



Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission

Marijuana Retailer

General Information:

License Number:	MR284765
Original Issued Date:	08/03/2023
Issued Date:	09/12/2024
Expiration Date:	09/17/2025

ABOUT THE MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT

Business Legal Name: ELEVATION RETAIL LLC				
Phone Number: 781-316-7626	Email Address: ANDRE.ARZUMANYAN@GMAIL.COM			
Business Address 1: 2121 PHILLIPS RD.		Business Address 2:		
Business City: NEW BEDFORD	Business State: MA	Business Zip Code: 02740		
Mailing Address 1: 385 GREAT RD.		Mailing Address 2:		
Mailing City: BEDFORD	Mailing State: MA	Mailing Zip Code: 01730		

CERTIFIED DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (DBES)

Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs): Not a DBE

PRIORITY APPLICANT

Priority Applicant: no Priority Applicant Type: Not a Priority Applicant Economic Empowerment Applicant Certification Number: RMD Priority Certification Number:

RMD INFORMATION

Name of RMD:

Department of Public Health RMD Registration Number:

Operational and Registration Status:

To your knowledge, is the existing RMD certificate of registration in good standing?:

If no, describe the circumstances below:

PERSONS WITH DIRECT OR INDIRECT AUTHORITY Person with Direct or Indirect Authority 1

Percentage Of Ownership: 100 Percentage Of Control: 100

Role: Executive / Officer

Other Role:

Date generated: 10/02/2024

First Name: ANDRE	Last Name: ARZUMANYAN	N Suffix:	
Gender: Male	User Define	d Gender:	
What is this person's race or ethn	iicity?: Some Other Race or Et	thnicity	
Specify Race or Ethnicity: ARMEN	VIAN		
ENTITIES WITH DIRECT OR INDIF No records found	ECT AUTHORITY		
CLOSE ASSOCIATES AND MEMB No records found	ERS		
CAPITAL RESOURCES - INDIVIDU Individual Contributing Capital 1	JALS		
First Name: ANDRE	Last Name: ARZUMANYAN	Suffix:	
Types of Capital: Monetary/ Equity	Other Type of Capital:	Total Value of the Capital Provided: \$100000	Percentage of Initial Ca 100
Capital Attestation: Yes			
CAPITAL RESOURCES - ENTITIES No records found	3		
BUSINESS INTERESTS IN OTHER No records found	STATES OR COUNTRIES		
DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL INT Individual 1	ERESTS		
First Name: ANDRE	Last Name: Al	RZUMANYAN Suffix:	
Marijuana Establishment Name:	SOLAR RETAIL NORTON LLC	Business Type: Marijuana Retailer	
Marijuana Establishment City: NO	ORTON	Marijuana Establishment State: MA	
Individual 2			
First Name: ANDRE	Last Name: ARZ	ZUMANYAN Suffix:	
Marijuana Establishment Name:	ELEVATION RETAIL II LLC	Business Type: Marijuana Retailer	
Marijuana Establishment City: FA	IRHAVEN	Marijuana Establishment State: MA	
MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT P Establishment Address 1: 2121 F			
Establishment Address 1: 2121 P	πιιρεικυαυ		
	Establisher	t 7in Codo: 02740	
Establishment City: New Bedford		t Zip Code: 02740	have?
Approximate square footage of the		How many abutters does this property	
Have all property abutters been n	otified of the intent to open a	Marijuana Establishment at this address?:	Yes
HOST COMMUNITY INFORMATIC Host Community Documentation			

 Document Category
 Document Name
 Type
 ID
 Upload Date

 Certification of Host
 Elevation Retail, LLC - HCA Certification Form.pdf
 pdf
 632a0fdb8f0d7a00097a16b8
 09/20/2022

 Community Agreement
 Elevation Retail, LLC - HCA Certification Form.pdf
 pdf
 632a0fdb8f0d7a00097a16b8
 09/20/2022

Plan to Remain Compliant	PLAN TO REMAIN COMPLIANT WITH ZONING -	pdf	632a16028f0d7a00097a2878	09/20/2022
with Local Zoning	ELEVATION RETAIL NEW BEDFORD.pdf			
Community Outreach	ELEVATION RETAIL COMMUNITY OUTREACH	pdf	639262ec5225350008421a37	12/08/2022
Meeting Documentation	PUBLICATION.pdf			
Community Outreach	Community Outreach Meeting Attestation Form -	pdf	639264d7a0fd020008d69d34	12/08/2022
Meeting Documentation	ELEVATION RETAIL - REDACTED.pdf			
Executed HCA	Elevation Retail HCA Signed.pdf	pdf	669ff2934e46b7000914120e	07/23/2024

Total amount of financial benefits accruing to the municipality as a result of the host community agreement. If the total amount is zero, please enter zero and provide documentation explaining this number.: \$

POSITIVE IMPACT PLAN

Positive Impact Plan:

Document Category	Document Name	Туре	ID	Upload Date
Plan for Positive Impact	PLAN TO POSITIVELY IMPACT AREAS OF DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT - ELEVATION RETAIL NEW BEDFORD.pdf	pdf	632a1d44d87e7d0009e90c43	09/20/2022
Plan for Positive Impact	PLAN TO POSITIVELY IMPACT AREAS OF DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT - ELEVATION RETAIL - 2024.pdf	pdf	665747f8d12dec0008cb11cb	05/29/2024

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOTIFICATION

Notification:

INDIVIDUAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION Individual Background Information 1

5			
Role:	Other Role:		
First Name: ANDRE	Last Name: ARZUMANYAN	Suffix:	
RMD Association: Not associated with an RMD			
Background Question: no			

ENTITY BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION No records found

MASSACHUSETTS BUSINESS REGISTRATION

Required Business Documentation:

Document Category	Document Name	Туре	ID	Upload
				Date
Articles of Organization	Elevation Retail Articles of	pdf	632c6ea976c66600080b62d8	09/22/2022
	Incorporation.pdf			
DUA attestation if no employees	ER - MA DUA Attestation.pdf	pdf	63338e1b76c666000811e8e2	09/27/2022
Secretary of Commonwealth - Certificate	SEC ST COGS - ELEVATION	pdf	633c20dc2bb69400085c3e11	10/04/2022
of Good Standing	RETAIL.pdf			
Department of Revenue - Certificate of	DOR COGS - ELEVATION RETAIL	pdf	633c20de76c666000818db5c	10/04/2022
Good standing	2022.09.27.pdf			
Bylaws	6 Elevation Retail LLC Operating	pdf	633c21ff76c666000818dbd4	10/04/2022

Agreement.pdf

Certificates of Good Standing:

Document Category	Document Name	Туре	ID	Upload Date
Department of Unemployment Assistance - Certificate of Good standing	ER DUA GOOD STANDING ATTESTATION.pdf	pdf	66573230368f12000848609c	05/29/2024
Department of Revenue - Certificate of Good standing	ER COGS DOR.pdf	pdf	665dab2d368f1200084cd63c	06/03/2024
Secretary of Commonwealth - Certificate of Good Standing	ER COGS -SOC 2024.pdf	pdf	665dab3dd12dec0008cf4bad	06/03/2024

Massachusetts Business Identification Number: 001470260

Doing-Business-As Name: CANA Craft Cannabis

DBA Registration City: New Bedford

BUSINESS PLAN

Business Plan Documentation:

Document Category	Document Name	Туре	ID	Upload Date
Business Plan	ER - Business Plan.pdf	pdf	6333940576c666000811e9bf	09/27/2022
Plan for Liability Insurance	ER - Plan for Liability Insurance.pdf	pdf	63339ade76c666000811eb51	09/27/2022
Proposed Timeline	ER TIMELINE FOR ACHIEVING OPERATION.pdf	pdf	66573834368f120008486c9c	05/29/2024

OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policies and Procedures Documentation:

Document Category	Document Name	Туре	ID	Upload
				Date
Plan for obtaining marijuana or	7.3 PLAN FOR OBTAINING & MAINTAINING	pdf	63339d9176c666000811ebd9	09/27/2022
marijuana products	SUPPLY.pdf			
Restricting Access to age 21	7.5 RESTRICTING ACCESS TO MINORS AND	pdf	63339dd62bb694000855530d	09/27/2022
and older	THE ILLICIT MARKET.pdf			
Prevention of diversion	7.8 PREVENTION OF DIVERSION.pdf	pdf	63339e202bb694000855533b	09/27/2022
Storage of marijuana	7.9 PLAN FOR STORAGE OF MARIJUANA.pdf	pdf	63339e3176c666000811ebff	09/27/2022
Transportation of marijuana	8 PLAN FOR TRANSPORTATION OF	pdf	63339e3d76c666000811ec13	09/27/2022
	MARIJUANA.pdf			
Inventory procedures	8.1 INVENTORY PROCEDURES.pdf	pdf	63339e4676c666000811ec27	09/27/2022
Quality control and testing	8.2 PLAN FOR QUALITY CONTROL &	pdf	63339e542bb6940008555355	09/27/2022
	TESTING.pdf			
Maintaining of financial records	8.5 PLAN MAINTENANCE OF FINANCIAL	pdf	63339e9a2bb69400085553bb	09/27/2022
	RECORDS.pdf			
Record Keeping procedures	8.6 PLAN FOR RECORD KEEPING	pdf	63339eae76c666000811ec47	09/27/2022
	PROCEDURES.pdf			
Qualifications and training	ER - Qualifications & Training.pdf	pdf	6333a17876c666000811ecd7	09/27/2022
Energy Compliance Plan	ER - Energy Efficiency and Conservation.pdf	pdf	6333a27876c666000811ed03	09/27/2022

Security plan	ELEVATION RETAIL - MRN284765 RFI1 -	pdf	63b3865c52253500085998fa	01/02/2023
	SECURITY PLAN.pdf			
Prevention of diversion	ELEVATION RETAIL - MRN284765 RFI1 -	pdf	63b3875e5225350008599933	01/02/2023
	PREVENTION OF DIVERSION.pdf			
Dispensing procedures	ELEVATION RETAIL - MRN284765 RFI1 -	pdf	63b387b3a0fd020008eddc6d	01/02/2023
	DISPENSING PROCEDURES.pdf			
Personnel policies including	ELEVATION RETAIL - MRN284765 RFI1 -	pdf	63b38840a0fd020008eddc9d	01/02/2023
background checks	PERSONNEL POLICIES.pdf			
Diversity plan	ELEVATION RETAIL - MRN284765 RFI1 -	pdf	63b3930e5225350008599d31	01/02/2023
	DIVERSITY PLAN.pdf			

MARIJUANA RETAILER SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

No documents uploaded

No documents uploaded

ATTESTATIONS

I certify that no additional entities or individuals meeting the requirement set forth in 935 CMR 500.101(1)(b)(1) or 935 CMR 500.101(2)(c)(1) have been omitted by the applicant from any marijuana establishment application(s) for licensure submitted to the Cannabis Control Commission.: | Agree

I understand that the regulations stated above require an applicant for licensure to list all executives, managers, persons or entities having direct or indirect authority over the management, policies, security operations or cultivation operations of the Marijuana Establishment; close associates and members of the applicant, if any; and a list of all persons or entities contributing 10% or more of the initial capital to operate the Marijuana Establishment including capital that is in the form of land or buildings.: | Agree

I certify that any entities who are required to be listed by the regulations above do not include any omitted individuals, who by themselves, would be required to be listed individually in any marijuana establishment application(s) for licensure submitted to the Cannabis Control Commission.: | Agree

Notification:

I certify that any changes in ownership or control, location, or name will be made pursuant to a separate process, as required under 935 CMR 500.104(1), and none of those changes have occurred in this application.: | Agree

I certify that to the best knowledge of any of the individuals listed within this application, there are no background events that have arisen since the issuance of the establishment's final license that would raise suitability issues in accordance with 935 CMR 500.801.: I Agree

I certify that all information contained within this renewal application is complete and true.: I Agree

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOTIFICATION

Notification:

COMPLIANCE WITH POSITIVE IMPACT PLAN - PRE FEBRUARY 27, 2024 No records found

COMPLIANCE WITH DIVERSITY PLAN Diversity Progress or Success 1

Description of Progress or Success: This Marijuana Establishment has not yet commenced operations and, as a result, we have not begun administering our Diversity & Inclusion Plan.

We are committed to implementing the outlined goals and programs once our operations are underway, ensuring we can effectively develop and support a diverse workforce.

Date generated: 10/02/2024

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday From: 9:00 AM	Monday To: 9:00 PM
Tuesday From: 9:00 AM	Tuesday To: 9:00 PM
Wednesday From: 9:00 AM	Wednesday To: 9:00 PM
Thursday From: 9:00 AM	Thursday To: 9:00 PM
Friday From: 9:00 AM	Friday To: 9:00 PM
Saturday From: 9:00 AM	Saturday To: 9:00 PM
Sunday From: 9:00 AM	Sunday To: 9:00 PM



Host Community Agreement Certification Form

Instructions

Certification of a host community agreement is a requirement of the application to become a Marijuana Establishment (ME) and Medical Marijuana Treatment Center (MTC). Applicants must complete items 1-3. The contracting authority for the municipality must complete items 4-8. Failure to complete a section will result in the application not being deemed complete. This form should be completed and uploaded into your application. Please note that submission of information that is "misleading, incorrect, false, or fraudulent" is grounds for denial of an application for a license pursuant to 935 CMR 500.400(2) and 501.400(2).

Certification

The parties listed below do certify that the applicant and municipality have executed a host community agreement on the specified date below pursuant to G.L. c. 94G \S 3(d):

1. Name of applicant:

Elevation Retail, LLC

2. Name of applicant's authorized representative:

Andre Arzumanyon

3. Signature of applicant's authorized representative:

my

4. Name of municipality: City of New Bedford

5. Name of municipality's contracting authority or authorized representative: Hon. Jon Mitchell

1

- 6. Signature of municipality's contracting authority or authorized representative:
- 7. Email address of contracting authority or authorized representative of the municipality (this email address may be used to send municipal notices pursuant to 935 CMR 500.102(1) and 501.102(1).):

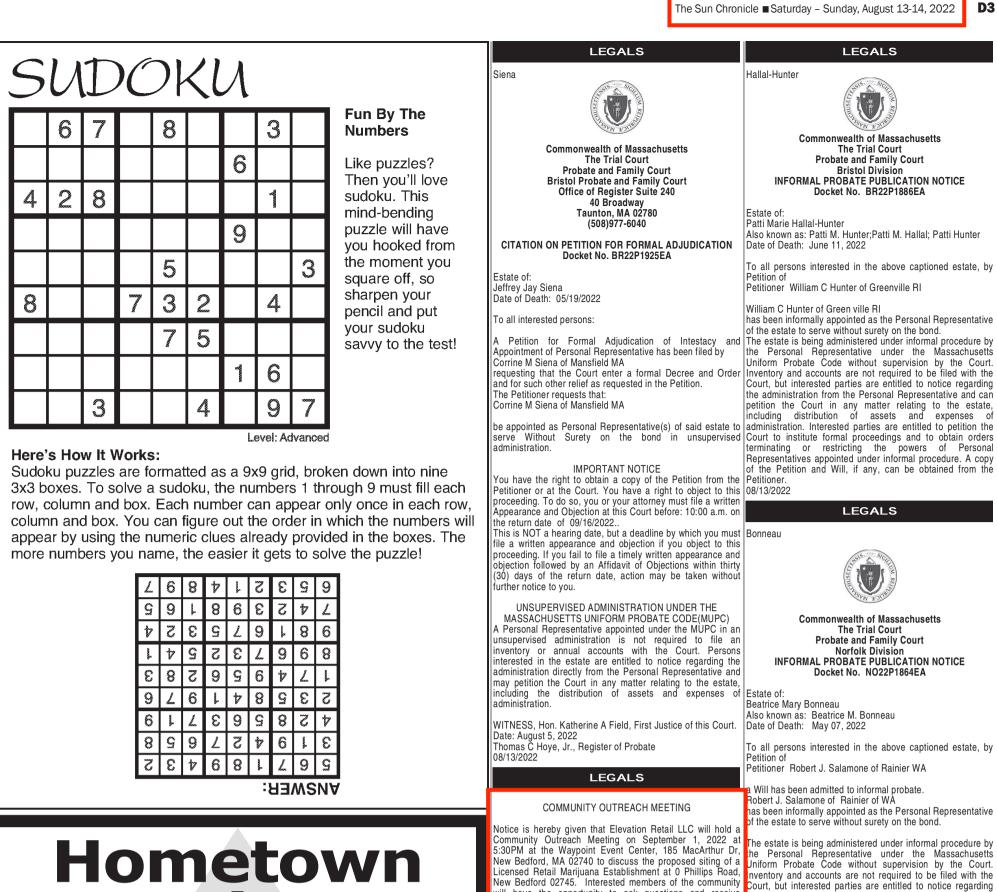
jmitchell@newbedford-ma.gov

Host community agreement execution date:
 6/6/22

PLAN TO REMAIN COMPLIANT WITH ZONING

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") will remain compliant at all times with the local zoning requirements set forth in the City of New Bedford's Zoning By-Law. In accordance with Zoning By-Law Section 4100B, Elevation's proposed marijuana retailer facility is located in the Industrial Zoning District designated for retailer marijuana establishments.

