature’s enactment of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021. In addition to live-streaming its public meetings, the Commission posts recordings of its public meetings on its YouTube channel and its minutes on its website. On a tri-annual basis, the Commission reviews its executive session minutes for release to the public. Relatedly, Legal staff also advises on compliance with Robert’s Rules of Order, previously adopted by the Commission.



Ethics Compliance

As required by G. L. c. 10, § 76 (k), the Commission has developed its own Code of Ethics. The Legal Department supports Commissioners and staff in ensuring compliance with state ethics laws and its enhanced code of ethics. As part of its onboarding process, Legal staff ensures that new employees satisfy applicable ethics requirements.

Public Record Compliance

During Calendar Year 2023, the Commission's Records Access Officer received and responded to approximately 230 requests for public records. When necessary, the Commission has withheld exempt records under G. L. c. 4, § 7 (26), including to safeguard records considered to be confidential under its statutes and regulations. In January 2024, the Commission filed its annual report with the Secretary of State's Public Records Division. As needed, it consults with the division to ensure compliance. As of July 25, 2024, the Commission is a party to two pending appeals concerning its response to public record requests.

The Commission's operating principles include a focus on conducting all processes openly and transparently. To that end, staff regularly post the following:

- Applications granted provisional and final licensure, which can be found on the [Licensing Application Decisions](#) section of the Public Documents page on the Commission's Website;
- Executive summaries, public meeting minutes, and other materials presented during Commission public meetings, which can be found on the [Public Documents](#) page of the Commission's website.

The Legal Department also consults on the maintenance of the [Open Data Platform](#).

Finance

Commission operations are supported through the Marijuana Regulation Fund, which is subject to appropriation and supports public health and safety needs, substance use disorder prevention, programming for restorative justice, jail diversion, workforce development, and the Cannabis Social Equity Trust Fund, among other uses.

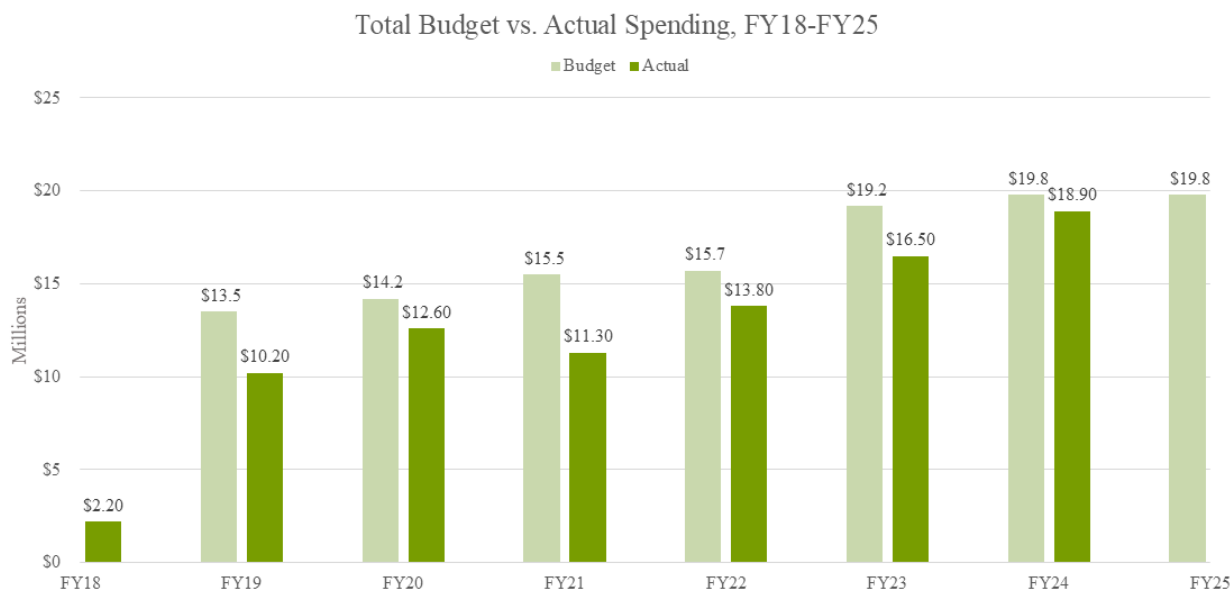
In Fiscal Year 2024, the Legislature appropriated \$20.0 million in total for the Commission: \$16.5 million for the Commission's Operations and \$3.5 million for the Medical Use of Marijuana Program.

Through August 2024, the Commission spent \$18.9M million in Fiscal Year 2024 funds.



The Commission continues to grow, hire additional staff, and implement legislative mandates as the industry matures while generating surplus revenue for the Commonwealth.

For Fiscal Year 2025, the Legislature appropriated a total of \$19.8 million for the Commission: \$16.3 million for the Commission’s Operations and \$3.5 million for the Medical Use of Marijuana Program. The amount appropriated was less than the Commission’s Fiscal Year 2025 request, which totaled \$25.9 million to support the implementation of Chapter 180. While the Commission is taking cost savings measures in Fiscal Year 2025, the Commission may seek a supplemental budget to meet current and ongoing public safety requirements and new requirements based on the statutory changes around HCAs, social consumption, and equity.



Revenue

The Commission is proud to have continued to operate at a cost-neutral basis. In fact, as this report shows, the Commission’s activities have enabled annual increases in sales taxes. Revenue from application, licensing, fines, and other fees, along with adult-use marijuana sales and excise tax revenue, is deposited into the Marijuana Regulation Fund. In Fiscal Year 2024, the Commission collected \$20.0 million in revenue. Through June 2024, the Massachusetts Department of Revenue reported a total of \$272.4 million in marijuana sales tax revenue and marijuana excise tax revenue for Fiscal Year 2024. In total, the Commission has generated a \$292.4 million contribution to the Marijuana Regulation Fund through fees and sales/excise tax revenues.

Relative to adult-use cannabis revenue in the Commonwealth, by the end of the summer, the agency anticipates surpassed \$6 billion in gross sales since the first two adult-use retail stores on the East Coast opened for business on November 20, 2018. According to Leafly’s 2022 [Harvest](#)



[Report](#), cannabis is the highest revenue generating crop in Massachusetts. The dollar value associated with adult-use cannabis products in the Commonwealth is \$361 million. The next highest ranked is cranberries, pulling almost \$66 million in 2021.

This past fiscal year also witnessed remarkable sales achievements with June establishing a new record for a single month at \$132.9 million in gross sales. The ongoing trajectory continued in July and August, even with the expansion of cannabis legalization in surrounding New England states, that are also seeing record sales in recent months.

These increases are expected to continue, in part, due to the increasing number of customers purchasing seeds and clones from licensed retailers and dispensaries. As of May 2023, Marijuana Retailers, Marijuana Delivery Operators, and MTCs may sell up to six clones to an individual consumer per day. However, there is no limitation on the number of seeds that can be sold. Massachusetts law allows adult consumers ages 21 or older to grow up to six cannabis plants in a home, or up to 12 plants in households with more than one person over age 21.

Personnel

The Commission’s Human Resources Department is responsible for creating and implementing policies, processes, and programs to support the Commission’s mission, strategic vision, and efforts to create a great place to work. The Commission has a strong commitment to attracting, rewarding, developing, and retaining an inclusive, diverse, and talented workforce. At the time of this report, the Commission employs 130 staff, of which 53% are female and 25% are persons of color. The agency’s management team is 66% female and 37% persons of color. The agency has 2% of employees who chose not to specify their gender, and 22% did not specify their ethnicity. Human Resources has rolled out various employee programs to support staff and foster a community of engagement while working in a remote environment.



Research

The Commission's Research Department currently consists of a Chief of Research, two Project Coordinators, and two Research Analysts. The department plans to hire additional staff members in Fiscal Year 2026, as the Commission develops the Center for Cannabis Research and Policy (CCRP).

Section 17(a) of G.L. c.94G and St. 2017, c.55 requires the Commission to develop a research agenda to better understand the social and economic trends of cannabis in the Commonwealth. The law identifies at least seven categories of study and authorizes an expansion of that scope with the aim of informing future decisions that would aid in the closure of the unregulated marketplace and monitoring the public health impacts of cannabis and cannabis legalization.

