

ALTERNATIVE THERAPIES GROUP, INC.
MR281255

ESTABLISHMENT OVERVIEW

1. Name of the Marijuana Establishment:

Alternative Therapies Group, Inc.

2. Address of the Marijuana Establishment:

50 Grove Street, Salem, MA 01970

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

Retailer

LICENSING OVERVIEW

4. The licensee was granted a provisional license for this Marijuana Establishment license type on August 23, 2018.
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.
7. No new information has been discovered by Commission staff regarding the suitability of the licensee or the individuals and entities previously disclosed since the issuance of the provisional licenses.

INSPECTION OVERVIEW

8. The initial inspection took place at the facility on September 26, 2018.
9. The licensee's Marijuana Establishment 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 Marijuana Establishment was not in compliance with all applicable state and local codes, bylaws, ordinances, and regulations.
11. Specific information from Commission staff's inspection is highlighted below:

- a. Security

All persons arriving at the establishment must present their patient identification card to a security officer at the front entrance. The security officer then allows customers to enter into the vestibule where they are greeted by security receptionists. The security receptionists verify identification cards and then allow them access onto the sales floor. A visitor log is maintained for all other visitors, with issuance of visitor badges.

All other areas of the building outside of the retail area and a restroom for customers are limited access areas. All doors were locked and could only be opened with an ID badge. All doors had appropriate signage indicating they are limited access areas.

The establishment is equipped with a panic alarm that is wired directly to the Salem Police Department. Burglary and fire alarms are monitored. An establishment representative provided schematic diagrams showing placement of cameras and other security devices in and around the establishment. Enforcement staff inspected the cameras and monitors on site at the establishment. The camera system produces high-quality images. Enforcement staff tested the system and ensured that time and date stamps are accurate, that clear video images are displayed in real time, and that a still photo can be printed from a video file. The establishment's cameras are equipped with 24-hours of battery back-up power supply in case of a power outage. In the event that the power outage is not repaired within that 24-hour window, a portable generator kept on-site is used until power is restored.

- b. Inventory and Storage

The area where marijuana and marijuana products are stored had no visible evidence of pests. The establishment produces all of its products in its inventory at its Amesbury cultivation and production facility. Enforcement staff verified that the establishment has a plan to preserve at least 35% of its inventory for patients.

- c. Cultivation Operation

Not applicable.

- d. Product Manufacturing Operation

Not applicable.

- e. Retail Operation (if applicable)

The retail area is clearly divided by retractable belt-barrier posts into two separate areas, one for medical-use and the other for adult-use. Identification cards for adult-use consumers will be verified by visual inspection as well as hand-held scanners to ensure authenticity. A patient consultation area was created by partitioning a portion of the sales floor.

Enforcement staff reviewed the establishment's consumer education material and verified that it complies with all applicable requirements.

f. Transportation

The establishment has one transportation vehicle that is registered in Massachusetts. It is equipped with a metal cage/storage compartment and GPS tracking. Enforcement staff inspected the vehicle's transport and manifest logs, as well as the establishment's transportation policy, and found them to comply with the Commission's regulations.

RECOMMENDATION

Commission staff recommends issuing a final license for the above Marijuana Establishment 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 and audit to ascertain compliance with the requirements listed in 935 CMR 500.105 through 935 CMR 500.160 as applicable;
3. The licensee remains suitable for licensure pursuant to 935 CMR 500.102(1)(a)(2);
4. The licensee shall cooperate with and provide information to Commission investigators, agents, and employees upon request; and
5. The licensee shall demonstrate that it is in compliance with or has obtained applicable waivers or approvals from the Department of Public Health, as necessary, and provide documents as the Commission may request prior to commencing operations.

This recommendation was based on the licensee's demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth, suitability for licensure, and upon the inspection(s) of the licensee's Marijuana Establishment.

Commission staff certify that a due diligence review of the licensee's Marijuana Establishment was performed. As of this date, the licensee has demonstrated compliance with the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth and suitability for licensure. Accordingly, the licensee is recommended for final licensure for the Marijuana Establishment with the previously mentioned conditions.

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