In compliance with Section 4130B, the property is not located within 500 feet of any public or private school providing education in kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12, licensed daycare center, nursery school, preschool, building operated as part of the campus of any private or public institution of higher learning, playground, park, public library, church, excluding chapels located within a cemetery, substance abuse treatment facility. Marijuana Establishment, or Medical Marijuana Treatment Center; or (b) 200 feet of any dwelling or dwelling unit.



Hometown Realtors

Kensington **Real Estate** Brokerage

508.431.1500 Attleboro KensingtonRealEstateBrokerage.com

To advertise in this directory,

NOT SURE WHY

Petitioner. 08/13/2022

he administration from the Personal Representative and can

petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, ncluding distribution of assets and expenses of

administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the

Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Detitioners

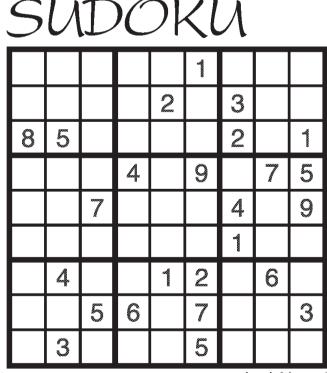
will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive

answers from company representatives about the proposed facility and operations.

08/13/2022

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What matters.



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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ω	5	8	L	6	9	G	S	quux
L	9	ç	S	muh	ε	8	1	6
8	S	b	9	L	Σ	and a	6	G
6	S	4	ε	G	nndu	Z	8	9
ç	L	9	6	8	ţ	S	mah	ε
and	6	2	4	9	L	ε	G	8
9	G	ε	8	2	6	muh	L	t
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Community Outreach Meeting Attestation Form

Instructions

Community Outreach Meeting(s) are a requirement of the application to become a Marijuana Establishment (ME) and Medical Marijuana Treatment Center (MTC). 935 CMR 500.101(1), 500.101(2), 501.101(1), and 501.101(2). The applicant must complete each section of this form and attach all required documents as a single PDF document before uploading it into the application. If your application is for a license that will be located at more than one (1) location, and in different municipalities, applicants must complete two (2) attestation forms – one for each municipality. Failure to complete a section will result in the application not being deemed complete. Please note that submission of information that is "misleading, incorrect, false, or fraudulent" is grounds for denial of an application for a license pursuant to 935 CMR 500.400(2) and 501.400(2).

Attestation

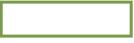
I, the below indicated authorized representative of that the applicant, attest that the applicant has complied with the Community Outreach Meeting requirements of 935 CMR 500.101 and/or 935 CMR 501.101 as outlined below:

- 1. The Community Outreach Meeting was held on the following date(s):
- 2. At least one (1) meeting was held within the municipality where the ME is proposed to be located.
- 3. At least one (1) meeting was held after normal business hours (this requirement can be satisfied along with requirement #2 if the meeting was held within the municipality and after normal business hours).

4. A copy of the community outreach notice containing the time, place, and subject matter of the meeting, including the proposed address of the ME or MTC was published in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality at least 14 calendar days prior to the meeting. A copy of this publication notice is labeled and attached as "Attachment A."



- 5. A copy of the community outreach notice containing the time, place, and subject matter of the meeting, including the proposed address of the ME or MTC was filed with clerk of the municipality. A copy of this filed notice is labeled and attached as "Attachment B."
 - a. Date notice filed:



- 6. A copy of the community outreach notice containing the time, place, and subject matter of the meeting, including the proposed address of the ME or MTC was mailed at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the community outreach meeting to abutters of the proposed address, and residents within 300 feet of the property line of the applicant's proposed location as they appear on the most recent applicable tax list, notwithstanding that the land of the abutter or resident is located in another municipality. A copy of this mailed notice is labeled and attached as "Attachment C." Please redact the name of any abutter or resident in this notice.
 - a. Date notice(s) mailed:
- 7. The applicant presented information at the Community Outreach Meeting, which at a minimum included the following:
 - a. The type(s) of ME or MTC to be located at the proposed address;
 - b. Information adequate to demonstrate that the location will be maintained securely;
 - c. Steps to be taken by the ME or MTC to prevent diversion to minors;
 - d. A plan by the ME or MTC to positively impact the community; and
 - e. Information adequate to demonstrate that the location will not constitute a nuisance as defined by law.
- 8. Community members were permitted to ask questions and receive answers from representatives of the ME or MTC.

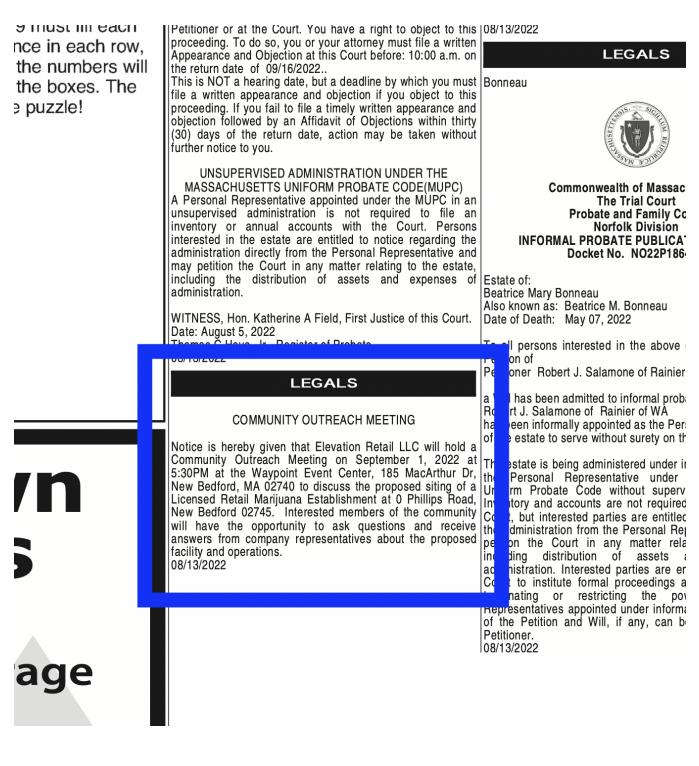
Name of applicant:

Name of applicant's authorized representative:

Signature of applicant's authorized representative:

my

C



August 22, 2022

ATTN: DENNIS FARIAS NEW BEDFORD CITY CLERK 133 William St - Room 118 New Bedford, MA 02740

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

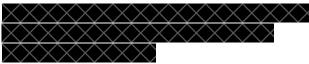
Dear Mr. Farias,

For your reference, notice is hereby given that Elevation Retail LLC will hold a Community Outreach Meeting on September 1, 2022 at 5:30PM at the Waypoint Event Center, 185 MacArthur Dr, New Bedford, MA 02740 to discuss the proposed siting of a Licensed Retail Marijuana Establishment at WS Phillips Road, New Bedford 02745. Interested members of the community will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive answers from company representatives about the proposed facility and operations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any questions or require additional information.

Andre Arzumanyan President, Elevation Retail, LLC (781) 316-7626 andre.arzumanyan@gmail.com

August 22, 2022



NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

erelv.

Andre Arzumanyan President, Elevation Retail, LLC

Elevation Retail, LLC. 385 Great Rd. Bedford, MA 01730

Attachment C

August 22, 2022



STOUGHTON, MA 02072

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sipcerely, my Andre/Arzumanyan

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Siperely, my Andre Arzumanyan

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



STOUGHTON, MA 02072

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sincerely, Andre Arzumanyan

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sincerely,

Andre Arzumanyan President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022

DEDHAM, MA 02026

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sipcerely,

Andre Arzumanyan President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



READING, PA 19612-4115

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

For your records, notice is hereby given that Elevation Retail LLC will hold a Community Outreach Meeting on September 1, 2022 at 5:30PM at the Waypoint Event Center, 185 MacArthur Dr, New Bedford, MA 02740 to discuss the proposed siting of a Licensed Retail Marijuana Establishment at WS Phillips Road, New Bedford 02745. Interested members of the community will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive answers from company representatives about the proposed facility and operations.

Sincerely,

my

Andre Arzumanyan President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



E FREETOWN, MA 02717

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sincerely, Andre Arzumanyah

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022

NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sincerely, min Andre Arzumanyah

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



NEW BEDFORD, MA 02745

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sincerely, min Andre Arzumanyah

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

August 22, 2022



HARVARD, MA 01451

Subject: Community Outreach Public Notice

Dear Resident or Property Owner,

Sincerely, my Andre Arzumanyah

President, Elevation Retail, LLC

PLAN TO POSITIVELY IMPACT AREAS OF DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Overview

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") is dedicated to serving and supporting populations falling within areas of disproportionate impact, which the Commission has identified as the following:

- Past or present residents of the geographic "areas of disproportionate impact," which have been defined by the Commission and identified in its Guidance for Identifying Areas of Disproportionate Impact;
- 2. Commission-designated Economic Empowerment Priority applicants;
- 3. Commission-designated Social Equity Program participants;
- 4. Massachusetts residents who have past drug convictions; and
- 5. Massachusetts residents with parents or spouses who have drug convictions are classified as areas of disproportionate impact.

To support such populations, Elevation has created the following Plan to Positively Impact Areas of Disproportionate Impact (the "Plan") and has identified and created goals/programs to positively impact New Bedford and Fall River.

<u>Goals</u>

In order for Elevation to positively impact New Bedford and Fall River, Elevation has established the following goals:

- 1. To provide continuing service and reinvestment into the identified areas of disproportionate impact through workforce development; and
- 2. To reduce the barrier to entry in the commercial adult use cannabis industry.

Programs

Elevation has developed specific programs to effectuate its stated goals to positively impact New Bedford and Fall River. Such programs will include the following:

- 1. Prioritize the hiring of individuals from our identified areas of disproportionate impact;
- 2. Conducting at least four one-hour industry-specific educational seminars annually across one or more of the following topics: marijuana cultivation, marijuana product manufacturing, marijuana retailing, or marijuana business training; and
- 3. Holding at least one annual informational session regarding the process for sealing and expunging criminal records.

Measurements

The President will administer the Plan and will be responsible for developing measurable outcomes to ensure Elevation continues to meet its commitments. Such measurable outcomes, in accordance with Elevation's goals and programs described above will include:

- 1. Documentation and monitoring of the number of employees hired, retained or promoted that come from areas of disproportionate impact (Elevation will hire at least 10% of their employees from areas of disproportionate impact);
- 2. Documentation of the agendas, presentation material, and handouts that will be available at the seminars;
- 3. Documentation of the newspaper and social media advertisements of the seminars; and
- 4. Documentation and tracking of seminar attendance levels;

The President will review and evaluate Elevation's measurable outcomes no less than annually to ensure that Elevation is meeting its commitments. Elevation is mindful that demonstration of the Plan's progress and success will be submitted to the Commission upon renewal.

<u>Acknowledgements</u>

• Elevation will adhere to the requirements set forth in 935 CMR 500.105(4) which provides the permitted and prohibited advertising, branding, marketing, and sponsorship practices of every Marijuana Establishment.

Any actions taken, or programs instituted, by Elevation will not violate the Commission's regulations with respect to limitations on ownership or control or other applicable state laws.

PLAN TO POSITIVELY IMPACT AREAS OF DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Overview

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") is dedicated to serving and supporting populations falling within areas of disproportionate impact, which the Commission has identified as the following:

- Past or present residents of the geographic "areas of disproportionate impact," which have been defined by the Commission and identified in its Guidance for Identifying Areas of Disproportionate Impact;
- 2. Commission-designated Economic Empowerment Priority applicants;
- 3. Commission-designated Social Equity Program participants;
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- 2. To reduce the barrier to entry in the commercial adult use cannabis industry.

Programs

Elevation has developed specific programs to effectuate its stated goals to positively impact New Bedford and Fall River. Such programs will include the following:

- 1. Prioritize the hiring of individuals from our identified areas of disproportionate impact;
 - a. Elevation plans on advertising employment opportunities across a broad number of outlets that will target the local communities of New Bedford and Fall River. Among them will be prominent job sites such as Indeed.com, the company's social media channels such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, Snapchat, TikTok etc..., local publications such as The Sun Chronicle and Wicked Local, and the local municipalities' news & social media boards.
 - b. Employment opportunities will be posted as positions become available throughout the life of the business, with a large number of openings anticipated in preparation for initial launch and evaluated on a monthly basis.
- 2. Develop and administer industry-specific educational seminars and content across one or more of the following topics: marijuana cultivation, marijuana product manufacturing, marijuana retailing, or marijuana business training; and
 - a. CANA will conduct the educational seminars in compliance with all local and

state regulations and plans on making the sessions available either virtually online or in-person at the company's premises or any other suitable meeting facility, such as a local hotel banquet/conference hall.

- b. The seminars will be advertised and open to the general public and the company will be prepared to accommodate as many attendees as necessary to ensure every interested participant is accommodated. Management anticipates attendance of 50 individuals or fewer for these seminars annually.
- 3. Develop and administer an informational seminar and content regarding the process for sealing and expunging criminal records.
 - a. CANA will develop and promote sealing and expungement seminars in compliance with all local and state regulations and plans on making the program accessible virtually online or in-person at the company's premises or any other suitable meeting facility, such as a local hotel banquet/conference hall.
 - b. The seminars will be advertised and open to the general public and the company will be prepared to accommodate as many attendees as necessary to ensure every interested participant is accommodated. Management anticipates participation of 50 individuals or fewer for these sessions annually.

Measurements

The President will administer the Plan and will be responsible for developing measurable outcomes to ensure Elevation continues to meet its commitments. Such measurable outcomes, in accordance with Elevation's goals and programs described above will include:

- 1. Documentation and monitoring of the number of employees hired, retained or promoted that come from areas of disproportionate impact. Elevation will hire at least 25% of their employees from New Bedford and Fall River;
- 2. Documentation of the agendas, presentation material, and handouts that will be available at the seminars;
- 3. Documentation of the promotion of the seminars; and
- 4. Documentation and tracking of seminar attendance levels;

The President will review and evaluate Elevation's measurable outcomes no less than annually to ensure that Elevation is meeting its commitments. Elevation is mindful that demonstration of the Plan's progress and success will be submitted to the Commission upon renewal.

Acknowledgements

• Elevation will adhere to the requirements set forth in 935 CMR 500.105(4) which provides the permitted and prohibited advertising, branding, marketing, and sponsorship practices of every Marijuana Establishment.

Any actions taken, or programs instituted, by Elevation will not violate the Commission's regulations with respect to limitations on ownership or control or other applicable state laws.

POSITIVE IMPACT PLAN PROGRESS

This Marijuana Establishment has not yet commenced operations and, as a result, we have not begun administering our Plan to Positively Impact Areas of Disproportionate Impact.

We are committed to implementing the outlined goals and programs once our operations are underway, ensuring we can effectively support and serve the designated areas and populations.

A CONTRACTOR OF CONTRACTOR		nwealth of Ma iam Francis G		Minimum Fee: \$500.00		
	Secretary of the C	Commonwealth, Cor	porations Division	1		
	One Ashburton Place, 17th floor					
	Bo	Boston, MA 02108-1512				
CUN WOUS	Tele	Telephone: (617) 727-9640				
Certificate of Organiz	ation					
(General Laws, Chapter)						
Identification Number: 0	01470260					
1. The exact name of the	limited liability co	mpany is: <u>ELEVA</u>	TION RETAIL, I	<u>LC</u>		
2a. Location of its princi	pal office:					
No. and Street:	<u>385 GREAT RD.</u>					
City or Town:	<u>BEDFORD</u>	State: MA	Zip: <u>01730</u>	Country: <u>USA</u>		
2b. Street address of the office in the Commonwealth at which the records will be maintained:						
No. and Street:	385 GREAT RD.					
City or Town:	BEDFORD	State: MA	Zip: <u>01730</u>	Country: <u>USA</u>		
	<u>BEDFORD</u>	State. <u>IVIA</u>	Zip. <u>01730</u>			
3. The general character service, the service to be		the limited liability	company is orga	anized to render professional		
-			\mathbf{A}	<u>R WHICH A CORPORATI</u>		
ON MAY BE ORGANIZ						
		<u>BEREIRIE ERWS</u> ,		<u>.</u>		
4. The latest date of diss	olution, if specified	:				
5. Name and address of t	the Resident Agent:	:				
Name:	ANDRE ARZUM	ANDRE ARZUMANYAN				
No. and Street:	<u>385 GREAT RD.</u>					
City or Town:	BEDFORD	State: <u>MA</u>	Zip: <u>01730</u>	Country: <u>USA</u>		
I, <u>ANDRE ARZUMANYAN</u> resident agent of the above limited liability company, consent to my appointment as the resident agent of the above limited liability company pursuant to G. L. Chapter 156C Section 12.						
6. The name and busines	ss address of each	manager, if any:				
Title	Individu	ual Name	hA	dress (no PO Box)		
		Individual Name First, Middle, Last, Suffix		ity or Town, State, Zip Code		
MANAGER	ANDRE ARZUMANYAN		385 GREAT RD. BEDFORD, MA 01730 USA			
7. The name and business address of the person(s) in addition to the manager(s), authorized to execute documents to be filed with the Corporations Division, and at least one person shall be named if there are no managers.						
Title	Individu	ual Name	Ad	dress (no PO Box)		
		e, Last, Suffix		ity or Town, State, Zip Code		

8. The name and business address of the person(s) authorized to execute, acknowledge, deliver and record any recordable instrument purporting to affect an interest in real property:					
Title	Individual Name	Address (no PO Box)			
	First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code			
REAL PROPERTY	ANDRE ARZUMANYAN	385 GREAT RD. BEDFORD, MA 01730 USA			
9. Additional matters: SIGNED UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY, this 13 Day of November, 2020, <u>ANDRE ARZUMANYAN</u> (The certificate must be signed by the person forming the LLC.)					
© 2001 - 2020 Commonwealth of Massachusetts All Rights Reserved					

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

I hereby certify that, upon examination of this document, duly submitted to me, it appears that the provisions of the General Laws relative to corporations have been complied with, and I hereby approve said articles; and the filing fee having been paid, said articles are deemed to have been filed with me on:

November 13, 2020 02:04 PM

Heterian Frainfalies

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN

Secretary of the Commonwealth



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth State Rouse, Boston, Massachusetts 02133

William Francis Galvin Secretary of the Commonwealth

September 21, 2022

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby certify that a certificate of organization of a Limited Liability Company was filed in this office by

ELEVATION RETAIL, LLC

in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 156C on November 13, 2020.