Since the Commission completed all one-time research items pursuant to St. 2017, c. 55 in 2022, it is focused on providing updates to metrics pursuant to Section 17(a) of G.L. c.94G. The Research Department will publish Special Topic Reports and two standardized reports in alternating years: 1) Industry Report and 2) International Cannabis Policy Study (ICPS) Report.

Between July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2024, interdepartmental work has been underway to craft a 13th comprehensive research report to be published in Fall 2024 pursuant to G.L. c.94G § 17(a)(iii), G.L. c.94G § 17(a)(iv), and G.L. c.94G § 17(a)(v). This study will provide a comprehensive assessment on the cannabis industry, including ownership and employment, diversity, equity and inclusion, among other topics of policy interest, such as testing, a recent public health concern nation-wide.

The Research Department continues to work internally, as well as collaborate with various state agencies, academic researchers, and other stakeholders to employ primary and secondary data collection methods to examine a spectrum of items. As cannabis policy research gains interest nationwide, the Commission set both long- and short-term goals to ensure its research is high-quality, impactful, comprehensive, and collaborative. Thus, in addition to research reports, the Department has also published six peer-reviewed scientific articles and invited commentaries and gave six presentations at national scientific conferences and academic institutions to advance the study of effects on cannabis laws.

Members of the Research Department served as Guest Editors for a full issue of the scientific journal *Clinical Therapeutics*, focused on the intersection of cannabis research and policy, published in July 2023. In this Special Issue, entitled, *Cannabis Comes into The Light at the [End of a Long Tunnel](#)*, the work of the Commission and colleagues, including Representative Daniel Donahue, highlighted Massachusetts' cannabis research and policy to an international audience. This issue is Open-Access; thus, all articles are available to anyone interested. [See Table 2 below for Commission research scientific publications].



The Commission sponsored and moderated a Symposium at the annual Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA) External Stakeholder meeting in May 2024 entitled, *Research Spotlight, New Findings on the Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids and Policy Implications* featuring [Dr. Rosalie Pacula](#), Chair in Health Policy, Economics & Law in the Health Policy and Management Department at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy; [Dr. Susan Weiss](#), Director at the Division of Extramural Research at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA); and Julie Johnson, Chief of Research, Cannabis Control Commission.

Additionally, the Research Department coordinated a Symposium to be presented at the 2024 Annual Research Society on Marijuana (RSMj) conference featuring, [Dr. Gillian Schauer](#), Executive Director, CANNRA; [Dr. Hanan Abramovici](#), Director, Office of Cannabis Science and Surveillance, Health Canada; [Dr. Grace Christensen](#), Senior Research Scientist, Minnesota Department of Health; [Dr. A. Taylor Kelley](#), Assistant Professor, University of Utah School of Medicine, and Alexander Colby, Research Analyst, Cannabis Control Commission. This Symposium highlighted the intersection of cannabis research and regulation, as well as the unique Massachusetts experience of a cannabis regulatory governance body including an internal Research Department and the applied cannabis research the Commission pursuant to Section 17(a) of G.L. c.94G and St. 2017, c.55.

Commission Research Products from July 1, 2023- July 1, 2024

Table 1. Commission Research Presented at National Scientific Meetings July 1, 2023- July 1, 2024

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johnson JK. <i>Public Awareness Campaign Metrics for Public Health in Legalized Adult-Use Cannabis States.</i> Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) June 2023. Poster Presentation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colby A, Humiston G, Laramie O, Pensky H, Johnson JK, Sarkis M. <i>State and Individual Metrics to Understand Changing Cannabis Patterns in a Maturing Legal Market.</i> Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) June 2023. Poster Presentation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laramie O, Humiston G, Pensky H, Colby A, Johnson JK. <i>Public Awareness Campaign Metrics for Public Health in Legalized Adult-Use Cannabis States.</i> Research Society on Marijuana (RSMj) July 2023. Poster Presentation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colby A, Humiston G, Dilley J, Laramie O, Pensky H, Johnson JK. <i>Medical Cannabis Program Resilience in the Era of Adult-Use Cannabis Legalization: A Tale of</i>



Three Medical Programs. Research Society on Marijuana (RSMj) July 2023. Poster Presentation.

Guest Lectures, July 1, 2023- July 1, 2024

- **Speaker: Chief of Research, Julie Johnson**, Invited Speaker and Poster Presenter, Cannabis Science Fair. Hosted by MCR Labs at Harvard University. December 9, 2023
- **Lecturers: Chief of Research, Julie Johnson, and Director of Licensing, Kyle Potvin** Invited Speaker, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Course, *Public Health Perspectives on U.S. Drug Policy*. February 13, 2024

CONCLUSION

This seventh annual report identifies the Commission’s ongoing operations for FY 2024 and documents the continued growth of the regulated medical- and adult-use cannabis industry in Massachusetts. As this report demonstrates, the Commission has anticipated needs, created significant efficiencies, and continued to meet requirements outlined in statute.

For much of the past year, Commissioners and staff have deeply engaged in implementing Chapter 180 of the Acts of 2022. Thanks to the Legislature and Administration, Massachusetts has continued its leadership of promoting an equitable industry by expanding the Commonwealth’s status as the first state in the nation to have a municipal equity mandate. Further, regulations, guidance, and documents clarifying and enforcing HCAs between municipalities and applicants have started to create a level playing field for operators and provide the necessary direction local officials have requested. The Commission's in-person hearings, listening sessions, and roundtables across the Commonwealth have guided conversations on improving the industry.

In the coming months, the Commission will continue its work by promulgating new regulations focusing on microbusinesses, delivery operators, and medical patients' access. It will also introduce regulations for social consumption establishments, a new avenue for business growth. The agency looks forward to collaborating with stakeholders at the state and local levels, applicants and licensees, and community members to ensure the licensed Massachusetts cannabis industry remains safe, effective, and equitable.





Memorandum

To: Commissioners
Cc: Debra Hilton-Creek, Acting Executive Director
From: Matt Giancola, Director of Government Affairs and Policy
Date: October 10, 2024
Subject: **October 2024 Government Affairs Update**

Legislative Update

Acting Chair Bruce Stebbins and Commissioner Nurys Camargo met with Rep. Dawne Shand and licensees in the First Essex District. The Commissioners toured a licensed Marijuana Establishment and held a roundtable discussion with licensees and the Representative.

Municipal Update

Municipal Law Unit

The Attorney General's Municipal Law Unit (MLU) did not issue any marijuana-related decisions this past month.





Cannabis Control Commission

Monthly Public Meeting

October 10, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Via Microsoft Teams



Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Commissioners' Comments & Updates
3. Minutes
4. Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report
5. Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership
6. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses
7. Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses
8. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses
9. Enforcement Actions
10. Commission Discussion and Votes
11. New Business Not Anticipated at the Time of Posting
12. Next Meeting Date
13. Adjournment



Acting Executive Director and Commission Staff Report



Celebrating 7 Years – September 2024

Previous Year in Review

October 2023	Chapter 180 regulations promulgated ahead of legislative deadline
December 2023	Best-ever sales month for adult-use Marijuana Establishments in Massachusetts
January 2024	Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual Meeting
February-April 2024	Launch of the Social Equity Program Cohort 4 application, “Faces of Equity” campaign, and statewide clinics
March 2024	New England Cannabis Convention (Boston) panels and engagement
March-May 2024	Model Host Community Agreement and Model Municipal Equity By-Law or Ordinance
April 2024	Marijuana Establishments surpass \$6 billion in consumer sales as licensees set single-day sales record on 4/20
May 2024	State of Cannabis Day at the State House
May-June 2024	Executive Director search launches
June 2024	Martha’s Vineyard Listening Session
July 2024	Public comment submitted on proposed federal rescheduling
July 2024	Research department presents at the Research Society on Marijuana Annual Meeting in Toronto
July 2024	Draft regulations approved on delivery, microbusiness, and Medical Use of Marijuana Program reform
August 2024	Great Barrington Listening Session





Cannabis
Control
Commission

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

7-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Thank You

to our Commissioners, Staff, Licensees, and Consumers for
another successful year.

We are excited for the opportunities ahead.

Highlights from Licensing Data

- 4 applications awaiting first review
- 19 applications awaiting supplemental review
- 1 application for Provisional License consideration
- 3 licensees for Final License consideration
- 89,161 certified active patients



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

The totals below are number of approvals by stage.