I further certify that said Limited Liability Company has filed all annual reports due and paid all fees with respect to such reports; that said Limited Liability Company has not filed a certificate of cancellation; that there are no proceedings presently pending under the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 156C, § 70 for said Limited Liability Company's dissolution; and that said Limited Liability Company is in good standing with this office.

I also certify that the names of all managers listed in the most recent filing are: ANDRE ARZUMANYAN

I further certify, the names of all persons authorized to execute documents filed with this office and listed in the most recent filing are: ANDRE ARZUMANYAN

The names of all persons authorized to act with respect to real property listed in the most recent filing are: ANDRE ARZUMANYAN



In testimony of which, I have hereunto affixed the Great Seal of the Commonwealth on the date first above written.

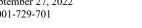
William Travis Galein

Secretary of the Commonwealth

Processed By:SMS



mass.gov/dor



CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING AND/OR TAX COMPLIANCE

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Why did I receive this notice?

BEDFORD MA 01730-2831

The Commissioner of Revenue certifies that, as of the date of this certificate, ELEVATION RETAIL LLC is in compliance with its tax obligations under Chapter 62C of the Massachusetts General Laws.

This certificate doesn't certify that the taxpayer is compliant in taxes such as unemployment insurance administered by agencies other than the Department of Revenue, or taxes under any other provisions of law.

This is not a waiver of lien issued under Chapter 62C, section 52 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

What if I have questions?

If you have questions, call us at (617) 887-6400 or toll-free in Massachusetts at (800) 392-6089, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m..

Visit us online!

Visit mass.gov/dor to learn more about Massachusetts tax laws and DOR policies and procedures, including your Taxpayer Bill of Rights, and MassTaxConnect for easy access to your account:

- Review or update your account
- Contact us using e-message
- Sign up for e-billing to save paper
- Make payments or set up autopay

dud W. Glor

Edward W. Coyle, Jr., Chief Collections Bureau

Limited Liability Company Agreement of ELEVATION RETAIL, LLC. A Single Member Limited Liability Company

THIS OPERATING AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") of ELEVATION RETAIL, LLC., (the "Company"), is executed and agreed to, for good and valuable consideration, by the undersigned members (the "Member").

I. Formation.

A. <u>State of Formation</u>. This is a Limited Liability Company Operating Agreement (the "Agreement") for ELEVATION RETAIL, LLC., a Manager-managed Massachusetts single member limited liability company (the "Company") formed under and pursuant to Massachusetts law.

B. <u>Operating Agreement Controls</u>. To the extent that the rights or obligations of the Members or the Company under provisions of this Operating Agreement differ from what they would be under Massachusetts law absent such a provision, this Agreement, to the extent permitted under Massachusetts law, shall control.

C. <u>Primary Business Address</u>. The location of the primary place of business of the Company is:

242 MANSFIELD AVE., NORTON, Massachusetts 02766, or such other location as shall be selected from time to time by the Member.

D. <u>Registered Agent and Office</u>. The Company's initial agent (the "Agent") for service of process is ANDRE ARZUMANYAN. The Agent's registered office is 385 GREAT RD., BEDFORD, Massachusetts 01730. The Company may change its registered office, its registered agent, or both, upon filing a statement with the Massachusetts Secretary of State.

E. <u>No State Law Partnership</u>. No provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed or construed to constitute a partnership (including, without limitation, a limited partnership) or joint venture, or any Member a partner or joint venturer of or with any other Member, for any purposes other than state tax purposes.

II. Purposes and Powers.

A. <u>Purpose</u>. The Company is created for the following business purpose:

TO ENGAGE IN RETAILING AND ANY LAWFUL ACT OR ACTIVITY FOR WHICH A CORPORATION MAY BE ORGANIZED UNDER MA GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 156D.

B. <u>Powers</u>. The Company shall have all of the powers of a limited liability company set forth under Massachusetts law.

C. <u>Duration</u>. The Company's term shall commence upon the filing of an Articles of Organization and all other such necessary materials with the state of Massachusetts. The Company will operate until terminated as outlined in this Agreement unless:

1. The Member votes to dissolve the Company;

2. No Member of the Company exists, unless the business of the Company is continued in a manner permitted by Massachusetts law;

3. It becomes unlawful for either the Member or the Company to continue in business;

4. A judicial decree is entered that dissolves the Company; or

5. Any other event results in the dissolution of the Company under federal or Massachusetts law.

III. Member.

A. <u>The Member</u>. The sole member of ELEVATION RETAIL, LLC. at the time of adoption of this Agreement is ANDRE ARZUMANYAN (the "Member").

B. <u>Initial Contribution</u>. The Member shall make an Initial Contribution to the Company. The Initial Contributions shall be as described in Attachment A, <u>Initial Contributions of the Member</u>.

No Member shall be entitled to interest on their Initial Contribution. Except as expressly provided by this Agreement, or as required by law, no Member shall have any right to demand or receive the return of their Initial Contribution.

C. <u>Limited Liability of the Member</u>. Except as otherwise provided for in this Agreement or otherwise required by Massachusetts law, no Member shall be personally liable for any acts, debts, liabilities or obligations of the Company beyond their respective Initial Contribution. The Member shall look solely to the Company property for the return of their Initial Contribution, or value thereof, and if the Company property remaining after payment or discharge of the debts, liabilities or obligations of the Company is insufficient to return such Initial Contributions, or value thereof, no Member shall have any recourse against any other Member, if any other Member exists, except as is expressly provided for by this Agreement.

D. <u>Creation or Substitution of New Members</u>. Any Member may assign in whole or in part its Membership Interest only with the prior written consent of all Members.

1. *Entire transfer*. If a Member transfers all of its Membership Interest, the transferee shall be admitted to the Company as a substitute Member upon its execution of an instrument signifying its agreement to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Such admission shall be deemed effective immediately upon the transfer, and, simultaneously, the transferor Member shall cease to be a Member of the Company and shall have no further rights or obligations under this Agreement.

2. *Partial transfer*. If a Member transfers only a portion of its Membership Interest, the transferee shall be admitted to the Company as an additional Member upon its execution of an instrument signifying its agreement to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

3. Whether a substitute Member or an additional Member, absent the written consent of all existing Members of the Company, the transferee shall be a limited Member and possess only the percentage of the monetary rights of the transferor Member that was transferred without any voting power as a Member in the Company.

E. <u>Member Voting</u>.

1. *Voting power*. In the event that the Company has multiple Members simultaneously, the Company's Members shall each have voting power equal to its share of Membership Interest in the Company.

F. <u>Member's Duty to File Notices</u>. The Member shall be responsible for preparation, maintenance, filing and dissemination of all necessary returns, notices, statements, reports, minutes or other information to the Internal Revenue Service, the state of Massachusetts, and any other appropriate state or federal authorities or agencies. Notices shall be filed in accordance with the section titled "Notices" below. The Member may delegate this responsibility to an Officer or a Manager at the Members' sole discretion.

G. <u>Fiduciary Duties of the Members</u>. The Members shall have no fiduciary duties whatsoever, whether to each other or to the Company, unless that Member is a Manager or an Officer of the Company, in which instance they shall owe only the respective fiduciary duties of a Manager or Officer, as applicable. No Member shall bear any liability to the Company or to other present or former Members by reason of being or having been a Member.

IV. Accounting and Distributions.

A. <u>Fiscal Year</u>. The Company's fiscal year shall end on the last day of December.

B. <u>Distributions</u>. Distributions shall be issued, as directed by the Company's Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer, on a monthly basis, based upon the Company's fiscal year. The distribution shall not exceed the remaining net cash of the Company after making appropriate provisions for the Company's ongoing and anticipatable liabilities and expenses. Each Member shall receive a percentage of the overall distribution that matches that Member's percentage of Membership Interest in the Company.

V. Tax Treatment Election.

A. <u>Tax Designation</u>. The Company has or will file with the Internal Revenue Service for treatment as a S-Corporation.

VI. Board of Managers.

A. <u>Creation of a Board of Managers</u>. The Member shall create a board of Managers (the "Board") consisting of Managers appointed at the sole discretion of the Member and headed by the Chairman of the Board. The Member may install itself as a Manager and as the Chairman. The Member may determine at any time in its sole and absolute discretion the number of

Managers to constitute the Board, subject in all cases to any requirements imposed by Massachusetts law. The authorized number of Managers may be increased or decreased by the Member at any time in its sole and absolute discretion, subject to Massachusetts law. Each Manager elected, designated or appointed shall hold office until a successor Manager is elected and qualified or until such Manager's earlier death, resignation or removal.

B. <u>Powers and Operation of the Board of Managers</u>. The Board shall have the power to do any and all acts necessary, convenient or incidental to or for the furtherance of the Company's purposes described herein, including all powers, statutory or otherwise.

1. *Meetings*. The Board may hold meetings, both regular and special, within or outside the state of Massachusetts. Regular meetings of the Board may be held without notice at such time and at such place as shall from time to time be determined by the Board. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairman on not less than one day's notice to each Manager by telephone, facsimile, mail or any other means of communication.

i. At all meetings of the Board, a majority of the Managers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and, except as otherwise provided in any other provision of this Agreement, the act of a majority of the Managers present at any meeting at which there is a quorum shall be the act of the Board. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of the Board, the Managers present at such meeting may adjourn the meeting until a quorum shall be present. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting if all Managers consent thereto in writing, and the writing or writings are filed with the minutes of proceedings of the Board.

ii. Managers may participate in meetings of the Board by means of telephone conference or similar communications equipment that allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other, and such participation in a meeting shall constitute presence in person at the meeting. If all the participants are participating by telephone conference or similar communications equipment, the meeting shall be deemed to be held at the primary business address of the Company.

C. <u>Compensation of Managers</u>. The Board shall have the authority to fix the compensation of Managers. The Managers may be paid their expenses, if any, of attendance at meetings of the Board, which may be a fixed sum for attendance at each meeting of the Board or a stated salary as Manager. No such payment shall preclude any Manager from serving the Company in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefor.

D. <u>Removal of Managers</u>. Unless otherwise restricted by law, any Manager or the entire Board may be removed, with or without cause, by the Member, and any vacancy caused by any such removal may be filled by action of the Member.

E. <u>Managers as Agents</u>. To the extent of their powers set forth in this Agreement, the Managers are agents of the Company for the purpose of the Company's business, and the actions of the Managers taken in accordance with such powers set forth in this Agreement shall bind the Company. Except as provided in this Agreement, no Manager may bind the Company.

F. <u>No Power to Dissolve the Company</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or any provision of law that otherwise so empowers the Board, none of the Board shall be authorized or empowered, nor shall they permit the Company, without the affirmative vote of the Member, to institute proceedings to have the Company be adjudicated bankrupt or insolvent, or consent to the institution of bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings against the Company or file a petition seeking, or consent to, reorganization or relief with respect to the Company under any applicable federal or state law relating to bankruptcy, or consent to the appointment of a receiver, liquidator, assignee, trustee (or other similar official) of the Company or a substantial part of its property, or make any assignment for the benefit of creditors of the Company, or admit in writing the Company's inability to pay its debts generally as they become due, or, to the fullest extent permitted by law, take action in furtherance of any such action.

G. <u>Duties of the Board</u>. The Board and the Member shall cause the Company to do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect its existence, rights (charter and statutory) and franchises. The Board also shall cause the Company to:

1. Maintain its own books, records, accounts, financial statements, stationery, invoices, checks and other limited liability company documents and bank accounts separate from any other person;

2. At all times hold itself out as being a legal entity separate from the Member and any other person and conduct its business in its own name;

3. File its own tax returns, if any, as may be required under applicable law, and pay any taxes required to be paid under applicable law;

4. Not commingle its assets with assets of the Member or any other person, and separately identify, maintain and segregate all Company assets;

5. Pay its own liabilities only out of its own funds, except with respect to organizational expenses;

6. Maintain an arm's length relationship with the Members, and, with respect to all business transactions entered into by the Company with the Member, require that the terms and conditions of such transactions (including the terms relating to the amounts paid thereunder) are the same as would be generally available in comparable business transactions if such transactions were with a person that was not a Member;

7. Pay the salaries of its own employees, if any, out of its own funds and maintain a sufficient number of employees in light of its contemplated business operations;

8. Not guarantee or become obligated for the debts of any other person or hold out its credit as being available to satisfy the obligations of others;

9. Allocate fairly and reasonably any overhead for shared office space;

10. Not pledge its assets for the benefit of any other person or make any loans or advances to any person;

11. Correct any known misunderstanding regarding its separate identity;

12. Maintain adequate capital in light of its contemplated business purposes;

13. Cause its Board to meet or act pursuant to written consent and keep minutes of such meetings and actions and observe all other Massachusetts limited liability company formalities;

14. Make any permitted investments directly or through brokers engaged and paid by the Company or its agents;

15. Not require any obligations or securities of the Member; and

16. Observe all other limited liability formalities.

Failure of the Board to comply with any of the foregoing covenants shall not affect the status of the Company as a separate legal entity or the limited liability of the Member.

H. <u>Prohibited Actions of the Board</u>. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary or any provision of law that otherwise so empowers the Board, none of the Board on behalf of the Company, shall, without the unanimous approval of the Board, do any of the following:

1. Guarantee any obligation of any person;

2. Engage, directly or indirectly, in any business or activity other than as required or permitted to be performed pursuant to the Company's Purpose as described in Section II (A) above; or

3. Incur, create or assume any indebtedness other than as required or permitted to be performed pursuant to the Company's Purpose as described in Section II (A) above.

VII. Officers.

A. <u>Appointment and Titles of Officers</u>. The initial Officers shall be appointed by the Member and shall consist of at least a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Any additional or substitute Officers shall be chosen by the Board. The Board may also choose one or more President, Vice-President, Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers. Any number of offices may be held by the same person. The Board may appoint such other Officers and agents as it shall deem necessary or advisable who shall hold their offices for such terms and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the Board. The Officers and agents of the Company shall hold office until their successors are chosen and qualified. Any Officer elected or appointed by the Member or the Board may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board. Any vacancy occurring in any office of the Company shall be filled by the Board. Unless the Board decides otherwise, if the title of an Officer is one commonly used for officers of a limited liability company formed under Massachusetts law, the assignment of such title shall constitute the delegation to such person of the authorities and duties that are normally associated with that office.

1. *Chairman*. The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Company, shall preside at all meetings of the Board, shall be responsible for the general and active management of the business of the Company and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect. The Chairman shall execute all contracts on behalf of the Company, except:

i. where required or permitted by law or this Agreement to be otherwise signed and executed;

ii. where signing and execution thereof shall be expressly delegated by the Board to some other Officer or agent of the Company.

2. *President*. In the absence of the Chairman or in the event of the Chairman's inability to act, the President shall perform the duties of the Chairman, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Chairman. The President shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.

3. *Vice-Presidents*. In the absence of the Chairman and President or in the event of their inability to act, any Vice-Presidents in the order designated by the Board (or, in the absence of any designation, in the order of their election) shall perform the duties of the Chairman, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the Chairman. Vice-Presidents, if any, shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.

4. Secretary and Assistant Secretary. The Secretary shall be responsible for filing legal documents and maintaining records for the Company. The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Members and record all the proceedings of the meetings of the Company and of the Members in a book to be kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the Members, as required in this Agreement or by Massachusetts law, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board or the Chairman, under whose supervision the Secretary shall serve. The Secretary shall cause to be prepared such reports and/or information as the Company is required to prepare by applicable law, other than financial reports. The Assistant Secretary, or if there be no such determination, then in order of their election), shall, in the absence of the Secretary or in the event of the Secretary's inability to act, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Secretary and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.

5. *Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer*. The Treasurer shall have the custody of the Company funds and securities and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in

books belonging to the Company according to generally accepted accounting practices, using a fiscal year ending on the last day of the month of December. The Treasurer shall deposit all moneys and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the Company in such depositories as may be designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall distribute the Company's profits to the Member. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the Company as may be ordered by the Board and shall render to the Chairman and to the Board, at its regular meetings or when the Board Members so require, an account of all of the Treasurer's transactions and of the financial condition of the Company. As soon as practicable after the end of each fiscal year of the Company, the Treasurer shall prepare a statement of financial condition as of the last day of the Company's fiscal year, and a statement of income and expenses for the fiscal year then ended, together with supporting schedules. Each of said annual statements shall be prepared on an income tax basis and delivered to the Member forthwith upon its preparation. In addition, the Treasurer shall keep all financial records required to be kept pursuant to Massachusetts law. The Assistant Treasurer, or if there shall be more than one, the Assistant Treasurers in the order determined by the Board (or if there be no such determination, then in the order of their election), shall, in the absence of the Treasurer or in the event of the Treasurer's inability to act, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Treasurer and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board may from time to time prescribe.