Type	#
Pre-Certified/Delivery Endorsed Microbusiness	213
Provisionally Approved	129
Provisional License	491
Final License	41
Commence Operations	704
Total	1,578

➔ + 21.8%

* Note: This represents the percent increase since October 2023.

Provisionally approved means approved by the Commission but has not submitted license fee payment yet – provisional license has not started



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

Type	Pending Application	Pre-Certified Endorsement	Initial License Declined	Provisionally Approved	Provisional License	Final License	Commence Operation	Total
Craft Marijuana Cooperative	2	N/A	0	0	4	0	0	6
Marijuana Courier License	12	N/A	0	2	10	2	10	36
Marijuana Courier Pre-Certification	15	104	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	119
Independent Testing Laboratory	1	N/A	0	2	2	0	16	21
Marijuana Cultivator	43	N/A	2	43	193	18	142	441
Marijuana Delivery Operator License	12	N/A	0	0	16	1	17	46
Marijuana Delivery Operator Pre-Certification	14	106	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	120
Marijuana Microbusiness	6	N/A	0	4	12	0	7	29
Marijuana Product Manufacturer	30	N/A	1	44	134	16	120	345
Marijuana Research Facility	5	N/A	0	1	1	0	0	7
Marijuana Retailer	56	N/A	2	31	115	4	381	589
Marijuana Transporter with Other Existing ME License	5	N/A	0	2	5	0	4	16
Microbusiness Delivery Endorsement	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	6
Third Party Transporter	10	N/A	0	0	0	0	5	15
Standards Laboratory	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	212	213	5	129	492	41	704	1,796



Host Community Agreements Data | October 10, 2024

Overview	Total	SEP & EEA	DBE
The total number of applications received since March 1, 2024, containing an HCA	532	82	61
Number of Model HCAs received	124	9	14
Compliant Model HCAs	95	8	12
Number of Model HCA Waivers received	47	7	5
Compliant HCAs	220	30	22
<p>76 Towns with Compliant HCAs <i>Abington, Adams, Athol, Ayer, Bernardston, Blackstone, Bolton, Boston, Bridgewater, Brimfield, Brookline, Charlton, Cheshire, Chicopee, Clinton, Colrain, Danvers, Dartmouth, Deerfield, Eastham, Egremont, Fairhaven, Fall River, Fitchburg, Franklin, Gardner, Gloucester, Greenfield, Hadley, Halifax, Hanson, Holliston, Holyoke, Hudson, Lee, Littleton, Lynn, Mansfield, Marblehead, Marlborough, Mashpee, Maynard, Melrose, Mendon, Middleborough, Millbury, Monson, Montague, New Bedford, Newton, North Brookfield, Northampton, Norton, Orange, Orleans, Palmer, Pittsfield, Plainfield, Plymouth, Quincy, Rockland, Salem, Somerville, Springfield, Sterling, Sunderland, Taunton, Tewksbury, Tyningsborough, Ware, Wareham, Webster, West Springfield, Winchendon, Worcester.</i></p>			



Host Community Agreements Data | October 10, 2024

HCA Review Status	Total
Number of HCAs reviewed	483
Number of HCAs currently under review	49
Number of Host Community Agreement Determination Notices sent out	380

Extensions	Total
Extension requests received	590
Extension requests that received conditional pre-approval	54
Extension requests granted	530
Average Number of Days Requested	94





Staff Recommendations on Licensure

Staff Recommendations: Changes of Ownership

1. Assured Testing Laboratories, LLC
2. Good Feels, Inc.
3. Green Choice Dispensaries LLC
4. J-B.A.M., Inc.
5. Neamat LLC
6. Silver Therapeutics, Inc.
7. Silver Therapeutics of Palmer, Inc.



Staff Recommendations: Renewals

1. ACMJ, Inc. (#MCR140805)
2. Alternative Therapies Group II, Inc. (#MRR206990)
3. Analytics Labs, LLC. (#ILR267942)
4. B Leaf Wellness Centre LLC (#MRR207023)
5. Bodelle's Edibles, LLC (#MBR169329)
6. Cannabakeri LLC (#MPR244200)
7. Cannabis Connection II, Inc (#MRR206917)
8. Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc. (#MPR244248)
9. Curaleaf Massachusetts, Inc. (#MCR140809)
10. Dreamfields Massachusetts One, Inc. (#MPR244192)
11. Enlite Cannabis Dispensary, LLC (#MRR206926)
12. FCC Holdings LLC (#MBR169331)
13. FFD Enterprises MA, Inc. (#MRR206969)
14. FitzCAnna, Inc. (#MPR244228)
15. FitzCAnna, Inc. (#MXR126674)
16. Galil Greenery LLC (#MRR206801)
17. Gan Or LLC (#MCR140700)
18. Greater Goods, LLC (#MBR169337)
19. GTE Franklin LLC (#MRR207005)
20. Highmark Provisions, LLC (#MCR140822)
21. Major Bloom, LLC (#MPR244143)
22. Major Bloom, LLC (#MRR206882)
23. Major Bloom, LLC (#DOR5182971)
24. Mass Cannabis Growers Cooperative
(#COR129713)
25. Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity
LLC (#MRR207011)
26. Massachusetts Citizens for Social Equity
LLC (#MRR207002)
27. Mill Town Agriculture, LLC
(#MCR140804)



Staff Recommendations: Renewals

28. New England Treatment Access, LLC.
(#MRR206948)
29. Pharmacannis Massachusetts Inc. (#MRR206964)
30. Raices on the Hill LLC (#MRR206998)
31. Salty Farmers II, Inc. (#MCR140755)
32. Salty Farmers, LLC (#MRR206912)
33. Silver Therapeutics, Inc. (#MRR207009)
34. Smithers AMS LLC (#ILR267938)
35. Stafford Green, Inc. (#MCR140786)
36. SunnyDayz Inc. (#MCR140790)
37. Supercritical Mass Laboratories Inc. (#MPR244188)
38. The Corner Emporium LLC. (#MRR206820)
39. The Heirloom Collective, Inc. (#MPR244241)
40. The Heirloom Collective, Inc. (#MCR140814)
41. Tower Three, LLC (#MPR244157)
42. Underground Legacy Social Club, LLC
(#MRR207013)
43. Union Leaf Inc. (#MRR206845)
44. Webber Road Ops, LLC (#MRR207034)
45. Alternative Compassion Services, Inc.
(#MTC585)
46. Central Ave Compassionate Care, Inc. (#MTC145)



Staff Recommendations: Provisional Licenses

1. Motah 420, LLC (#MDA1327), Marijuana Delivery Operator
2. SAWF Estate, LLC (#MRN284312), Marijuana Retailer



Staff Recommendations: Final Licenses

1. Apotho Therapeutics Dartmouth, Inc. (#MR283521), Marijuana Retailer
2. Green Gold Group (#MR284703), Marijuana Retailer



Enforcement Actions

1. Ascend Mass, LLC
2. Curaleaf, Inc.





**The Commission is in recess
until**



Commission Discussion & Votes

Commission Discussion & Votes

1. Executive Director Search - Subcommittee Update
2. Point-of-Sale Systems Discussion
3. Complaint Tipline Update
4. Seventh Annual Activities Report
5. Independent Testing Laboratory Listening Session Overview



Executive Director Search Update

DATE	ACTIVITIES
May 8 – June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Launched• 2 Weeks into the “Accepting Applications” Phase• Will run another 3 ½ weeks
May 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meeting Law Compliance / Guidance Document Shared with Subcommittee
May 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Voting Members of Subcommittee Approved by Commission
May 24 – June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subcommittee Convenes• Screening of Applicants will most likely begin during this timeframe
June 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subcommittee had first meeting to discuss process of reviewing resumes, roles and responsibilities, OML requirements, etc., as well as overall process moving forward.• Three members of the Subcommittee were tasked with reviewing resumes to identify those who met the minimum requirements for the role.
June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Position Closes• Approximately 173 Applicants



Executive Director Search Update

DATE	ACTIVITIES
June 16 – June 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Screening of Applicants Continues• Screening May Continue at the Commission’s Discretion for Applications Received after the Deadline
July 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sub-quorum of Subcommittee members reviews all resumes, approximately 60 were subject to additional review by the full Subcommittee.• Sub-quorum tasked with identifying applicants who far exceeded the requirements.
July 16 – July 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subcommittee selects candidates to participate in virtual screens.
August 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subcommittee identified at least 15 candidates for initial virtual screening and voted to review any application received after the submission deadline.
August 12 – 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Virtual screens held.