B. <u>Officers as Agents</u>. The Officers, to the extent of their powers set forth in this Agreement or otherwise vested in them by action of the Board not inconsistent with this Agreement, are agents of the Company for the purpose of the Company's business, and the actions of the Officers taken in accordance with such powers shall bind the Company.

VIII. Fiduciary Duties of the Board and Officers.

A. <u>Loyalty and Care</u>. Except to the extent otherwise provided herein, each Manager and Officer shall have a fiduciary duty of loyalty and care similar to that of managers of business corporations organized under the laws of Massachusetts.

B. <u>Competition with the Company</u>. The Managers and Officers shall refrain from dealing with the Company in the conduct of the Company's business as or on behalf of a party having an interest adverse to the Company unless a majority, by individual vote, of the Board of Managers excluding the interested Manager, consents thereto. The Managers and Officers shall refrain from competing with the Company in the conduct of the Company's business unless a majority, by individual vote, of the Board of Managers excluding the interested Manager, consents thereto.

C. <u>Duties Only to the Company</u>. The Managers' and Officers' fiduciary duties of loyalty and care are to the Company and not to the other Managers or other Officers. The Managers and Officers shall owe fiduciary duties of disclosure, good faith and fair dealing to the Company and to the other Managers, but shall owe no such duties to Officers unless the Officer is a Manager. A Manager or Officer who so performs their duties shall not have any liability by reason of being or having been a Manager or an Officer.

D. <u>Reliance on Reports</u>. In discharging the Manager's or Officer's duties, a Manager or Officer is entitled to rely on information, opinions, reports, or statements, including financial statements and other financial data, if prepared or presented by any of the following:

1. One or more Members, Managers, or employees of the Company whom the Manager reasonably believes to be reliable and competent in the matters presented.

2. Legal counsel, public accountants, or other persons as to matters the Manager or Officer reasonably believes are within the persons' professional or expert competence.

3. A committee of Members or Managers of which the affected Manager or Officer is not a participant, if the Manager or Officer reasonably believes the committee merits confidence.

IX. Dissolution.

A. <u>Limits on Dissolution</u>. The Company shall have a perpetual existence, and shall be dissolved, and its affairs shall be wound up only upon the provisions established in Section II (C) above.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the Bankruptcy of any Member shall not cause such Member to cease to be a Member of the Company and upon the occurrence of such an event, the business of the Company shall continue without dissolution.

Each Member waives any right that it may have to agree in writing to dissolve the Company upon the Bankruptcy of any Member or the occurrence of any event that causes any Member to cease to be a Member of the Company.

B. <u>Winding Up</u>. Upon the occurrence of any event specified in Section II(C), the Company shall continue solely for the purpose of winding up its affairs in an orderly manner, liquidating its assets, and satisfying the claims of its creditors. The Member, or in the event of multiple Members, one or more Members, selected by the remaining Members, shall be responsible for overseeing the winding up and liquidation of the Company, shall take full account of the liabilities of the Company and its assets, shall either cause its assets to be distributed as provided under this Agreement or sold, and if sold as promptly as is consistent with obtaining the fair market value thereof, shall cause the proceeds therefrom, to the extent sufficient therefor, to be applied and distributed as provided under this Agreement.

C. <u>Distributions in Kind</u>. Any non-cash asset distributed to one or more Members in liquidation of the Company shall first be valued at its fair market value (net of any liability secured by such asset that such Member assumes or takes subject to) to determine the profits or losses that would have resulted if such asset were sold for such value, such profit or loss shall then be allocated as provided under this Agreement. The fair market value of such asset shall be determined by the Members or, if any Member objects, by an independent appraiser (any such appraiser must be recognized as an expert in valuing the type of asset involved) approved by the Members.

D. <u>Termination</u>. The Company shall terminate when (i) all of the assets of the Company, after payment of or due provision for all debts, liabilities and obligations of the Company, shall have been distributed to the Member in the manner provided for under this Agreement and (ii)

the Company's registration with the state of Massachusetts shall have been canceled in the manner required by Massachusetts law.

E. <u>Accounting</u>. Within a reasonable time after complete liquidation, the Company Treasurer shall furnish the Members with a statement which shall set forth the assets and liabilities of the Company as at the date of dissolution and the proceeds and expenses of the disposition thereof.

F. <u>Limitations on Payments Made in Dissolution</u>. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Agreement, each Member shall only be entitled to look solely to the assets of the Company for the return of its Initial Contribution and shall have no recourse for its Initial Contribution and/or share of profits (upon dissolution or otherwise) against any other Member, if any other such Member exists.

G. <u>Notice to Massachusetts Authorities</u>. Upon the winding up of the Company, the Member with the highest percentage of Membership Interest in the Company shall be responsible for the filing of all appropriate notices of dissolution with Massachusetts and any other appropriate state or federal authorities or agencies as may be required by law.

X. Exculpation and Indemnification.

A. No Member, Manager, Officer, employee or agent of the Company and no employee, agent or affiliate of a Member (collectively, the "Covered Persons") shall be liable to the Company or any other person who has an interest in or claim against the Company for any loss, damage or claim incurred by reason of any act or omission performed or omitted by such Covered Person in good faith on behalf of the Company and in a manner reasonably believed to be within the scope of the authority conferred on such Covered Person by this Agreement, except that a Covered Person shall be liable for any such loss, damage or claim incurred by reason of such Covered Person's gross negligence or willful misconduct.

B. To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, a Covered Person shall be entitled to indemnification from the Company for any loss, damage or claim incurred by such Covered Person by reason of any act or omission performed or omitted by such Covered Person in good faith on behalf of the Company and in a manner reasonably believed to be within the scope of the authority conferred on such Covered Person by this Agreement. Expenses, including legal fees, incurred by a Covered Person defending any claim, demand, action, suit or proceeding shall be paid by the Company. The Covered Person shall be liable to repay such amount if it is determined that the Covered Person is not entitled to be indemnified as authorized in this Agreement. No Covered Person shall be entitled to be indemnified in respect of any loss, damage or claim incurred by such Covered Person by reason of such Covered Person's gross negligence or willful misconduct with respect to such acts or omissions. Any indemnity under this Agreement shall be provided out of and to the extent of Company assets only.

C. A Covered Person shall be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the records of the Company and upon such information, opinions, reports or statements presented to the Company by any person as to matters the Covered Person reasonably believes are within such other person's professional or expert competence and who has been selected with reasonable care by or on behalf of the Company, including information, opinions, reports or statements as to the value

and amount of the assets, liabilities, or any other facts pertinent to the existence and amount of assets from which distributions to the Member might properly be paid.

D. To the extent that, at law or in equity, a Covered Person has duties (including fiduciary duties) and liabilities relating thereto to the Company or to any other Covered Person, a Covered Person acting under this Agreement shall not be liable to the Company or to any other Covered Person for its good faith reliance on the provisions of this Agreement. The provisions of the Agreement, to the extent that they restrict the duties and liabilities of a Covered Person otherwise existing at law or in equity, are agreed by the Member to replace such other duties and liabilities of such Covered Person.

E. The foregoing provisions of this Article X shall survive any termination of this Agreement.

XI. Insurance.

The Company shall have the power to purchase and maintain insurance, including insurance on behalf of any Covered Person against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such Covered Person in any such capacity, or arising out of such Covered Person's status as an agent of the Company, whether or not the Company would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of Article X or under applicable law.

XII. General Provisions.

A. <u>Notices</u>. All notices, offers or other communications required or permitted to be given pursuant to this Agreement shall be in writing and may be personally served or sent by United States mail and shall be deemed to have been given when delivered in person or three (3) business days after deposit in United States mail, registered or certified, postage prepaid, and properly addressed, by or to the appropriate party.

B. <u>Number of Days</u>. In computing the number of days (other than business days) for purposes of this Agreement, all days shall be counted, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays; provided, however, that if the final day of any time period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday on which national banks are or may elect to be closed, then the final day shall be deemed to be the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or such holiday.

C. <u>Execution of Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original, and all of which shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

D. <u>Severability</u>. The provisions of this Agreement are independent of and separable from each other, and no provision shall be affected or rendered invalid or unenforceable by virtue of the fact that for any reason any other or others of them may be invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part.

E. <u>Headings</u>. The Article and Section headings in this Agreement are for convenience and they form no part of this Agreement and shall not affect its interpretation.

F. <u>Controlling Law</u>. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in all respects in accordance with the laws of the state of Massachusetts (without regard to conflicts of law principles thereof).

G. <u>Application of Massachusetts Law</u>. Any matter not specifically covered by a provision of this Agreement shall be governed by the applicable provisions of Massachusetts law.

H. <u>Amendment</u>. This Agreement may be amended only by written consent of the Board and the Member. Upon obtaining the approval of any such amendment, supplement or restatement as to the Certificate, the Company shall cause a Certificate of Amendment or Amended and Restated Certificate to be prepared, executed and filed in accordance with Massachusetts law.

I. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement contains the entire understanding among the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous agreements and understandings, inducements or conditions, express or implied, oral or written, except as herein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Member has executed and agreed to this Limited Liability Company Apperating Agreement, which shall be effective as of August 10, 2020.

8/10/2022 my - Date: By:

ATTACHMENT A *Initial Contributions of the Member*

The Initial Contributions of the Member of ELEVATION RETAIL, LLC. are as follows:

ANDRE ARZUMANYAN Contribution: REAL PROPERTY valued at \$100,000.00 SERVICES valued at \$400,000.00

Elevation Retail LLC

BUSINESS PLAN

September 2022

Business Plan Table of Contents

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- 3. MARKET RESEARCH
- 4. PRODUCTS & SERVICES
- 5. SALES & MARKETING
- 6. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS
- 7. TEAM
- 8. FINAL REMARKS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mission Statement

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") is a local, community focused operator led by an experienced management team with a demonstrated track record of professional Marijuana Establishment operations. The Company's mission is to be a model corporate citizen in the communities in which we have the privilege and benefit of operating by creating an inclusive and positive environment that provides consistent, high quality alternative therapy and wellness products to consumers who are 21 years of age or older.

Our Products

Elevation will offer a variety of cannabis products that will be compliant with the guidelines and regulations set out by the Commonwealth. In addition to traditional sativa, indica, and hybrid cannabis flower, Elevation will offer a range of products and services that will allow the company to serve its customers. Products Elevation intends to offer include, but may not be limited to:

- 1. Cannabis Flower and Prerolls
- 2. Concentrates and Vape Cartridges
- 3. Tinctures, Edibles, Tablets and Beverages
- 4. Topical Salves, Creams, Lotions, Patches and Sprays

What Drives Us

- 1. Delivering the highest quality alternative therapy and wellness products with passionate and knowledgeable customer service.
- 2. Hiring employees and contractors from the New Bedford community;
- 3. Hiring employees and contractors from New Bedford and the surrounding area that have been particularly harmed by the war on drugs;
- 4. Hiring employees from New Bedford and surrounding economically distressed communities and giving them the space and knowledge to flourish professionally within Elevation and the cannabis industry as a whole;
- 5. Having a diverse and socially representative pool of employees;
- 6. Serving customers 21 years of age or older with a wide variety of high quality products that are safe, effective and consistent;
- 7. Supporting and assisting local communities, including in offsetting the cost of Elevation's operations within their communities; and

8. Empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs and leaders through hiring, training, and teaching;

2. COMPANY OVERVIEW

Introduction

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") is a local, community focused operator led by an experienced management team with a demonstrated track record of professional Marijuana Establishment operations. The Company is seeking to operate An Adult Use Marijuana Establishment on Mansfield Road and is committed to creating an inclusive and positive community environment in the City of New Bedford, providing consistent, high quality alternative therapy and wellness products to consumers who are 21 years of age or older. Elevation will bring its experience, with extensive technical, intellectual, and human resources to the development, startup and operations of a Marijuana Establishment in the City of New Bedford.

Operations

Elevation will operate under its comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures for all facets of the company's operations including inventory controls and security procedures for the adult use distribution of marijuana products.

No marijuana products will be sold or otherwise marketed that are not tested by Independent Testing Laboratories, except as allowed under 935 CMR 500.000.

Elevation will maintain records, which are available for inspection by the Commission and the City of New Bedford upon request. The records are maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Elevation will obtain and maintain general liability insurance coverage for no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in aggregate, annually, and product liability insurance coverage for no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in aggregate, annually, except as provided in 935 CMR 500.105(10)(b) or otherwise approved by the Commission. The deductible for each policy will be no higher than \$5,000 per occurrence. Additionally, Elevation registered agents will comply with all local rules, regulations, ordinances, and bylaws.

Security

Elevation has contracted with a professional security and alarm company to

design, implement, and monitor a comprehensive security plan to ensure that the facility is a safe and secure environment for employees and the local community. Elevation's state-of-the-art security system will consist of perimeter windows, as well as duress, panic, and holdup alarms connected to local law enforcement for efficient notification and response in the event of a security threat. The system will also include a failure notification system that will immediately alert the executive management team if a system failure occurs.

A redundant alarm system will be installed to ensure that active alarms remain operational if the primary system is compromised.

Interior and exterior HD video surveillance of all areas that contain marijuana, entrances, exits, and parking lots will be operational 24/7 and available to the New Bedford Police Department. These surveillance cameras will remain operational even in the event of a power outage.

The exterior of the dispensary and surrounding area will be sufficiently lit, and foliage will be minimized to ensure clear visibility of the area at all times.

Only Elevation's registered agents and other authorized visitors (e.g. contractors, vendors) will be allowed access to the facility, and a visitor log will be maintained in perpetuity.

All agents and visitors will be required to visibly display an ID badge, and Elevation will maintain a current list of individuals with access.

On-site consumption of marijuana by Elevation's employees and visitors will be prohibited and Elevation will have security personnel on-site during business hours.

Benefits to the City of New Bedford

Elevation will work cooperatively with the City of New Bedford, which approved the 2016 Ballot Question 4 legalizing adult use marijuana. To ensure that Elevation operates as a responsible corporate citizen of the New Bedford community, Elevation will work to establish a mutually beneficial relationship with the City for granting Elevation the right to site and operate in the City of New Bedford. As a result, the City stands to benefit in various ways, including but not limited to the following:

- Jobs:
 - A dispensary will add dozens of full-time and part time jobs, in addition to

hiring qualified, local contractors and vendors from New Bedford.

- Monetary Benefits:
 - A Host Community Agreement with significant monetary contributions and donations will provide the City with additional financial benefits beyond local property taxes.
- Access to Quality Product:
 - Elevation will allow qualified consumers in the New Bedford and surrounding areas to have access to high quality cannabis flower and products that are tested for cannabinoid content and contaminants.
- Control:
 - In addition to the Cannabis Commission, the New Bedford Police Department and other municipal departments will have oversight over Elevation's security and fire prevention systems and processes.

Responsibility:

 Elevation is led by experienced Marijuana Establishment management, who have been thoroughly background checked and evaluated by the Commission to meet and exceed the stringent criteria set forth by the CCC.

• Economic Development:

 Elevation's involvement and economic activity in the New Bedford community will contribute to the revitalization of the area at the currently vacant industrial site, and contribute to the overall economic development of the local community.

<u>Zoning</u>

To be located in a new 3,000 sq. ft. building at 0 WS Phillips Road, the proposed adult use retail establishment complies with all New Bedford zoning requirements and bylaws and will include sufficient on site and accessory parking for customers and employees.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, the property is not located within 500 feet of any public or private school providing education in kindergarten or any of grades 1 through 12 or a licensed daycare center, nursery school, preschool, building operated as part of the campus of any private or public institution of higher learning, playground, park, public library, church, excluding chapels located within a cemetery, substance abuse treatment facility. Marijuana Establishment, or Medical Marijuana Treatment Center.

3. MARKET RESEARCH

Industry

The Cannabis Industry is among the fastest growing industries in the United States with sales revenues continuing to increase each year and conservative estimates of \$18-\$20 billion in US annual sales of cannabis in 2021 alone. Estimates for the Massachusetts legal cannabis market range from \$1.4B - \$1.6B in 2022 (Source: ArcView Market Research and New Frontier) and New Bedford has the opportunity to participate in its share of the market in the Commonwealth.

Customers

Elevation's target customers include adults 21 years of age and older seeking high quality alternative therapy and wellness cannabis products in a friendly and knowledgeable environment.

Competitors

Elevation's competitors include other local, regional, and national cannabis dispensary operators operating in New Bedford and the Commonwealth.

Competitive Advantage

Elevation's competitive advantages include an experienced leadership and operations team with years of professional marijuana establishment operations experience.

Additionally, the company has existing relationships with wholesale providers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and has arranged for favorable long term product and inventory supply agreements, giving Elevation stability over it's supply chain and the quality of products available for consumers.