Executive Director Search Update

DATE	ACTIVITIES
September 5 – September 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Round Interviews Conducted (Moved from July)
September 16 – September 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-Committee met and voted to select the top three candidates who would appear before Commissioners. • Sub-quorum of the Sub-Committee met to begin looking at the logistics of a plan for final interviews.
October 1 – October 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-Committee met to close out virtual and 1st round interviews.
October 10 – October 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sub-Committee is slated to meet next week to finalize its recommendations on the TOP 3 • Sub-chorum of the Sub-Committee will report on logistics for the final interviews with input from the Sub-Committee before finalizing; interview date will be set. • Next week TOP 3 are notified, scheduled for “Interview Day”
GOAL IS ANTICIPATED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Round of Interviews Before Commissioners - Commissioners Select New Executive Director • Announcement of Commissioners’ Selection • Offer Made to Selected Candidate • START DATE TO BE DETERMINED/NEGOTIATED



Commission Discussion & Votes

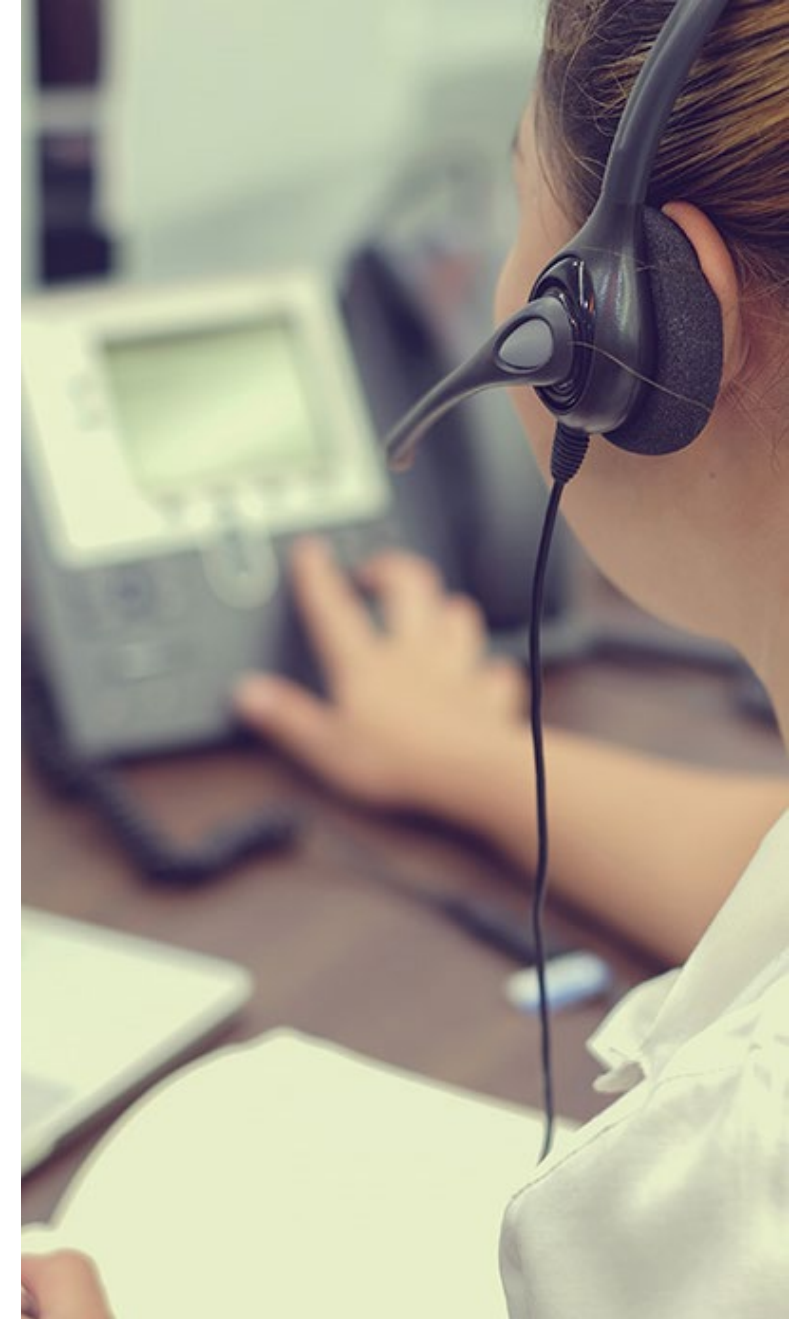
2. Point-of-Sale Systems Discussion



Complaint Tipline Update

- Ongoing development of a dedicated tipline for the public to share concerns or potential violations of Commission regulations
- Current ways to submit a tip/complaint to the Commission:
 1. Commission Email: Commission@cccmass.com
 2. General Contact form: <https://masscannabiscontrol.com/contact/>
 3. Main phone number: (774) 415-0200

Constituents often reach out to Commissioners and staff directly with questions and feedback. Those inquiries are also routed to the relevant Department for follow-up.



Commission Discussion & Votes

4. Seventh Annual Activities Report



Independent Testing Laboratory Listening Session Overview

Listening Session to hear feedback from the public regarding testing,
Independent Testing Laboratories, and Commission regulations

November 7, 2024

10:00 AM

Worcester Union Station





Upcoming Meetings & Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

Next Meeting Date

October 11, 2024

Policy Public Meeting
Executive Session
1:00pm
Remote

Public Meeting dates are tentative and subject to change

2024 Public Meetings*

October 22

November 7

November 14

December 12





Additional Licensing Data

Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

The totals below are all license applications received to date.

Type	#
Pending	212
Withdrawn	1,447
Incomplete	8,280
Denied	5
Approved: Delivery Pre-certifications	211
Approved: Delivery Endorsements	5
Approved: Licenses	1,363
Total	11,523



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

The totals below are number of licenses approved by category.

Type	#
Craft Marijuana Cooperative	4
Marijuana Courier	24
Marijuana Delivery Operator	34
Independent Testing Laboratory	20
Marijuana Cultivator	387
Marijuana Microbusiness	35
Marijuana Product Manufacturer	311
Marijuana Research Facility	2
Marijuana Retailer	531
Marijuana Third Party Transporter	5
Marijuana Transporter with Other Existing ME License	10
Total	1,363



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

Status	#
Application Submitted: Awaiting Review	7
Application Reviewed: More Information Requested	216
Application Deemed Complete: Awaiting 3rd Party Responses	3
All Information Received: Awaiting Commission Consideration	2
Applications Considered by Commission (includes Delivery Pre-Cert)	1,584
Total	1,812



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

The totals below are applications that have submitted all four packets and are pending review.

Type	#
Craft Marijuana Cooperative	2
Delivery-Only Provisional Licensure (Part 2)	12
Delivery-Only Pre-Certification (Part 1)	15
Independent Testing Laboratory	1
Marijuana Cultivator	43
Marijuana Delivery Operator Provisional License (Part 2)	12
Marijuana Delivery Operator Pre-Certification (Part 1)	14
Marijuana Microbusiness	6
Marijuana Product Manufacturer	30
Marijuana Research Facility	6
Marijuana Retailer	56
Marijuana Transporter with Other Existing ME License	5
Microbusiness Delivery Endorsement	1
Third Party Transporter	10
Total	212



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

Type	Pending Application	Pre-Certified Endorsement	Initial License Declined	Provisionally Approved	Provisional License	Final License	Commence Operation	Total
Marijuana Cultivator (Indoor)	34	N/A	1	37	174	13	117	376
Marijuana Cultivator (Outdoor)	9	N/A	1	6	19	2	25	62
Total	43	N/A	2	43	193	15	142	438



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

*Of 1,579 applications approved by the Commission, the following applications have Economic Empowerment Priority Review, Social Equity Program Participant, and/or Disadvantaged Business Enterprise status. Please note, applicants June hold one or more statuses. **Please note that the end total represents the total number of applications/licenses at that step in the licensure process.***

Type	Economic Empowerment	Social Equity Program	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	Total
Pre-Certified/Delivery Endorsed Microbusiness	44	176	29	249
Provisionally Approved	12	24	25	61
Provisional License	29	76	100	205
Final License	1	6	5	12
Commence Operations	31	62	88	181
Total	117	344	247	708

+4.46%

+9.90%

+5.56%



Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

The totals below are distinct license numbers that have submitted all required packets.

The 1,810 applications represent 1,033 separate entities

Type	#
MTC Priority	259
Economic Empowerment Priority	136
Expedited Review	686
General Applicant	729
Total	1,810

Type	#
Expedited: License Type	79
Expedited: Social Equity Participant	353
Expedited: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise	189
Expedited: Two or More Categories	65
Total	686



Licensing Applications – EE Only | October 10, 2024

Type	Pending Application	Pre-Certified Endorsement	Initial License Declined	Provisionally Approved	Provisional License	Final License	Commence Operation	Total
Craft Marijuana Cooperative	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana Courier License	4	N/A	0	2	2	0	4	12
Marijuana Courier Pre-Certification	2	30	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	32
Independent Testing Laboratory	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana Cultivator	1	N/A	0	3	5	0	0	9
Marijuana Delivery Operator License	1	N/A	0	0	3	0	3	7
Marijuana Delivery Operator Pre-Certification	1	14	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15
Marijuana Microbusiness	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana Product Manufacturer	0	N/A	0	4	2	0	3	9
Marijuana Research Facility	1	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	1
Marijuana Retailer	4	N/A	0	2	16	1	21	44
Marijuana Transporter with Other Existing ME License	0	N/A	0	1	1	0	0	2
Microbusiness Delivery Endorsement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Third Party Transporter	1	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	1
Standards Laboratory	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15	44	0	12	29	1	31	132



Licensing Applications – SEP Only | October 10, 2024

Type	Pending Application	Pre-Certified Endorsement	Initial License Declined	Provisionally Approved	Provisional License	Final License	Commence Operation	Total
Craft Marijuana Cooperative	0	N/A	0	0	1	0	0	1
Marijuana Courier License	7	N/A	0	0	8	2	7	24
Marijuana Courier Pre-Certification	13	80	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	93
Independent Testing Laboratory	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana Cultivator	3	N/A	0	7	20	1	7	38
Marijuana Delivery Operator License	7	N/A	0	0	13	1	15	36
Marijuana Delivery Operator Pre-Certification	12	93	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	105
Marijuana Microbusiness	0	N/A	0	0	4	0	1	5
Marijuana Product Manufacturer	3	N/A	0	10	13	2	8	36
Marijuana Research Facility	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marijuana Retailer	16	N/A	1	4	16	0	20	57
Marijuana Transporter with Other Existing ME License	1	N/A	0	1	1	0	2	5
Microbusiness Delivery Endorsement	1	3	0	0	0	0	2	6
Third Party Transporter	1	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	1
Standards Laboratory	0	N/A	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	64	176	1	22	76	6	62	407



Cultivation Applications | October 10, 2024

Type	Pending Application	Initial License Declined	Provisionally Approved	Provisional License	Final License	Commence Operation	Total
Microbusiness w/ Tier 1 Cultivation (up to 5,000 sq. Ft.)	0	0	3	4	0	6	13
Cultivation Tier 1 (Up to 5,000 sq. ft.)	13	0	3	44	4	30	94
Cultivation Tier 2 (5,001-10,000 sq. ft.)	6	0	7	57	6	38	114
Cultivation Tier 3 (10,001-20,000 sq. ft.)	5	2	9	41	2	22	81
Cultivation Tier 4 (20,001-30,000 sq. ft.)	1	0	4	14	2	12	33
Cultivation Tier 5 (30,001-40,000 sq. ft.)	2	0	9	7	1	11	30
Cultivation Tier 6 (40,001-50,000 sq. ft.)	3	0	5	7	0	7	22
Cultivation Tier 7 (50,001-60,000 sq. ft.)	2	0	1	4	1	4	12
Cultivation Tier 8 (60,001-70,000 sq. ft.)	1	0	0	1	0	2	4
Cultivation Tier 9 (70,001-80,000 sq. ft.)	3	0	1	3	1	2	10
Cultivation Tier 10 (80,001-90,000 sq. ft.)	1	0	1	0	1	6	9
Cultivation Tier 11 (90,001-100,000 sq. ft.)	6	0	5	15	0	8	34
Total	43	2	48	197	18	148	456
Total Maximum Canopy (Sq. Ft.)	1,605,000	40,000	1,740,000	4,730,000	450,000	4,030,000	

+64.9%

+10.8%

* Note: percentage is of “Total” commence operations licenses



Non-Active Licenses By Stage | October 10, 2024

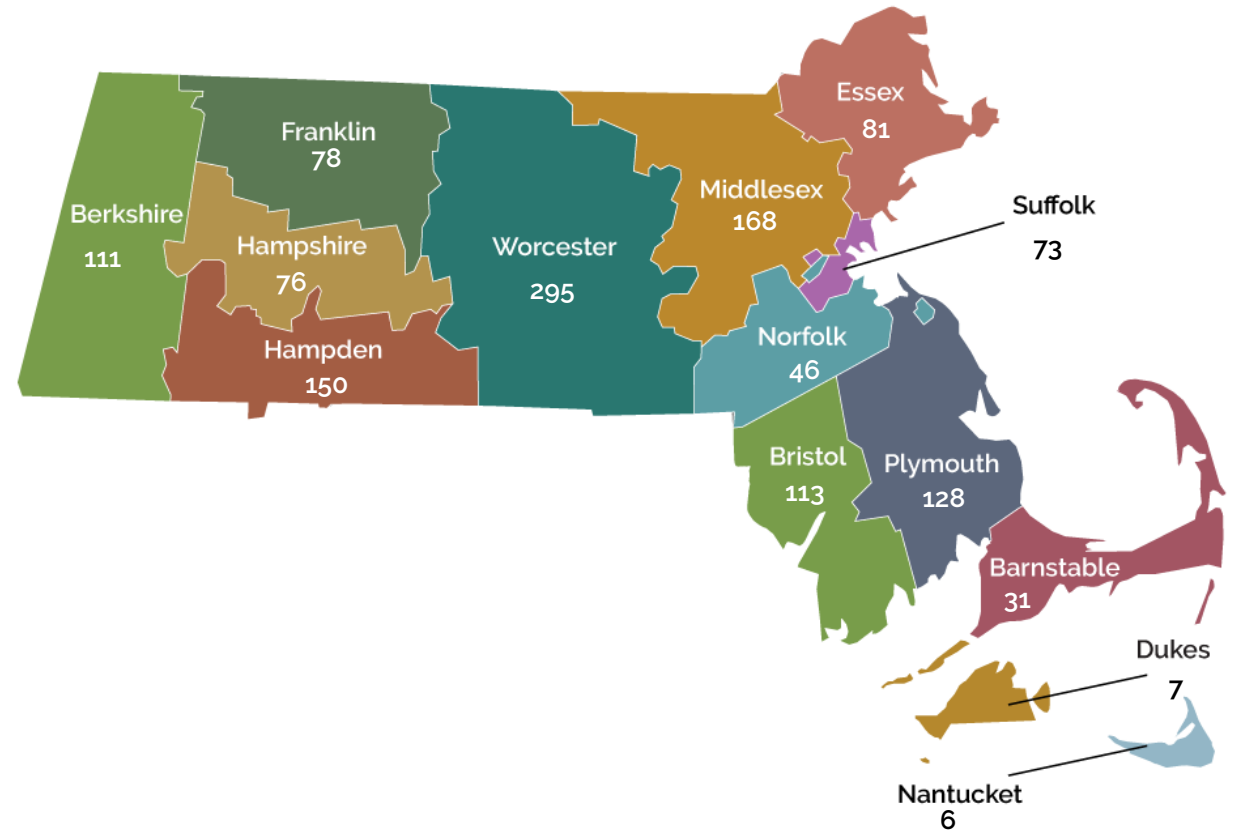
Type	Provisional License	Final License	Commence Operation	Total
Craft Marijuana Cooperative	3	0	0	3
Marijuana Courier License	7	1	3	11
Independent Testing Laboratory	2	0	1	3
Marijuana Cultivator	111	3	13	127
Marijuana Delivery Operator License	12	0	2	14
Marijuana Microbusiness	8	0	1	9
Marijuana Product Manufacturer	73	5	11	89
Marijuana Research Facility	0	0	0	0
Marijuana Retailer	48	0	14	62
Marijuana Transporter with Other Existing ME License	1	0	0	1
Third Party Transporter	0	0	1	1
Standards Laboratory	0	0	0	0
Total	265	9	46	320