Finally, Elevation meticulously selects the locations at which it seeks to operate, focusing on high-traffic, high-visibility sites that work well within the local community ecosystems and will stand the test of time of the rapidly changing state of the legal cannabis industry in Massachusetts.

Regulations

Elevation is a Marijuana Establishment, consistent with the objectives of St. 2016, c. 334, as amended by St. 2017, c. 55 and 935 CMR 500.000.

Elevation is registered to do business in the Commonwealth as a domestic business corporation and will maintain the corporation in good standing with the Massachusetts Secretary of the Commonwealth and the Department of Revenue.

Elevation will apply for all state and local permits and approvals required to build and operate the facility in New Bedford

Elevation will also work cooperatively with various municipal departments in the City of New Bedford to ensure that the proposed facility complies with all state and local codes, rules and regulations with respect to design, construction, operation, and security.

4. PRODUCTS & SERVICES

The core products available for sale will be high quality cannabis flower and cannabis derivative products, which will come in a variety of strains and product types. Elevation will also engage in the sale of marijuana related products, such as accessories and hardware.

4.2 Pricing Structure

Elevation's pricing structure will vary based on market conditions and the company plans to market products of superior quality at value-based pricing and will price its products accordingly.

5. SALES & MARKETING

5.1 Growth Strategy

Elevation will seek additional, high quality locations in the surrounding area to expand business and reach an increasing number of legal marijuana customers in the near future. Elevation's plan to grow the company includes:

- 1. Obsessive focus on the customer experience;
- 2. Strong and consistent branding and value proposition;
- 3. Passionate and thoughtful staff of industry professionals;
- 4. Intelligent, targeted, and compliant marketing;

5.2 Communication

Elevation will engage in reasonable marketing, advertising, and branding practices that do not jeopardize the public health, welfare, or safety of the general

public, or promote the diversion of marijuana or marijuana use in individuals younger than 21 years old. Any such marketing, advertising, and branding created for viewing by the public will include the statement: "Please Consume Responsibly," in a conspicuous manner on the face of the advertisement and will include a minimum of two of the warnings, located at 935 CMR 500.105(4)(a), in their entirety in a conspicuous manner on the advertisement.

All marketing, advertising, and branding produced by or on behalf of Elevation will include the following warning, including capitalization, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 94G, § 4(a1/2)(xxvi): "This product has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is limited information on the side effects of using this product, and there may be associated health risks. Marijuana use during pregnancy and breast-feeding may pose potential harms. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. The impairment effects of edible marijuana may be delayed by two hours or more. In case of accidental ingestion, contact poison control hotline 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. This product may be illegal outside of MA."

Elevation will communicate with customers through:

- 1. A company run website;
- 2. The company's social media assets such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat;
- 3. Popular cannabis discovery networks such as WeedMaps and Leafly;
- 4. Opt-in direct communication channels such as SMS and Email;

Elevation will provide a real-time catalogue and a printed list of the prices and products available to consumers and will post the same catalogue and list on its website and in the retail store.

5.3 Sales

Elevation will sell its products and services by engaging customers with knowledgeable in-store personnel.

Elevation will seek events where 85% or more of the audience is reasonably expected to be 21 years of age or older, as determined by reliable, current audience composition data. At these events, Elevation will market its products and services to reach a wide range of qualified consumers.

The company will ensure that all marijuana products that are provided for sale to consumers are sold in tamper or child-resistant packaging. Packaging for marijuana products sold or displayed for consumers, including any label or imprint affixed to any packaging containing marijuana products or any exit packages, will not be attractive to minors.

Packaging for marijuana products sold or displayed for consumers in multiple servings will allow a consumer to easily perform the division into single servings and include the following statement on the exterior of the package in a printed font that is no smaller than ten-point Times New Roman, Helvetica, or Arial, including capitalization: "INCLUDES MULTIPLE SERVINGS." Elevation will not sell multiple serving beverages and each single serving of an edible marijuana product contained in a multiple-serving package will be marked, stamped, or otherwise imprinted with the symbol issued by the Commission under 935 CMR 500.105(5) that indicates that the single serving is a marijuana product. At no point will an individual serving size of any marijuana product contain more than five (5) milligrams of delta-nine tetrahydrocannabinol.

5.4 Logo

Elevation has developed a logo to be used in labeling, signage, and other materials such as letterhead and distributed materials. The logo is discreet, unassuming, and does not use medical symbols, images of marijuana or related paraphernalia.

	First Full Fiscal Year Projections	Second Full Fiscal Year Projections	Third Full Fiscal Year Projections	Fourth Full Fiscal Year Projections	Fifth Full Fiscal Year Projections
	2023	20234	2025	2026	2027
Avg. Monthly Visits	18,092	19,359	20,714	22,164	23,494
Annual Revenue	\$ 17,585,610	\$ 18,816,603	\$ 20,133,765	\$ 21,543,128	\$ 22,835,716
Total Expenses	\$ 10,109,389	\$ 10,817,047	\$ 11,574,240	\$ 12,384,437	\$ 13,127,503
Est. HCA Impact Fee (3%)	\$ 527,568	\$ 564,498	\$ 604,013	\$ 646,294	\$ 685,071
Optional Local Sales Tax (3%)	\$ 527,568	\$ 564,498	\$ 604,013	\$ 646,294	\$ 685,071
Total Revenues to New Bedford	<mark>\$ 1,055,137</mark>	<mark>\$ 1,128,996</mark>	<mark>\$ 1,208,026</mark>	<mark>\$ 1,292,588</mark>	<mark>\$ 1,370,143</mark>

6. FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS SUMMARY

7. LEADERSHIP

Elevation is led by Andre Arzumanyan, who is an experienced cannabis operator, and has assembled an experienced team to implement the operations of the dispensary. We intend to create 36 - 42 full and part time staff positions within the first three years of operations in the City of New Bedford. No individual on the Elevation team is a controlling individual with more than three licenses in a particular class of license and no manager, director, officer, investor, or other individual affiliated with the company has been convicted of any criminal disqualifying conditions, offenses, and violations pursuant to 935 CMR 500.

Andre Arzumanyan: (President, Elevation Retail LLC)

Andre is an experienced executive and operator with nearly two decades of demonstrated leadership in the services, hospitality, and information technology industries. Prior to Elevation, Andre spent over two years leading Business and Community Development at Solar Therapeutics, Inc., overseeing all facets of the company's retail business launch and expansion into a multi-location, and soon to be multi-state, operator. Skilled in Management, Retail Operations, Business Development, Enterprise Software, E-commerce, and Strategic Planning, Andre enjoys reading and being outdoors and holds a BS in Economics from the University of New Hampshire.

8. FINAL REMARKS

Elevation will be a local community-focused partner first, and an experienced, professional operator second. In addition to partnering on favorable host community agreements with municipalities, Elevation seeks out high-impact charitable donations and volunteering opportunities within the local communities in which we have the responsibility of operating.

Our company is dedicated to promoting equity in its operations for diverse populations, such as minorities, women, veterans, people with disabilities, and people of all gender identities and sexual orientations and Elevation makes commitments in spirit and practice to prioritize hiring and doing business locally by proactively selecting members of the New Bedford community in hiring and selection of vendors to support operations. The legal cannabis market promises to be one of the fastest growing industries in New Bedford and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Elevation will position itself to be a regional market leader in the City of New Bedford. Elevation welcomes the opportunity to better understand the City of New Bedford's vision for the emerging cannabis industry and we look forward to the opportunity of being an engaged, contributing member of the New Bedford Community.

PLAN FOR LIABILITY INSURANCE

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") plans to contract with Nationwide to maintain general liability insurance coverage for no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in aggregate annually and product liability coverage for no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence & \$2,000,000 in aggregate annually. The policy deductible will be no higher than \$5,000 per occurrence. Elevation will consider additional coverage based on availability & cost-benefit analysis. If adequate coverage is unavailable at a reasonable rate, Elevation will place in escrow at least \$250,000 to be expended for liabilities coverage. Any withdrawal from such escrow will be replenished within 10 business days. Elevation will keep reports documenting compliance with 935 CMR 500.105(10).

RESTRICTING ACCESS TO MINORS AND THE ILLICIT MARKET

Pursuant to 935 CMR 500.050(5)(b), Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") will only be accessible to consumers 21 years of age or older with a verified and valid, government-issued photo ID.

Upon entry into the premises of the marijuana establishment by an individual, a Elevation agent will immediately inspect the individual's proof of identification and determine the individual's age, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.140(2).

In the event Elevation discovers any of its agents intentionally or negligently sold marijuana to an individual under the age of 21, the agent will be immediately terminated and the Commission will be promptly notified, pursuant to 935 CMR 500.105(1)(I). Elevation will not hire any individuals who are under the age of 21 or who have been convicted of distribution of controlled substances to minors, pursuant to 935 CMR 500.030(1).

Pursuant to 935 CMR 500.105(4), Elevation will not engage in any marketing, advertising or branding practices that are targeted to, deemed to appeal to or portray minors under the age of 21. Elevation will not engage in any advertising, marketing and branding by means of television, radio, internet, mobile applications, social media, or other electronic communication, billboard or other outdoor advertising, including charitable, sporting or similar events, unless at least 85% of the audience is reasonably expected to be 21 years of age or older as determined by reliable and current audience composition data. Elevation will not manufacture or sell any edible products that resemble a realistic or fictional human, animal or fruit, including artistic, caricature or cartoon renderings, pursuant to 935 CMR 500.150(1)(b). In accordance with 935 CMR 500.105(4)(a)(5), any marketing, advertising, and branding materials for public viewing will include a warning stating, "For use only by adults 21 years of age or older. Keep out of the reach of children. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of marijuana." Pursuant to 935 CMR 500.105(6)(b), Elevation packaging for any marijuana or marijuana products will not use bright colors, resemble existing branded products, feature cartoons or celebrities commonly used to market products to minors, feature images of minors or other words that refer to products commonly associated with minors or otherwise be attractive to minors. Elevation's website will require all online visitors to verify they are 21 years of age or older prior to accessing the website, in accordance with 935 CMR 500.105(4)(b)(13).

QUALITY CONTROL & TESTING

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") will comply with the following sanitary requirements:

- 1. Any Elevation agent whose job includes contact with marijuana or nonedible marijuana products, including cultivation, production, or packaging, is subject to the requirements for food handlers specified in 105 CMR 300.000, and all edible marijuana products will be prepared, handled, and stored in compliance with the sanitation requirements in 105 CMR 500.000, and with the requirements for food handlers specified in 105 CMR 300.000.
- Any Elevation agent working in direct contact with preparation of marijuana or nonedible marijuana products will conform to sanitary practices while on duty, including:
 - a. Maintaining adequate personal cleanliness; and
 - b. Washing hands thoroughly in an adequate hand-washing area before starting work, and at any other time when hands may have become soiled or contaminated.
- 3. Elevation's hand-washing facilities will be adequate and convenient and will be furnished with running water at a suitable temperature. Hand- washing facilities will be located in Elevation's production areas and where good sanitary practices require employees to wash and sanitize their hands and will provide effective hand- cleaning and sanitizing preparations and sanitary towel service or suitable drying devices;
- 4. Elevation's facility will have sufficient space for placement of equipment and storage of materials as is necessary for the maintenance of sanitary operations;
- Elevation will ensure that litter and waste is properly removed and disposed of so as to minimize the development of odor and minimize the potential for the waste attracting and harboring pests. The operating systems for waste disposal will be maintained in an adequate manner pursuant to 935 CMR 500.105(12);
- 6. Elevation's floors, walls, and ceilings will be constructed in such a manner that they may be adequately kept clean and in good repair;
- 7. Elevation's facility will have adequate safety lighting in all processing and storage areas, as well as areas where equipment or utensils are cleaned;
- 8. Elevation's buildings, fixtures, and other physical facilities will be maintained in a sanitary condition;
- 9. Elevation will ensure that all contact surfaces, including utensils and equipment, will be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Such surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized as frequently as necessary to protect against contamination, using a sanitizing agent registered by the US Environmental

Protection Agency (EPA), in accordance with labeled instructions. Equipment and utensils will be so designed and of such material and workmanship as to be adequately cleanable;

- 10. All toxic items will be identified, held, and stored in a manner that protects against contamination of marijuana products;
- 11. Elevation will ensure that its water supply is sufficient for necessary operations, and that such water supply is safe and potable;
- 12. Elevation's plumbing will be of adequate size and design, and adequately installed and maintained to carry sufficient quantities of water to required locations throughout the marijuana establishment. Plumbing will properly convey sewage and liquid disposable waste from the marijuana establishment. There will be no cross-connections between the potable and wastewater lines;
- 13. Elevation will provide its employees with adequate, readily accessible toilet facilities that are maintained in a sanitary condition and in good repair;
- 14. Elevation will hold all products that can support the rapid growth of undesirable microorganisms in a manner that prevents the growth of these microorganisms; and
- 15. Elevation will store and transport finished products under conditions that will protect them against physical, chemical, and microbial contamination, as well as against deterioration of finished products or their containers.

Elevation's vehicles and transportation equipment used in the transportation of marijuana products or edibles requiring temperature control for safety will be designed, maintained, and equipped as necessary to provide adequate temperature control to prevent the marijuana products or edibles from becoming unsafe during transportation, consistent with applicable requirements pursuant to 21 CFR 1.908(c).

Elevation will ensure that Elevation's facility is always maintained in a sanitary fashion and will comply with all applicable sanitary requirements.

Elevation will follow established policies and procedures for handling voluntary and mandatory recalls of marijuana products. Such procedures are sufficient to deal with recalls due to any action initiated at the request or order of the Commission, and any voluntary action by Elevation to remove defective or potentially defective marijuana products from the market, as well as any action undertaken to promote public health and safety.

Any inventory that becomes outdated, spoiled, damaged, deteriorated, mislabeled, or contaminated will be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of 935 CMR 500.105(12), and any such waste will be stored, secured, and managed in accordance

with applicable state and local statutes, ordinances, and regulations.

Elevation will not sell or otherwise market marijuana or marijuana products that are not capable of being tested by Independent Testing Laboratories, except as allowed under 935 CMR 500.000. No marijuana product will be sold or otherwise marketed for adult use that has not first been tested by an Independent Testing Laboratory and deemed to comply with the standards required under 935 CMR 500.160. Testing of Elevation's marijuana products will be performed by an Independent Testing Laboratory in compliance with the Protocol for Sampling and Analysis of Finished Medical Marijuana Products and Marijuana-infused Products, as amended in November 2016, published by the DPH.

Testing of Elevation's environmental media will be performed in compliance with the Protocol for Sampling and Analysis of Environmental Media for Massachusetts Registered Medical Marijuana Dispensaries published by the DPH.

Elevation's policy of responding to laboratory results that indicate contaminant levels are above acceptable limits established in the DPH protocols identified in 935 CMR 500.160(1) includes notifying the Commission within 72 hours of any laboratory testing results indicating that the contamination cannot be remediated and disposing of the production batch. Such notification will describe a proposed plan of action for both the destruction of the contaminated product and the assessment of the source of contamination.

Elevation will maintain testing results in compliance with 935 CMR 500.000 *et seq* and the record keeping policies described herein and will maintain the results of all testing for no less than one year.

All transportation of marijuana to and from Independent Testing Laboratories providing marijuana testing services will comply with 935 CMR 500.105(13). All storage of Elevation's marijuana at a laboratory providing marijuana testing services will comply with 935 CMR 500.105(11). All excess marijuana will be disposed of in compliance with 935 CMR 500.105(12), either by the Independent Testing Laboratory returning excess marijuana to Elevation for disposal or by the Independent Testing Laboratory disposing of it directly.

MAINTENANCE OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

Elevation operating policies and procedures ensure financial records are accurate and maintained in compliance with the Commission's Adult Use of Marijuana regulations (935 CMR 500). Financial records maintenance measures include policies and procedures requiring that:

- Confidential information will be maintained in a secure location, kept separate from all other records, and will not be disclosed without the written consent of the individual to whom the information applies, or as required under law or pursuant to an order from a court of competent jurisdiction; provided however, the Commission may access this information to carry out its official duties.
- All recordkeeping requirements under 935 CMR 500.105(9) are followed, including:
 - Keeping written business records, available for inspection, and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, which will include manual or computerized records of:
 - Assets and liabilities;
 - Monetary transactions;
 - Books of accounts, which will include journals, ledgers, and supporting documents, agreements, checks, invoices, and vouchers;
 - Sales records including the quantity, form, and cost of marijuana products; and
 - Salary and wages paid to each employee and any executive compensation, bonus, benefit, or item of value paid to any individual affiliated with a marijuana establishment, including members, if any.
- All sales recording requirements under 935 CMR 500.140(6) are followed, including:
 - Utilizing a point-of-sale (POS) system approved by the Commission, in consultation with the DOR, and a sales recording module approved by DOR;
 - Conducting a monthly analysis of its equipment and sales date, and maintaining records, available to the Commission upon request, that the monthly analysis has been performed;
 - Complying with 830 CMR 62C.25.1: *Record Retention* and DOR Directive 16-1 regarding recordkeeping requirements;
 - Adopting separate accounting practices at the point-of-sale for marijuana and marijuana product sales, and non-marijuana sales;
 - Maintaining such records that would allow for the Commission and the

DOR to audit and examine the point-of-sale system used in order to ensure compliance with Massachusetts tax laws and 935 CMR 500; and

- If collocated with a medical marijuana treatment center, maintaining and providing the Commission on a biannual basis accurate sales data collected by the licensee during the six months immediately preceding this application for the purpose of ensuring an adequate supply of marijuana and marijuana products under 935 CMR 500.140(10).
- Additional written business records will be kept, including, but not limited to, records of:
 - Compliance with liability insurance coverage or maintenance of escrow requirements under 935 CMR 500.105(10) and all bond or escrow requirements under 935 CMR 500.105(16);
 - Fees paid under 935 CMR 500.005 or any other section of the Commission's regulations; and

Fines or penalties, if any, paid under 935 CMR 500.550 or any other section of the Commission's regulations.

RECORD KEEPING PROCEDURES

General Overview

Elevation has established policies regarding recordkeeping and record-retention in order to ensure the maintenance, safekeeping, and accessibility of critical documents. Electronic and wet signatures are accepted forms of execution of Elevation documents. Records will be stored at Elevation in a locked room designated for record retention. All written records will be available for inspection by the Commission upon request.

Recordkeeping

To ensure that Elevation is keeping and retaining all records as noted in this policy, reviewing Corporate Records, Business Records, and Personnel Records to ensure completeness, accuracy, and timeliness of such documents will occur as part of Elevation's quarter-end closing procedures. In addition, Elevation's operating procedures will be updated on an ongoing basis as needed and undergo a review by the executive management team on an annual basis.

- **Corporate Records**: are defined as those records that require, at a minimum, annual reviews, updates, and renewals, including:
 - Insurance Coverage:
 - Directors & Officers Policy
 - Product Liability Policy
 - General Liability Policy
 - Umbrella Policy
 - Workers Compensation Policy
 - Employer Professional Liability Policy
 - Third-Party Laboratory Contracts
 - Commission Requirements:
 - Annual Agent Registration
 - Annual Marijuana Establishment Registration
 - Local Compliance:
 - Certificate of Occupancy
 - Special Permits
 - Variances
 - Site Plan Approvals
 - As-Built Drawings
 - Corporate Governance:
 - Annual Report
 - Secretary of State Filings
- Business Records: Records that require ongoing maintenance and updates.

These records can be electronic or hard copy (preferably electronic) and at a minimum include:

- Assets and liabilities;
- Monetary transactions;
- Books of accounts, which will include journals, ledgers, and supporting documents, agreements, checks, invoices, and vouchers;
- Sales records including the quantity, form, and cost of marijuana products;
- Salary and wages paid to each agent, and any executive compensation, bonus, benefit, or item of value paid to any individual affiliated with Elevation, including members, if any.

• Personnel Records: At a minimum will include:

- Job descriptions for each agent and volunteer position, as well as organizational charts consistent with the job descriptions;
- A personnel record for each marijuana establishment agent. Such records will be maintained for at least twelve (12) months after termination of the agent's affiliation with Elevation and will include, at a minimum, the following:
 - All materials submitted to the Commission pursuant to 935 CMR 500.030(2);
 - Documentation of verification of references;
 - The job description or employment contract that includes duties, authority, responsibilities, qualifications, and supervision;
 - Documentation of all required training, including training regarding privacy and confidentiality requirements, and the signed statement of the individual indicating the date, time, and place he or she received said training and the topics discussed, including the name and title of presenters;
 - Documentation of periodic performance evaluations; and
 - A record of any disciplinary action taken.
 - Notice of completed responsible vendor and eight-hour related duty training.
- A staffing plan that will demonstrate accessible business hours and safe cultivation conditions;
- Personnel policies and procedures; and
- All background check reports obtained in accordance with 935 CMR 500.030.
- Handling and Testing of Marijuana Records
 - Elevation will maintain the results of all testing for a minimum of one (1) year.
- Inventory Records

- The record of each inventory will include, at a minimum, the date of the inventory, a summary of the inventory findings, and the names, signatures, and titles of the agents who conducted the inventory.
- Seed-to-Sale Tracking Records
 - Elevation will use a POS Software to maintain real-time inventory. The POS Software inventory reporting meets the requirements specified by the Commission and 935 CMR 500.105(8)(c) and (d), including, at a minimum, an inventory of marijuana plants; marijuana plant seeds and clones in any phase of development such as propagation, vegetation, flowering; marijuana ready for dispensing; all marijuana products; and all damaged, defective, expired, or contaminated marijuana and marijuana products awaiting disposal.
 - Inventory records will include, 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.

• Incident Reporting Records

 Within ten (10) calendar days, Elevation will provide written notice to the Commission of any incident described in 935 CMR 500.110(7)(a), by submitting an incident report, detailing the incident, the investigation, the findings, resolution (if any), confirmation that the Police Department and Commission were notified within twenty-four (24) hours of discovering the breach, and any other relevant information. Reports and supporting documents, including photos and surveillance video related to a reportable incident will be maintained by Elevation for no less than one year or the duration of an open investigation, whichever is longer, and made available to the Commission and law enforcement authorities upon request.

• Visitor Records

 A visitor sign-in and sign-out record will be maintained at the security office. The record will include the visitor's name, address, organization or firm, date, time in and out, and the name of the authorized agent who will be escorting the visitor.

• Waste Disposal Records

 When marijuana or marijuana products are disposed of, Elevation will create and maintain a written record of the date, the type and quantity disposed of or handled, the manner of disposal or other handling, the location of disposal or other handling, and the names of the two Elevation agents present during the disposal or handling, with their signatures. Elevation will keep disposal records for at least three (3) years. This period will automatically be extended for the duration of any enforcement action and may be extended by an order of the Commission.

• Security Records

- A current list of authorized agents and service personnel that have access to the surveillance room will be available to the Commission upon request.
- Twenty-four (24) hour recordings from all video cameras that are available for immediate viewing by the Commission upon request and that are retained for at least ninety (90) calendar days.

• Transportation Records

• Elevation will retain all shipping manifests for a minimum of one (1) year and make them available to the Commission upon request.

• Agent Training Records

 Documentation of all required training, including training regarding privacy and confidentiality requirements, and a signed statement of the individual indicating the date, time, and place he or she received the training, the topics discussed and the name and title of the presenter(s).

• Closure

- In the event Elevation closes, all records will be kept for at least two (2) years at Elevation's expense in a form (electronic, hard copies, etc.) and location acceptable to the Commission. In addition, Elevation will communicate with the Commission during the closure process and accommodate any additional requests the Commission or other agencies may have.
- Written Operating Policies and Procedures: Policies and Procedures related to Elevation's operations will be updated on an ongoing basis as needed and undergo a review by the executive management team on an annual basis. Policies and Procedures will include the following:
 - Security measures in compliance with 935 CMR 500.110;
 - Agent security policies, including personal safety and crime prevention techniques;
 - A description of Elevation's hours of operation and after-hours contact information, which will be provided to the Commission, made available to law enforcement officials upon request, and updated pursuant to 935 CMR 500.000.
 - Storage of marijuana in compliance with 935 CMR 500.105(11);
 - Description of the various strains of marijuana to be cultivated, processed or sold, as applicable, and the form(s) in which marijuana will be dispensed;
 - Procedures to ensure accurate recordkeeping, including inventory protocols in compliance with 935 CMR 500.160;
 - Plans for quality control, including product testing for contaminants in compliance with 935 CMR 500.160;

- A staffing plan and staffing records in compliance with 935 CMR 500.105(9);
- Emergency procedures, including a disaster plan with procedures to be followed in case of fire or other emergencies;
- Alcohol, smoke, and drug-free workplace policies;
- A plan describing how confidential information will be maintained;
- Policy for the immediate dismissal of any dispensary agent who has:
 - Diverted marijuana, which will be reported to the Police Department and to the Commission;
 - Engaged in unsafe practices with regard to Elevation operations, which will be reported to the Commission; or
 - Been convicted or entered a guilty plea, plea of *nolo contendere*, or admission to sufficient facts of a felony drug offense involving distribution to a minor in the Commonwealth, or a like violation of the laws of another state, the United States or a foreign jurisdiction, or a military, territorial, or Native American tribal authority.
- A list of all executives of Elevation, and members, if any, of the licensee must be made available upon request by any individual. 935 CMR 500.105(1)(m) requirement may be fulfilled by placing this information on Elevation's website.
- Policies and procedures for the handling of cash on Elevation premises including but not limited to storage, collection frequency and transport to financial institution(s).
- Policies and procedures to prevent the diversion of marijuana to individuals younger than 21 years old.
- Policies and procedures for energy efficiency and conservation that will include:
 - Identification of potential energy use reduction opportunities (including but not limited to natural lighting, heat recovery ventilation and energy efficiency measures), and a plan for implementation of such opportunities;
 - Consideration of opportunities for renewable energy generation, including, where applicable, submission of building plans showing where energy generators could be placed on site, and an explanation of why the identified opportunities were not pursued, if applicable;
 - Strategies to reduce electric demand (such as lighting schedules, active load management and energy storage); and
 - Engagement with energy efficiency programs offered pursuant to M.G.L.C. 25 § 21, or through municipal lighting plants.

Record-Retention

Elevation will meet Commission recordkeeping requirements and retain a copy of all records for two (2) years, unless otherwise specified in the regulations.

QUALIFICATIONS & TRAINING

Elevation Retail will ensure that all employees hired to work at a Elevation facility will be qualified to work as a marijuana establishment agent and properly trained to serve in their respective roles in a compliant manner.

Qualifications In accordance with 935 CMR 500.030, a candidate for employment as a marijuana establishment agent must be 21 years of age or older. In addition, the candidate cannot have been convicted of a criminal offense in the Commonwealth involving the distribution of controlled substances to minors, or a like violation of the laws of another state, the United States, or foreign jurisdiction, or a military, territorial, or Native American tribal authority.

Elevation will also ensure that its employees are suitable for registration consistent with the provisions of 935 CMR 500.802. In the event that Elevation discovers any of its agents are not suitable for registration as a marijuana establishment agent, the agent's employment will be terminated, and Elevation will notify the Commission within one (1) business day that the agent is no longer associated with the establishment.

Training As required by 935 CMR 500.105(2), and prior to performing job functions, each of Elevation's agents will successfully complete a comprehensive training program that is tailored to the roles and responsibilities of the agent's job function. Agent training will at least include the Responsible Vendor Program and eight (8) hours of on-going training annually.

On or after December 1, 2020, all of Elevation's current owners, managers, and employees will have attended and successfully completed a Responsible Vendor Program operated by an education provider accredited by the Commission to provide the annual minimum of two hours of responsible vendor training to marijuana establishment agents. Elevation's new, non- administrative employees will complete the Responsible Vendor Program within 90 days of the date they are hired. Elevation's owners, managers, and employees will then successfully complete the program once every year thereafter. Elevation will also encourage administrative employees who do not handle or sell marijuana to take the responsible vendor program on a voluntary basis to help ensure compliance. Elevation's records of responsible vendor training program compliance will be maintained for at least four (4) years and made available during normal business hours for inspection by the Commission and any other state licensing authority upon request. As part of the Responsible Vendor program, Elevation's agents will receive training on a variety of topics relevant to marijuana establishment operations, including but not limited to the following:

- 1. Marijuana's effect on the human body, including physical effects based on different types of marijuana products and methods of administration, and recognizing the visible signs of impairment;
- 2. Best practices for diversion prevention and prevention of sales to minors;
- 3. Compliance with tracking requirements;
- Acceptable forms of identification, including verification of valid photo identification and medical marijuana registration and confiscation of fraudulent identifications;
- 5. Such other areas of training determined by the Commission to be included; and
- 6. Other significant state laws and rules affecting operators, such as:
 - Local and state licensing and enforcement;
 - Incident and notification requirements;
 - Administrative and criminal liability and license sanctions and court sanctions;
 - Waste disposal and health and safety standards;
 - Patrons prohibited from bringing marijuana onto licensed premises;
 - Permitted hours of sale and conduct of establishment;
 - Permitting inspections by state and local licensing and enforcement authorities;
 - Licensee responsibilities for activities occurring within licensed premises;
 - Maintenance of records and privacy issues; and
 - Prohibited purchases and practices.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

Elevation Retail LLC's ("Elevation") proposed use at WS Phillips Road as an adult use retail marijuana establishment will take advantage of the latest architectural and design principles for energy efficiency and conservation. There will be no cultivation or product manufacturing of marijuana or marijuana products at this location.

Elevation has developed policies and procedures for energy efficiency and conservation. These procedures include:

- 1. Identification of potential energy-use reduction opportunities, and plans for implementation of such opportunities, such as;
 - a. The use of LED lighting fixtures, maximising daylighting opportunities in the design process and specifying low VOC building materials;
 - b. Integrating mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems into the overall interior design to provide energy efficiency and conservation opportunities;
 - c. Monitoring energy consumption with an energy consumption monitoring system and making adjustments to operations based on energy usage data;
 - d. Applying industry best practices for energy efficiency during the design and architecture process for the new buildout; and
 - e. Identifying and energy savings opportunities when equipment fails and needs to be replaced.
- 2. Consideration of opportunities for renewable energy generation, such as;
 - a. Prioritizing green and sustainable energy suppliers when available, with periodic evaluation of renewable supplier options;
 - b. Evaluation of solar power generation at the retail facility;
 - c. Identifying and evaluating the latest state of the industry and art for renewable or alternative energy opportunities as part of any facility upgrades, renovations, or expansions; and
 - d. Identifying and evaluating renewable or alternative energy opportunities when equipment fails and needs to be replaced.
- 3. Strategies to reduce electric demand, such as:
 - a. The use of LED lighting fixtures, energy efficient heating and cooling equipment, and maximizing daylighting opportunities;

- b. Evaluation and implementation of lighting schedules, active load management, and energy storage;
- c. Monitoring energy consumption with an energy consumption monitoring system and making adjustments to operations based on energy usage data; and
- d. Identification and evaluation of load curtailment, energy storage, or other active demand management programs such as virtual power purchase agreements.
- Engagement with energy efficiency programs offered pursuant to M.G.L. c. 25, § 21, or through municipal lighting plants, such as:
 - a. Conducting periodic energy assessments and audits available through programs such as MassSave;
 - b. Identifying energy saving opportunities available in the Commonwealth with the energyCents database to find all rebates (state and federal) offered in Massachusetts; and
 - c. Identifying and evaluating solar energy programs offered in the Commonwealth, such as the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) Program and the Municipal Light Plant Solar Rebate Program.

STAFFING AND PERSONNEL PLAN

Overview

Elevation will maintain personnel records as a separate category of records due to the sensitivity and importance of information concerning agents, including registration status and background check records. Elevation will keep, at a minimum, the following personnel records:

- Job descriptions for each employee and volunteer position, as well as organizational charts consistent with the job descriptions;
- A personnel record for each marijuana establishment agent;
- A staffing plan that will demonstrate accessible business hours and safe conditions;
- Personnel policies and procedures; and
- All background check reports obtained in accordance with 935 CMR 500.030.

Job Descriptions

<u>Store Manager</u>: The Store Manager will be responsible for the overall management of staff, standard operating procedures, scheduling, inventory, compliance, supplies, and all other tasks that arise in a dynamic retail environment. The Store Manager will:

- Oversee the day-to-day operations
- Ensure store compliance with all local, state and federal regulations including maintaining written SOPs as changes to policy and/or regulations occur and ensure compliance among team
- Oversee a distribution process that is professional, confidential and safe for all customers
- Serve as a liaison to the local community by providing accurate information to customers and citizens
- Monitor and maintaining inventory levels as well as keeping track of expiring products
- Manage financial records and daily cash handling procedures
- Maintain a clean and organized store

<u>Assistant Store Manager</u>: The Assistant Store Manager (ASM) motivates and organizes our team of Associates while ensuring customer satisfaction, safety, product quality, security & compliance within the store. The Assistant Store Manager will:

- Lead and support the Associate team to deliver best-in-class service
- Maintain store compliance with all local, state and federal regulations
- Oversee security measures and safety compliance

- Assist in verifying order deliveries for accuracy
- Manage cash handling procedures and record keeping while ensuring accuracy of all transactions, deposits, and records
- Assist with required paperwork and state tracking system recording
- Complete and appropriately delegate tasks assigned during scheduled shift
- Maintain open communication with the management team and other coworkers
- Work with the SM to onboard and train new Associates.
- Maintain a clean and organized store

<u>Store Associate</u>: Store Associates will provide guidance and educate each customer with their cannabis needs. Associates will:

- Provide each customer with best-in-class customer service
- Ensure that all forms and other paperwork are properly completed
- Comply with all state regulations and company standard practices and procedures
- Educate customers on all varieties of cannabis and cannabis-infused products in the store
- Accurately processes and dispenses cannabis to customers
- Stock/restock product
- Maintain cleanliness of display cases and store
- Operate POS system and efficiently and accurately process payments
- Complete other tasks as assigned by management

<u>Director of Security</u>: Under the supervision of the President, the Director of Security is responsible for the development and overall management of the Security Policies and Procedures for Elevation, while implementing, administering, and revising the policies as needed. In addition, the Director of Security will perform the following duties:

- Provide general training to Elevation agents during new hire orientation or re-current trainings throughout the year;
- Provide training specific for Security Agents prior to the Security Agent commencing job functions;
- Review and approve incident reports and other reports written by Security Agents prior to submitting to the executive management team—follow up with security agent if needed;
- Maintain lists of agents authorized to access designated areas of the Elevation facility, including cash and product storage vaults, the surveillance and network equipment room, and other highly sensitive areas of the Elevation facility;
- Lead a working group comprised of the President, Vice President, and any other designated advisors to ensure the current policies and procedures are properly

implemented, integrated, effective, and relevant to ensure the safety of Elevation agents and assets;

- Ensure that all required background checks have been completed and documented prior to an agent performing job functions; ensure agent is granted the appropriate level of access to the facility necessary to complete his/her job functions;
- Maintain all security-related records, incident reports and other reports written by security agents;
- Evaluate and determine the number of Security Agents assigned to each shift and proper shift change times; and
- Maintain frequent contact with local law enforcement authorities.