Marijuana Establishment Licenses | October 10, 2024

The totals below represent entities in each county that have achieved at least a provisional license

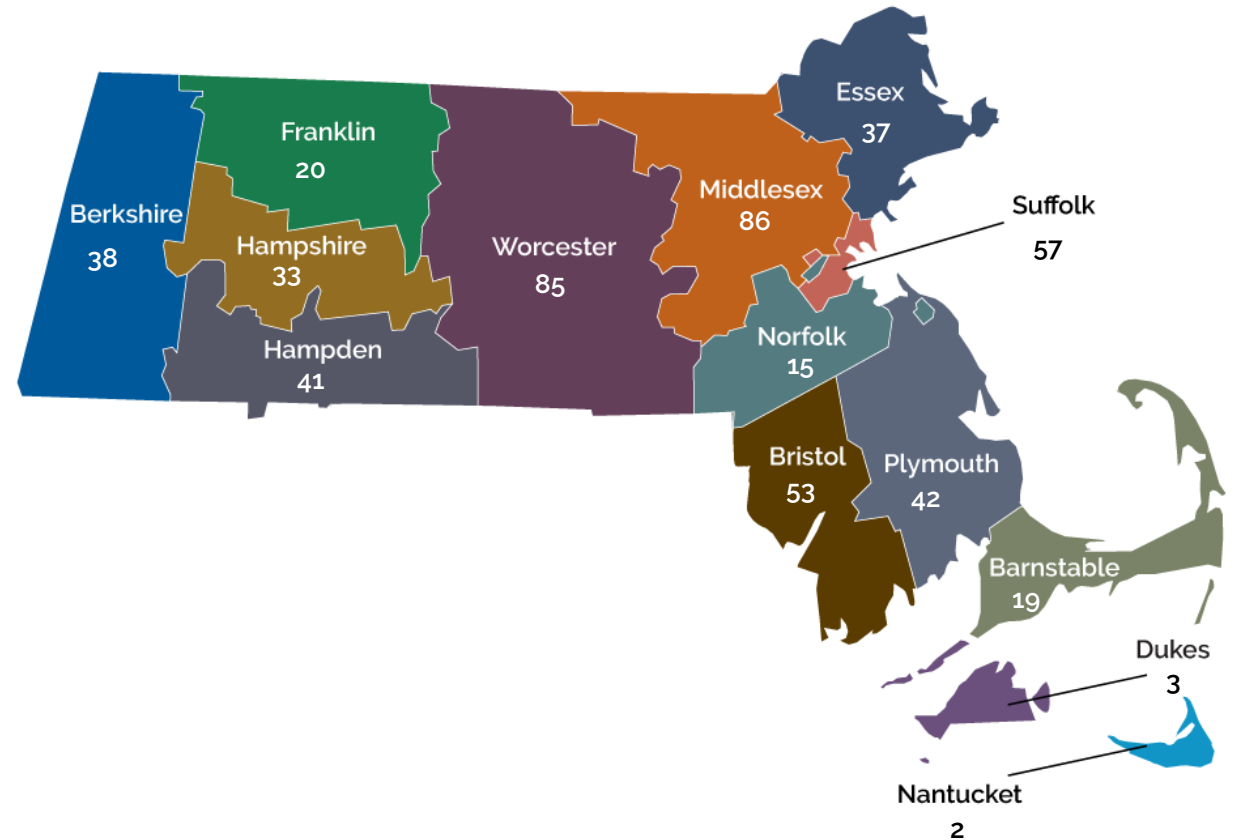
County	#	+/-
Barnstable	31	0
Berkshire	111	0
Bristol	113	0
Dukes	7	0
Essex	81	0
Franklin	78	0
Hampden	150	0
Hampshire	76	0
Middlesex	168	0
Nantucket	6	0
Norfolk	46	0
Plymouth	128	0
Suffolk	73	0
Worcester	294	0
Total	1,362	0



Marijuana Retailer Licenses | October 10, 2024

The totals below are the total number of retail licenses by county.

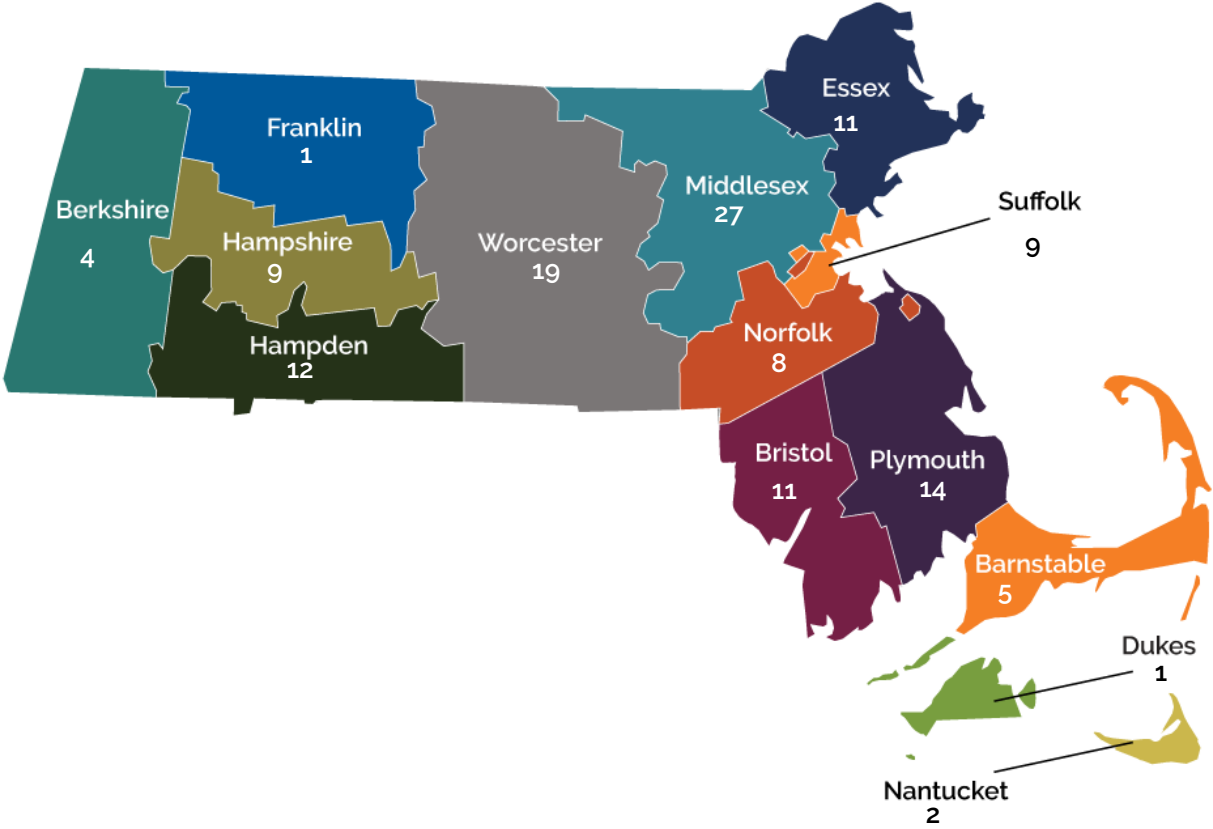
County	#	+/-
Barnstable	19	0
Berkshire	38	0
Bristol	53	0
Dukes	3	0
Essex	37	0
Franklin	20	0
Hampden	41	0
Hampshire	33	0
Middlesex	86	0
Nantucket	2	0
Norfolk	15	0
Plymouth	42	0
Suffolk	57	0
Worcester	85	0
Total	531	0



Medical Marijuana Treatment Center Licenses (Dispensing) October 10, 2024

The totals below are the total number of MTC (Dispensing) licenses by county.