<u>Security Agent</u>: Security Agents monitor Elevation's security systems including alarms, video surveillance, and motion detectors. Security Agents are responsible for ensuring that only authorized individuals are permitted access to the Elevation facility by verifying appropriate ID cards and other forms of identification. In addition, Security Agents perform the following duties and other duties upon request:

- Investigate, communicate, and provide leadership in the event of an emergency such as an intrusion, fire, or other threat that jeopardizes customers, authorized visitors, and Elevation agents;
- Respond and investigate security situations and alarm calls; clearly document the incident and details surrounding the incident in a written report for the Director of Security;
- Oversee the entrance to the facility and verify the credentials of each person seeking access to the Elevation facility;
- Answer routine inquiries;
- Log entries, and maintain visitor log;
- Escort authorized visitors in restricted access areas; and
- Escort Elevation agents from the facility during non-business hours and perform security checks at designated intervals.

<u>Inventory Manager</u>: The Inventory Manager is responsible for inventory on a day- today basis as well as the weekly and monthly inventory counts and waste disposal requirements. The inventory manager will perform the comprehensive annual inventory in conjunction with the executive management team. Additional duties include, but are not limited to:

- Implementing inventory controls to track and account for all dispensary inventory;
- Implementing procedures and notification policies for proper disposal;
- Maintaining records, including operating procedures, inventory records, audit records, storage and transfer records;

- Maintaining documents with each day's beginning, acquisitions, sales, disposal, and ending inventory; and
- Proper storing, labeling, tracking, and reporting of inventory.

<u>Inventory Associate</u>: Inventory Associates support the Inventory Manager during day-to-day operations. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Maintaining records, including operating procedures, inventory records, audit records, storage and transfer records;
- Maintaining documents with each day's beginning, acquisitions, sales, disposal and ending inventory;
- Ensuring products are properly stored, labeled, and recorded in the POS Software system;
- Ensuring waste is properly stored; and
- Coordinating the waste disposal schedule and ensuring Elevation's policies and procedures for waste disposal are adhered to.

<u>Human Resources Manager</u>: The Human Resources Manager at Elevation will support the executive management team on a day-to-day basis to effectively implement all personnel policies and procedures for Elevation, including hiring processes. The Human Resources Manager will:

- Oversee hiring and release of Elevation agents;
- Review and revise Elevation personnel policies and procedures in consultation with the executive management team and department managers;
- Develop training schedules and policies for Elevation agents under the supervision of the executive management team and department managers;
- Handle any and all agent discipline as necessary;
- Ensure compliance with any and all workplace policy laws and requirements; and
- Be responsible for such additional human resources tasks as determined by the executive management team.

Agent Personnel Records

Personnel records for each agent will be maintained for at least twelve (12) months after termination of the agent's affiliation with Elevation and will include, at a minimum, the following:

- All materials submitted to the Commission pursuant to 935 CMR 500.030(2);
- Documentation of verification of references;
- The job description or employment contract that includes duties, authority, responsibilities, qualifications, and supervision;
- Documentation of all required training, including training regarding privacy and

confidentiality requirements, and the signed statement of the individual indicating the date, time, and place he or she received said training and the topics discussed, including the name and title of presenters;

- Documentation of periodic performance evaluations;
- A record of any disciplinary action taken;
- Notice of completed responsible vendor and eight-hour related duty training;
- Results of initial background investigation, including CORI reports; and
- Documentation of all security related events (including violations) and the results of any investigations and description of remedial actions, restrictions, or additional training required as a result of an incident.

Personnel records will be kept in a secure location to maintain confidentiality and will only be accessible to the agent's manager or members of the executive management team.

Confidentiality Policy

Elevation's company philosophy is to safeguard personal employee information in its possession to ensure the confidentiality of the information. Additionally, Elevation will only collect personal information that is required to pursue its business operations and to comply with the Commission's reporting and disclosure requirements. Personal information collected by the company includes employee names, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, emergency contact information, EEO data, social security numbers, date of birth, employment eligibility data, benefits plan enrollment information, which may include dependent personal information, and school/college or certification credentials. All pre-employment inquiry information and reference checking records conducted on employees and former employee files are maintained in locked, segregated areas and are not used by the company in the course of its business operations.

Personal employee information will be considered confidential and as such will be shared only as required and with those who have a need to have access to such information. All hard copy records will be maintained in locked, secure areas with access limited to those who have a need for such access. Personal employee information used in business system applications will be safeguarded under company proprietary electronic transmission and intranet policies and security systems. Participants in company benefit plans should be aware that personal information will be shared with plan providers as required for their claims handling or record keeping needs.

Company-assigned information, which may include organizational charts,

department titles and staff charts, job titles, department budgets, company coding and recording systems, telephone directories, email lists, company facility or location information and addresses, is considered by the company to be proprietary company information to be used for internal purposes only. The company maintains the right to communicate and distribute such company information as it deems necessary to conduct business operations.

If an employee becomes aware of a material breach in maintaining the confidentiality of his or her personal information, the employee should report the incident to a representative of the human resources department. The human resources department has the responsibility to investigate the incident and take corrective action. Please be aware that a standard of reasonableness will apply in these circumstances. Examples of the release of personal employee information that will not be considered a breach include the following:

- Release of partial employee birth dates, i.e., day and month is not considered confidential and will be shared with department heads who elect to recognize employees on such dates.
- Personal telephone numbers or e-mail addresses may be distributed to department heads in order to facilitate company work schedules or business operations.
- Employee identifier information used in salary or budget planning, review processes and for timekeeping purposes will be shared with department heads.
- Employee's company anniversary or service recognition information will be distributed to appropriate department heads periodically.
- Employee and dependent information may be distributed in accordance with open enrollment processes for periodic benefit plan changes or periodic benefits statement updates.

Staffing Plan

Hiring and Recruitment

Elevation's Human Resource Manager will engage the executive management team and management staff on a regular basis to determine if vacancies are anticipated and whether specific positions need to be created in response to company needs. Elevation's personnel practices will comply with the following, which will apply to all types of employment situations, including, but not limited to, hiring, terminations, promotions, training, wages and benefits:

- State anti-discrimination statutes and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) requirements;
- Elevation's Diversity Plan and Community Initiatives;
- Elevation's Plan to Positively Impact Areas of Disproportionate Impact;
- Background Checks and References;
- Mandatory reporting of criminal convictions (and termination if necessary);
- State and Federal Family Leave Act;
- Workplace Safety Laws;
- Workers' Compensation;
- State and Federal Minimum Wage Requirements;
- Non-Disclosure and Non-Complete Agreements; and
- Any other applicable local, state, or federal employment laws, rules, or regulations.

Standards of Conduct

Elevation is committed to maintaining an environment conducive to the health and well-being of customers and employees. It is Elevation's mission to provide a professional workplace free from harassment and discrimination for employees. Elevation will not tolerate harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, national origin, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other trait or characteristic protected by any applicable federal, state, or local law or ordinance. Harassment or discrimination on the basis of any protected trait or characteristic is contrary to Elevation's values and is a violation of the Company Code of Conduct. Harassment is a form of discrimination. There is a broad range of behavior that could constitute harassment. In general, harassment is any verbal or physical conduct that:

- Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment;
- Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance; or
- Adversely affects an individual's employment opportunities.

Employees are expected to maintain the highest degree of professional behavior. Any harassment or discrimination by employees is strictly prohibited. Further, harassing or discriminatory behavior of non-employees directed at Elevation employees or customers is also condemned and will be promptly addressed.

Violence and Weapons in the Workplace

Any and all acts of violence in the workplace will result in immediate dismissal of the

employee, customer, or parties involved. Law enforcement will be contacted immediately in the case of a violent event. Weapons are not permitted to be brought on site by employees, customers, or other parties. Any employee found carrying a weapon on the premises of a Elevation facility will be immediately terminated, and any customer found carrying a weapon on the premises will be asked to leave and/or the police will be notified accordingly.

At-Will Employment

In the state of Massachusetts, employment is assumed to be at-will unless otherwise stated. At-will employment implies that employer and employee alike may terminate the work relationship at any given moment and for any legitimate purpose. Wrongful termination may be more difficult to prove in an at-will arrangement because of the freedom that each party has to end the employment. However, there are still many instances wherein a termination or discharge can be called wrongful, even in an at-will employment.

Workplace Attire

The required attire for registered agents at Elevation varies based upon required duties. New hire training and the onboarding process will go over the workplace attire specific to each role and the department manager will be responsible for ensuring compliance with all requirements is met.

Personnel Policies and Procedures

Standard Employment Practices

Elevation values the contributions of its management and staff positions. Elevation will strive to be the industry leader in workplace satisfaction by offering highly competitive wage and benefits packages and developing a culture that values a proper work-life balance, boasts a transparent and accessible executive management team, and fosters a work ethic that focuses on the mission of the company and the spirit of the adult-use marijuana program in Massachusetts.

Advancement

The organization will be structured in a relatively flat manner, with promotional opportunities within each department. Participation in training and bi-annual performance evaluations will be critical for any promotions or pay increases.

Written Policies

Elevation's written policies will address, inter alia, the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), equal employment opportunity, discrimination, harassment, the Employee Retirement Income

Security Act (ERISA), disabilities, workers' compensation, maintenance of personnel files, privacy, email policy, 935 CMR 500 et seq., holidays, hours, sick time, personal time, overtime, performance reviews, disciplinary procedures, working hours, pay rates, overtime, bonuses, veteran preferences, drug testing, personnel policies, military leaves of absence, bereavement leave, jury duty, CORI checks, smoking, HIPAA, confidentiality, and compliance hotline.

Investigations

Elevation will set forth policies and procedures to investigate any complaints or concerns identified or raised internally or externally in order to stay in compliance with 935 CMR 500.000 et seq.

Designated Outside Counsel

Elevation may retain counsel specializing in employment law to assist the Human Resources Manager with any issues and questions.

Job Status

Job Classifications

Positions at Elevation are categorized by rank and by department. The executive management team oversees the overall success of the mission of the company; the President is responsible for implementation of the mission and the executive management team as a whole is responsible for ensuring that all departments are properly executing their functions and responsibilities. Job classification is comprised of three rank tiers: Executive Management, Management, and Non- Management Employee.

Work Schedules

Work schedules will be either part-time, full-time, or salaried, depending on the specific position. Schedules will be set according to the needs of each department as determined by the department manager and the executive manager they report to. It is the department manager's responsibility to develop and implement a work schedule that provides necessary duty and personnel coverage but does not exceed what is required for full implementation of operations. It is also the department manager's responsibility to ensure that adequate coverage occurs on a daily basis and does not lead to unnecessary utilization of overtime coverage.

Mandatory Meetings

There will be a mandatory, recurring company-wide meeting on a monthly basis. All personnel will be notified if their attendance is required. Certain personnel, such as housekeeping staff, may not be required to attend. Each department will have a

mandatory weekly meeting scheduled by the department manager. The department managers will provide agendas for all meetings and will report to their executive manager.

<u>Breaks</u>

Daily breaks, including lunch breaks, will comply with the laws of the Commonwealth.

Performance Reviews

Performance reviews will be conducted by executive or department managers. Reviews will be conducted at three-month intervals for new employees during the first year and at six-month intervals thereafter. A written synopsis must be provided to, and signed by, the employee under review. Reviews must be retained in each employee's employment file. Performance reviews must take into account positive performance factors and areas requiring improvement. Scoring systems may be utilized to help reflect an employee's overall performance.

Leave Policies

Elevation leave policies will comport with all state and federal statutes. All full-time employees will receive two 40-hour weeks of paid vacation per annum. Additional leave must be requested at least two weeks in advance and approved by the employee's department manager. Elevation will determine which holidays will be observed and which departments will not be required to work. Elevation will offer paid maternity leave. Additional leave will not be paid and must be approved by the department manager.

Elevation anticipates observing the following holidays:

- New Year's Day;
- Martin Luther King Day;
- Presidents' Day;
- Memorial Day;
- Independence Day;
- Labor Day;
- Thanksgiving; and
- Christmas Day;

Alcohol, Smoke, and Drug-Free Workplace Policies

<u>Purpose</u>

Elevation Retail LLC ("Elevation") is committed to an Alcohol, Smoke, and Drug-Free Workplace. Alcohol and drug abuse pose a threat to the health and safety of

Elevation employees and the security of the company's equipment and facilities. Elevation is committed to the elimination of drug and alcohol use and abuse in the workplace. Elevation is also committed to advising its employees of the Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) to seek guidance for the prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery support for substance addiction.

This Policy applies to all employees or individuals affiliated with Elevation, whether paid or unpaid, in violation of this policy can be immediately terminated. Elevation will update this Policy as needed per regulation change, other mandates, and will be reviewed at a minimum annually.

Employees should report to work fit for duty and free of any adverse effects of illegal drugs or alcohol. This policy does not prohibit employees from the lawful use and possession of prescribed medications including medical marijuana given the employee has a current, valid prescription, from a state with an operational medical marijuana program.

However, the consumption of medical marijuana in **any** form, on any Elevation premises, vehicle or property is **strictly prohibited**. Employees must, however, consult with their doctors about the medications' effect on their fitness for duty and ability to work safely, and they must promptly disclose any work restrictions to their supervisor.

Employees should not, however, disclose to Elevation underlying medical conditions unless directed to do so.

Work Rules

- 1. Whenever employees are working, operating any Elevation vehicle, or are present on the Elevation premises they are prohibited from the following:
 - a. Using, possessing, buying, selling, manufacturing or dispensing an illegal drug (to include possession of drug paraphernalia).
 - b. Being under the influence of alcohol or an illegal drug as defined in this policy.
 - c. Possessing or consuming alcohol.
- Elevation will also not allow employees to perform their duties while taking prescribed drugs that are adversely affecting their ability to safely and effectively perform their job duties. Employees taking prescribed medication must carry it in the container labeled by a licensed pharmacist/dispensary or be prepared to produce it if asked.
- 3. Any illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia will be turned over to an appropriate law enforcement agency and may result in criminal prosecution. Consideration will be given to those who test positive for marijuana due to recreational legalization.

Pre-employment

- 1. All applicants may be subject to a drug test before beginning work or receiving an offer of employment.
- 2. Refusal to submit to testing will result in disqualification of further employment consideration.
- 3. Consideration will be given to those who test positive for marijuana due to recreational legalization, however use of marijuana or intoxication on Elevation premises is prohibited.

Reasonable Suspicion

- 1. Employees are subject to testing based on (but not limited to) observations by the supervision of apparent workplace use, possession or impairment.
- 2. A Member of the management team should be consulted before sending an employee for testing.

Post-accident

- 1. Employees are subject to testing when they cause or contribute to accidents that seriously damage a Elevation vehicle, machinery, equipment or property or result in an injury to themselves or another employee requiring offsite medical attention in which there is a reasonable basis for concluding that drug use could have contributed to the incident.
- 2. A circumstance that constitutes probable belief will be presumed to arise in any instance involving a work-related accident or injury in which an employee who was operating a motorized vehicle is found to be responsible for causing the accident.
- 3. In any of these instances, the investigation and subsequent testing must take place within two hours following the accident, if not sooner.

Follow-up

- Employees who have tested positive, or otherwise violated this policy, are subject to discipline, up to and including termination. Depending on the circumstances and the employee's work history/record, Elevation may offer an employee who violates this policy or tests positive the opportunity to return to work on a basis under mutually agreeable terms, which could include follow-up drug testing at times and frequencies determined by Elevation for a minimum of six months but not more than one year as well as a waiver of the right to contest any termination resulting from a subsequent positive test.
- 2. If the employee either does not complete the rehabilitation program or tests positive after completing the rehabilitation program, the employee will be subject to immediate discharge from employment.

Collection and Testing Procedures

- 1. Employees subject to alcohol testing should be driven to a Elevation designated facility and directed to provide breath specimens.
 - a. Breath specimens should be tested by trained technicians using federally approved breath alcohol testing devices capable of producing printed results that identify the employee.
 - b. If an employee's breath alcohol concentration is .04 or more, a second breath specimen should be tested approximately 20 minutes later.
 - c. The results of the second test should be determinative.
 - d. Alcohol tests may, however, be a breath, blood or saliva test, at the company's discretion. For purposes of this policy, test results generated by law enforcement or medical providers may be considered by the company as work rule violations.
- 2. Applicants and employees subject to drug testing should be sent to a Elevation designated medical facility and directed to provide urine specimens.
- 3. Applicants and employees may provide specimens in private unless they appear to be submitting altered, adulterated or substitute specimens.
- 4. Collected specimens should be sent to a federally certified laboratory and tested for evidence of marijuana, cocaine, opiates, amphetamines, PCP, benzodiazepines, methadone, methaqualone, and propoxyphene use.
- 5. The laboratory should screen all specimens and confirm all positive screens. There must be a chain of custody from the time specimens are collected through testing and storage.