County	#
Barnstable	5
Berkshire	4
Bristol	11
Dukes	1
Essex	11
Franklin	1
Hampden	12
Hampshire	9
Middlesex	27
Nantucket	2
Norfolk	8
Plymouth	14
Suffolk	9
Worcester	19
Total	133



MMJ Licensing and Registration Data | October 10, 2024

The numbers below are a snapshot of the program for the month of July.

MTC Licenses	#
Provisional	24
Final	0
Commence Operations	107
License Expired	61
Total	192

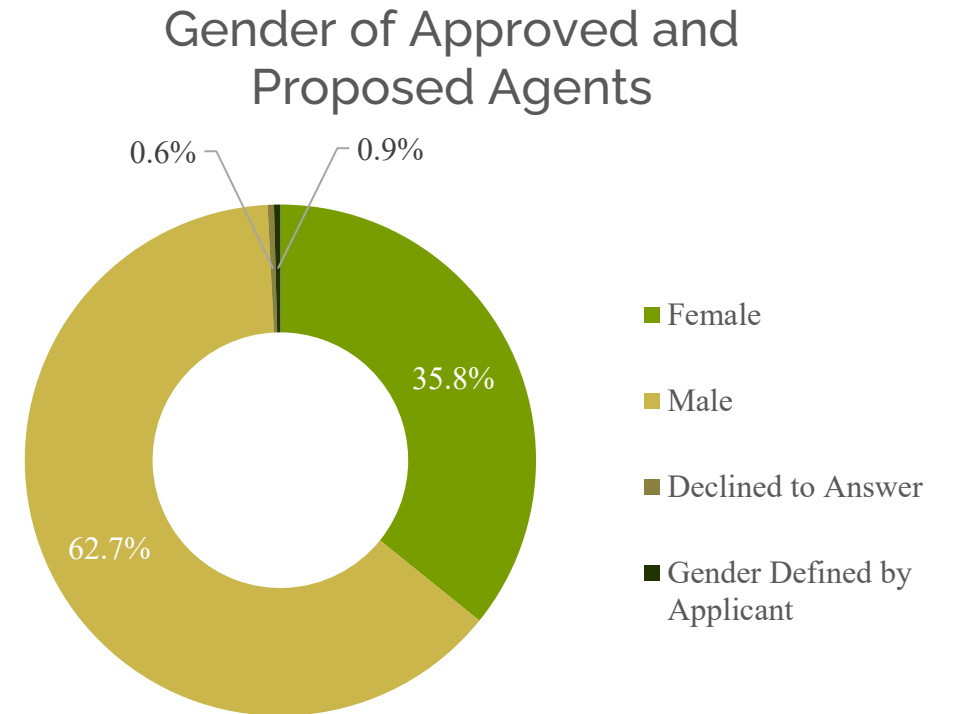
MMJ Program	#
Certified Patients	90,920
Certified Active Patients	85,855
Active Caregivers	6,506
Registered Certifying Physicians	331
Registered Certifying Nurse Practitioners	118
Registered Physician Assistants	1
Ounces Sold	99,018



Agent Applications | October 10, 2024

Demographics of Approved and Pending Marijuana Establishment Agents

Gender	#	%
Female	8,393	35.8%
Male	14,714	62.7%
Declined to Answer	213	0.9%
Gender Defined by Applicant	142	0.6%
Total	23,462	100.0%

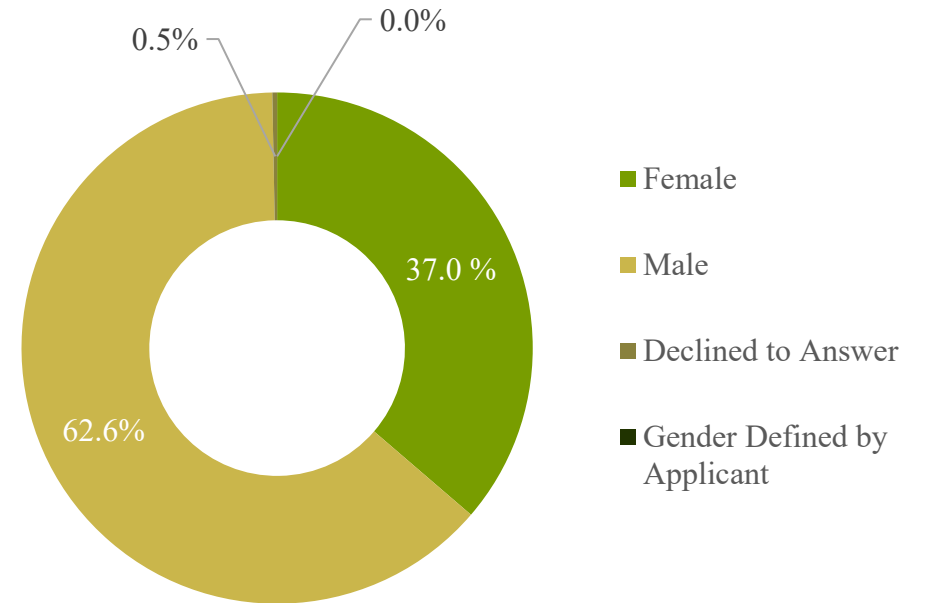


Agent Applications | October 10, 2024

Demographics of Approved and Pending Medical Marijuana Treatment Center Agents

Gender	#	%
Female	2,403	37.0%
Male	4,066	62.6%
Declined to Answer	0	0.0%
Gender Defined by Applicant	31	0.5%
Total	6,500	100.0%

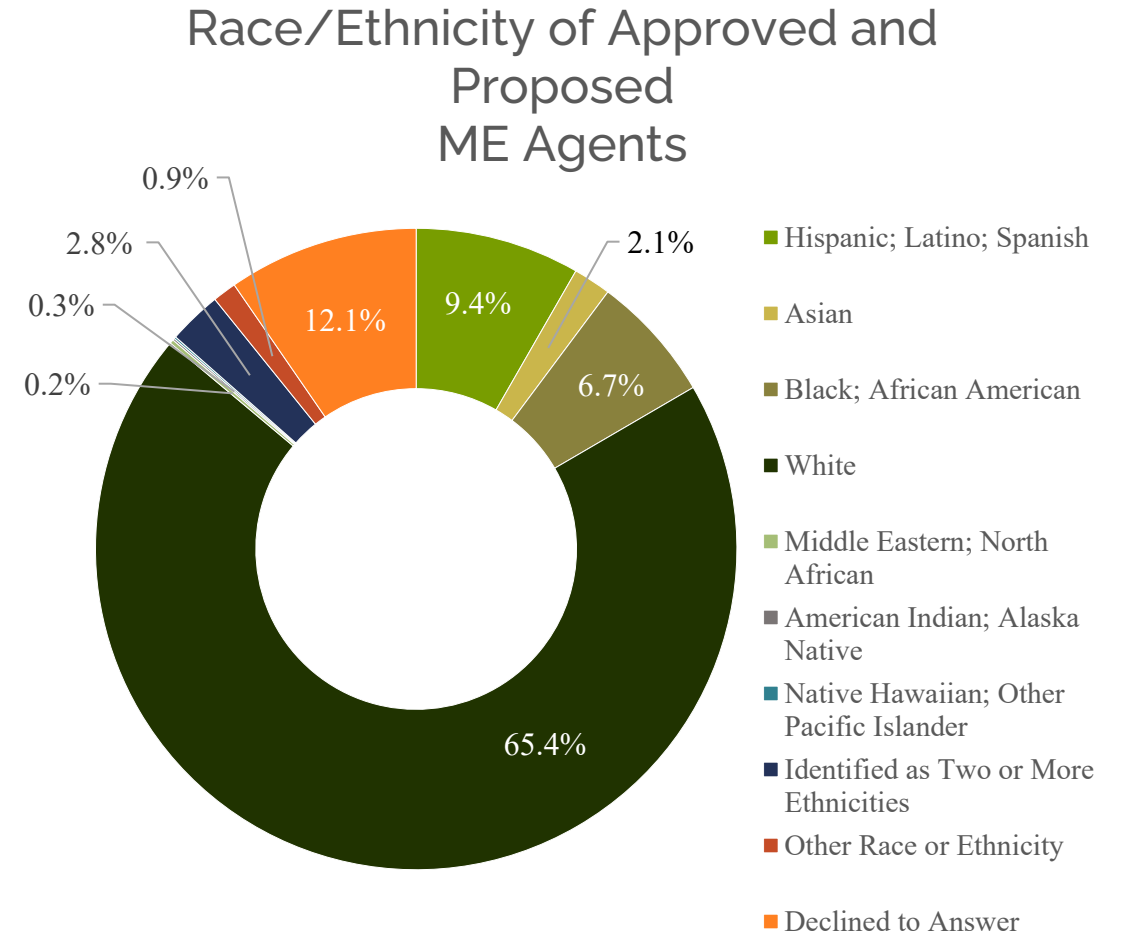
Gender of Approved and Proposed MTC Agents



Agent Applications | October 10, 2024

Demographics of Approved and Pending Marijuana Establishment Agents

Race/Ethnicity	#	%
Hispanic; Latino; Spanish	2,216	9.4%
Asian	481	2.1%
Black; African American	1,582	6.7%
White	15,339	65.4%
Middle Eastern; North African	59	0.3%
American Indian; Alaska Native	47	0.2%
Native Hawaiian; Other Pacific Islander	16	0.1%
Identified as Two or More Ethnicities	673	2.8%
Other Race or Ethnicity	190	0.9%
Declined to Answer	2,859	12.1%
Total	23,462	100.0%

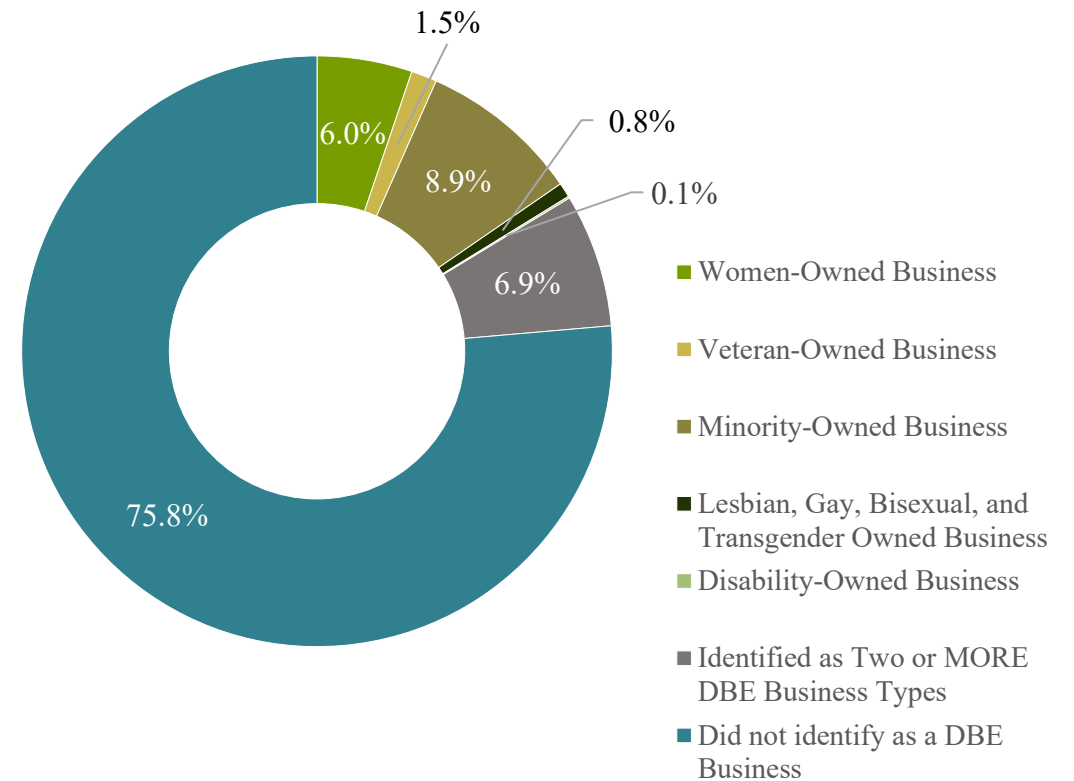


Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Statistics for Approved Licensees

Type	#	% of Group
Women-Owned Business	94	6.0%
Veteran-Owned Business	25	1.5%
Minority-Owned Business	140	8.9%
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Owned Business	12	0.8%
Disability-Owned Business	2	0.1%
Identified as Two or MORE DBE Business Types	109	6.9%
Did not identify as a DBE Business	1,197	75.8%
Total	1,579	100.0%

DBE Statistics Approved Licensees

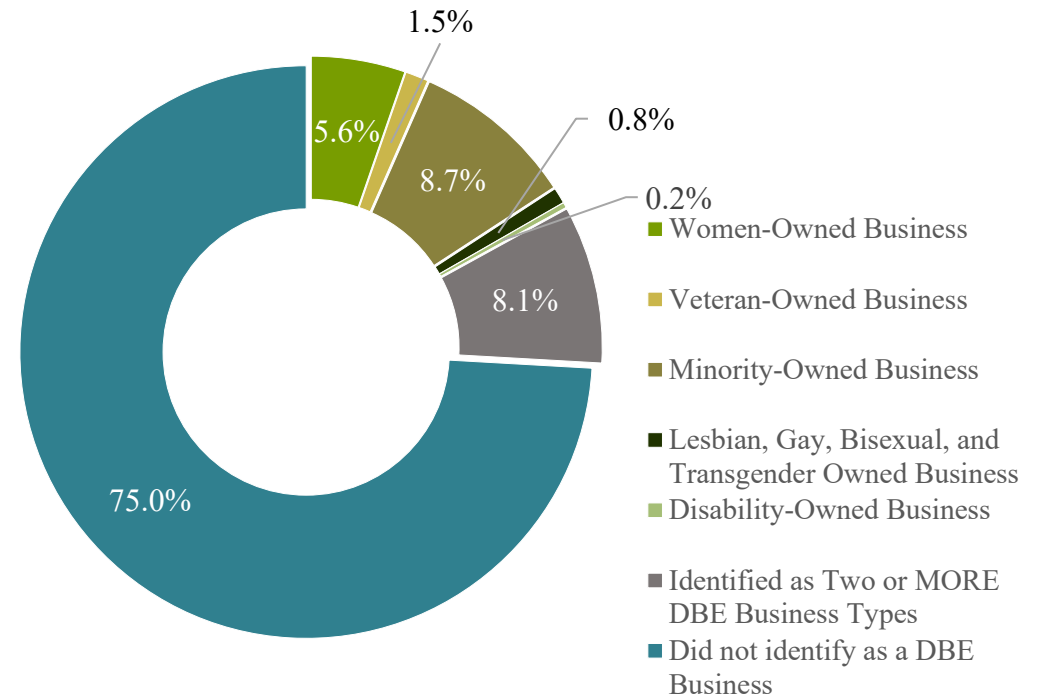


Licensing Applications | October 10, 2024

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Statistics for Pending and Approved License Applications

Type	#	% of Group
Women-Owned Business	100	5.6%
Veteran-Owned Business	27	1.5%
Minority-Owned Business	158	8.7%
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Owned Business	14	0.8%
Disability-Owned Business	4	0.2%
Identified as Two or MORE DBE Business Types	145	8.1%
Did not identify as a DBE Business	1,342	75.0%
Total	1,786	100.0%

DBE Statistics for Pending & Approved License Applications



Adult Use Agent Applications | October 10, 2024

Total Agent Applications: 80,615

- 194 Total Pending
 - 182 Pending Establishment Agents
 - 12 Pending Laboratory Agents
- 3,833 Withdrawn
- 2,877 Incomplete
- 5,973 Expired
- 44,628 Surrendered
- 6 Denied / 2 Revoked
- **23,102 Active**

Of the 194 Total Pending:

- 19 not yet reviewed
- 166 CCC requested more information
- 9 awaiting third party response
- 0 review complete; awaiting approval



Medical Use Agent Applications | October 10, 2024

The total number of MTC agent applications received by status.

MTC Agent Application	#
Pending MTC Agent Applications	31
Pending Laboratory Agent Applications	0
Incomplete	45
Revoked	13
Denied	31
Surrendered	20,321
Expired	3,283
Active	6,468
Total	30,192