Consequences

- 1. Applicants who refuse to cooperate in a drug test or who test positive will not be hired and will not be allowed to reapply/retest in the future.
- 2. Employees who refuse to cooperate in required tests or who use, possess, buy, sell, manufacture or dispense an illegal drug in violation of this policy will be terminated.
- 3. The first time an employee tests positive for alcohol or illegal drug use under this policy, the result will be discipline up to and including termination.
- 4. Employees will be paid for time spent in alcohol or drug testing and then suspended pending the results of the drug or alcohol test.
- 5. After the results of the test are received, a date and time will be scheduled to discuss the results of the test; this meeting will include a member of the management team.
- 6. Should the results prove to be negative, the employee will receive back pay for the times/days of suspension.

Confidentiality

- Information and records relating to positive test results, drug and alcohol dependencies, and legitimate medical explanations provided should be kept confidential to the extent required by law and maintained in secure files separate from normal personnel files.
- 2. Such records and information may be disclosed among managers and supervisors on a need-to-know basis and may also be disclosed when relevant to a grievance, charge, claim or other legal proceeding initiated by or on behalf of an employee or applicant.

Inspections

- 1. Elevation reserves the right to inspect all portions of its premises for drugs, alcohol or other contraband.
- 2. All employees, contract employees, and visitors may be asked to cooperate in inspections of their persons, work areas and property that might conceal a drug, alcohol or other contraband.
- 3. Employees who possess such contraband or refuse to cooperate in such inspections are subject to appropriate discipline, up to and including discharge.

Crimes Involving Drugs

- 1. Elevation prohibits all employees from manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing or using an illegal drug in or on company premises or while conducting company business.
- 2. Elevation employees are also prohibited from misusing legally prescribed or over the counter (OTC) drugs. Law enforcement personnel should be notified, as appropriate, when criminal activity is suspected.
- 3. Elevation does not desire to intrude into the private lives of its employees but recognizes that employees' off-the-job involvement with drugs and alcohol may have an impact on the workplace. Therefore, Elevation reserves the right to take appropriate disciplinary action for drug use, sale or distribution while off company premises.
- 4. All employees who are convicted of, plead guilty to or are sentenced for a crime involving an illegal drug are required to report the conviction, plea or sentence immediately to management which will be reported to the Commission within (5) days.
- 5. Failure to comply will result in automatic discharge. Cooperation in complying may result in suspension without pay to allow management to review the nature of the charges and the employee's record with Elevation.

Reasonable Suspicion and Post-Accident Testing Protocol

1. The employee will be advised that Elevation believes that there is reasonable suspicion to believe that he or she is affected by illegal drugs or alcohol (or due

to the nature of the accident the policy mandates this) and that this test is being offered to confirm or deny this suspicion.

- 2. The employee will be sent to Elevation' contracted testing facility
- 3. Before leaving for the testing facility, supervision/management will contact the testing facility to inform it that a staff member from Elevation will be arriving and will need a drug or alcohol test completed.
- 4. The employee to be tested shall adhere to the rules and regulations of Elevation' contracted testing facility.

Substance Addiction Services

 Elevation employees will be advised of the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) which oversees the statewide system of prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery support services for individuals, families, and communities affected by gambling and substance addiction.

Enforcement

- 1. The Elevation management team is responsible for policy interpretation, administration, and enforcement.
- 2. Grounds for immediate termination and revocation of the Agent Registration Card.
- 3. Each of the following, in and of itself, constitutes grounds for termination, revocation of Agent Registration Card, and will be reported to the Commission.
 - a. Fraudulent use of Agent Registration Card including, but not limited to, tampering, falsifying, Selling, Transferring, distributing, or giving Marijuana to any unauthorized person.
 - b. Conviction, guilty plea, a plea of *nolo contendere*, or admission to enough facts of a felony drug offense involving distribution to a minor in the Commonwealth, or a like violation of the laws of another jurisdiction.
 - c. A conviction of a felony drug offense in the Commonwealth or a like violation of the laws of other Jurisdictions shall be adequate grounds for the revocation of a Marijuana Establishment Agent Registration Card.

Disciplinary Policies

<u>Purpose</u>

Elevation's progressive discipline policies and procedures are designed to provide a structured corrective action process to improve and prevent a recurrence of undesirable behavior and/or performance issues. The steps outlined below of Elevation's progressive discipline policies and procedures have been designed consistent with Elevation's organizational values, best practices, and state and federal employment laws.

Elevation reserves the right to combine or skip steps depending upon the facts of each situation and the nature of the offense. The level of disciplinary intervention may also vary. Some of the factors that will be considered are whether the offense is repeated despite coaching, counseling, and/or training; the employee's work record; and the impact the employee's performance, conduct and/or attendance issues have on Elevation as an organization.

Procedure

Step 1: Counseling and Verbal Warning

Step 1 creates an opportunity for the immediate supervisor to schedule a meeting with an employee to bring attention to the existing performance, conduct, or attendance issue. The supervisor should discuss with the employee the nature of the problem and/or violation of company policies and procedures. The supervisor is expected to clearly outline expectations and steps the employee must take to improve performance or resolve the problem.

Within five business days, the supervisor will prepare written documentation of a Step 1 meeting. The employee will be asked to sign the written documentation. The employee's signature is needed to demonstrate the employee's understanding of the issues and the corrective action needed.

Step 2: Written Warning

While it is hoped that the performance, conduct, or attendance issues that were identified in Step 1 have been corrected, Elevation recognizes that this may not always be the case. A written warning involves a more formal documentation of the performance, conduct, or attendance issues and consequences.

During Step 2, the immediate supervisor and a department manager or director will meet with the employee and review any additional incidents or information about the performance, conduct, or attendance issues as well as any prior relevant corrective action plans. Management will outline the consequences for the employee of his or her continued failure to meet performance, conduct and/or attendance expectations. A formal performance improvement plan (PIP) requiring the employee's immediate and sustained corrective action will be issued within five business days of a Step 2 meeting. A warning outlining that the employee may be subject to additional discipline up to and including termination if immediate and sustained corrective action is not taken may also be included in the PIP.

Step 3: Suspension and Final Written Warning

There may be performance, conduct, or safety incidents so problematic and harmful that the most effective action may be the temporary removal of the employee from the workplace. When immediate action is necessary to ensure the safety of the employee or others, the immediate supervisor may suspend the employee pending the results of an investigation.

Suspensions that are recommended as part of the normal progression of the progressive discipline policies and procedures are subject to approval from a next-level manager and the Human Resources Manager.

Depending upon the seriousness of the infraction, an employee may be suspended without pay in full-day increments consistent with federal, state and local wage-and-hour employment laws. Non Exempt/hourly employees may not substitute or use accrued paid vacation or sick days in lieu of the unpaid suspension. Due to Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) compliance issues, unpaid suspension of salaried/exempt employees is reserved for serious workplace safety or conduct issues. The Human Resources Manager will provide guidance so that discipline is administered without jeopardizing the FLSA exemption status.

Pay may be restored to an employee if an investigation of the incident or infraction absolves the employee.

Step 4: Recommendation for Termination of Employment

The last and most serious step in the progressive discipline procedures is a recommendation to terminate employment. Generally, Elevation will try to utilize the progressive steps of this policy by first providing warnings, a final written warning, and/or suspension from the workplace before proceeding to a recommendation to terminate employment. However, Elevation reserves the right to combine and skip steps depending upon the circumstances of each situation and the nature of the offense, and an employee may be terminated without prior notice or disciplinary action.

Management's recommendation to terminate employment must be approved by the Human Resources Manager and department manager or designee. Final approval may be required from the President or designee.

Nothing in this policy provides any contractual rights regarding employee discipline or counseling nor should anything in this policy be read or construed as modifying or altering the employment-at-will relationship between Elevation and its employees.

Appeal Process

Any employee subject to disciplinary action will have the opportunity to present information on their own behalf that may challenge information management relied upon in making the decision to issue the disciplinary action. The purpose of this appeal process is to provide insight into extenuating circumstances that may have contributed to the employee's performance, conduct and/or attendance issues, while allowing for an equitable solution.

If an employee does not present information on their own behalf during a step meeting, they will have five business days after the meeting to present such information to the supervisor who conducted the meeting.

Performance and Conduct Issues Not Subject to Progressive Discipline

Behavior that is illegal is not subject to progressive discipline and may be reported to local law enforcement. Theft, intoxication at work, fighting and other acts of violence are also not subject to progressive discipline and may be grounds for immediate termination.

Documentation

Any employee subject to progressive discipline will be provided with copies of all relevant documentation related to the progressive discipline process, including all PIPs. The employee will be asked to sign copies of this documentation attesting to their receipt and understanding of the corrective action outlined in these documents. Copies of these documents will be placed in the employee's official personnel file.

Separation of Employment

Separation of employment within an organization can occur for several different reasons. Employment may end as a result of resignation, retirement, release (end of season or assignment), reduction in workforce, or termination. When an employee separates from Elevation, the employee's supervisor must contact the Human Resources Manager to schedule an exit interview, which will typically take place on the employee's last workday.

Types of Separation

1. Resignation

Resignation is a voluntary act initiated by the employee to end employment with Elevation. The employee must provide a minimum of two (2) weeks' notice prior to resignation. If an employee does not provide advance notice or fails to actually work the remaining two weeks, the employee will be ineligible for rehire. The

resignation date must not fall on the day after a holiday.

2. Retirement

An employee who wishes to retire is required to notify their department director and the Human Resources Manager in writing at least one (1) month before the planned retirement date. It is the practice of Elevation to give special recognition to employees at the time of their retirement.

3. Job Abandonment

An employee who fails to report to work or contact their supervisor for two (2) consecutive workdays will be considered to have abandoned their job without notice effective at the end of the employee's normal shift on the second day. The department manager will notify the Human Resources Manager at the expiration of the second workday and initiate the paperwork to terminate the employee. Employees who are separated due to job abandonment are ineligible for rehire.

4. Termination

Employees of Elevation are employed on an at-will basis, and the company retains the right to terminate an employee at any time.

5. Reduction in Workforce

An employee may be laid off due to changes in duties, organizational changes, lack of funds, or lack of work. Employees who are laid off may not appeal the layoff decision through the appeal process.

6. Release

Release is the end of temporary or seasonal employment. The Human Resources Manager, in consultation with the department manager, will inform the temporary or seasonal worker of their release according to the terms of the individual's temporary employment.

7. Immediate Dismissal

Any Agent who has diverted marijuana, engaged in unsafe practices, or been convicted or entered a guilty plea for a felony charge of distribution of a drug to a minor shall be immediately terminated per 935 CMR 500.105(1).

Exit Interview

The separating employee will contact the HR department as soon as notice is given to schedule an exit interview. The interview will be held on the employee's last day of work

or another day, as mutually agreed upon.

<u>Return of Property</u>

The separating employee must return all company property at the time of separation, including but not limited to, uniforms, cell phones, keys, computers, and identification cards. Failure to return certain items may result in deductions from the employee's final paycheck. All separating employees will be required to sign a Wage Deduction Authorization Agreement, allowing Elevation to deduct the costs of such items from their final paycheck.

Termination of Benefits

An employee separating from Elevation is eligible to receive benefits as long as the appropriate procedures are followed as stated above. Two weeks' notice must be given, and the employee must work the full two work weeks. Accrued vacation leave will be paid in the last paycheck. Accrued sick leave will be paid in the last paycheck.

Health Insurance

Health insurance terminates on the last day of the month of employment, unless the employee requests immediate termination of benefits. Information about the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) continued health coverage will be provided. Employees will be required to pay their share of the dependent health and dental premiums through the end of the month.

<u>Rehire</u>

Former employees who left in good standing and were classified as eligible for rehire may be considered for reemployment. An application must be submitted to the Human Resources Manager, and the applicant must meet all minimum qualifications and requirements of the position, including any qualifying exam, when required.

Department managers must obtain approval from the Human Resources Manager or designee prior to rehiring a former employee. Rehired employees begin benefits just as any other new employee. Previous tenure will not be considered in calculating longevity, leave accruals, or any other benefits.

An applicant or employee who is terminated for violating policy or who resigned in lieu of termination from employment due to a policy violation will be ineligible for rehire.

Compensation

As an employer, Elevation believes that it is in the best interest of both the organization

and Elevation's employees to fairly compensate its workforce for the value of the work provided. It is Elevation's intention to use a compensation system that will determine the current market value of a position based on the skills, knowledge, and behaviors required of a fully-competent incumbent. The system used for determining compensation will be objective and non- discriminatory in theory, application and practice. The company has determined that this can best be accomplished by using a professional compensation consultant, as needed, and a system recommended and approved by the executive management team.

Selection Criteria

- 1. The compensation system will price positions to market by using local, national, and industry specific survey data.
- 2. The market data will primarily include marijuana-related businesses and will include survey data for more specialized positions and will address significant market differences due to geographical location.
- 3. The system will evaluate external equity, which is the relative marketplace job worth of every marijuana industry job directly comparable to similar jobs at Elevation, factored for general economic variances, and adjusted to reflect the local economic marketplace.
- 4. The system will evaluate internal equity, which is the relative worth of each job in the organization when comparing the required level of job competencies, formal training and experience, responsibility and accountability of one job to another, and arranging all jobs in a formal job- grading structure.
- 5. Professional support and consultation will be available to evaluate the compensation system and provide on-going assistance in the administration of the program.
- 6. The compensation system must be flexible enough to ensure that the company is able to recruit and retain a highly-qualified workforce, while providing the structure necessary to effectively manage the overall compensation program.

Responsibilities

The executive management team will give final approval for the compensation system that will be used by Elevation.

- 1. On an annual basis the executive management team will review and approve, as appropriate, recommended changes to position-range movement as determined through the vendor's market analysis process.
- 2. As part of the annual budgeting process, the executive management team will review and approve, as appropriate, funds to be allocated for total compensation, which would include base salaries, bonuses, variable based or incentive-based pay, and all other related expenses, including benefit plans.

Management Responsibility

- 1. The President is charged with ensuring that Elevation is staffed with highly-qualified, fully-competent employees and that all programs are administered within appropriate guidelines and within the approved budget.
- 2. The salary budget will include a gross figure for the following budget adjustments, but the individual determinations for each employee's salary adjustment will be the exclusive domain of the President: determining the appropriate head count, titles, position levels, merit and promotional increases and compensation consisting of salary, incentive, bonus, and other discretionary pay for all positions.
- 3. The President will ensure that salary ranges are updated at least annually, that all individual jobs are market priced at least once every two years, and that pay equity adjustments are administered in a fair and equitable manner.

Agent Background Checks

- In addition to completing the Commission's agent registration process, all agents hired to work for Elevation will undergo a detailed background investigation prior to being granted access to an Elevation facility or beginning work duties.
- Background checks will be conducted on all agents in their capacity as employees or volunteers for Elevation pursuant to 935 CMR 500.100 and will be used by the Director of Security, who will be registered with the Department of Criminal Justice Information Systems pursuant to 803 CMR 2.04: iCORI Registration and the Commission for purposes of determining the suitability of individuals for registration as a marijuana establishment agent with the licensee.
- For purposes of determining suitability based on background checks performed in accordance with 935 CMR 500.101(1), Elevation will consider:
 - a. All conditions, offenses, and violations are construed to include Massachusetts law or similar or similar law(s) of another state, the United States or foreign jurisdiction, a military, territorial or Native American tribal authority, or any other jurisdiction.
 - b. All criminal disqualifying conditions, offenses, and violations include the crimes of attempt, accessory, conspiracy, and solicitation. Juvenile dispositions will not be considered as a factor for determining suitability.
 - c. Where applicable, all look back periods for criminal conditions, offenses, and violations included in 935 CMR 500.802 commence upon the date of disposition; provided, however, that if disposition results in incarceration in any institution, the look back period will commence upon release from incarceration.
- Suitability determinations will be made in accordance with the procedures set forth in 935 CMR 500.800. In addition to the requirements established in 935 CMR 500.800,

Elevation will:

- a. Comply with all guidance provided by the Commission and 935 CMR 500.802: Tables B through D to determine if the results of the background are grounds for Mandatory Disqualification or Presumptive Negative Suitability Determination.
- b. Consider whether offense(s) or information that would result in a Presumptive Negative Suitability Determination under 935 CMR 500.802. In the event a Presumptive Negative Suitability Determination is made, Elevation will consider the following factors:
 - i. Time since the offense or incident;
 - ii. Age of the subject at the time of the offense or incident;
 - iii. Nature and specific circumstances of the offense or incident;
 - iv. Sentence imposed and length, if any, of incarceration, if criminal;
 - v. Penalty or discipline imposed, including damages awarded, if civil or administrative;
 - vi. Relationship of offense or incident to nature of work to be performed;
 - vii. Number of offenses or incidents;
 - viii. Whether offenses or incidents were committed in association with dependence on drugs or alcohol from which the subject has since recovered;
 - ix. If criminal, any relevant evidence of rehabilitation or lack thereof, such as information about compliance with conditions of parole or probation, including orders of no contact with victims and witnesses, and the subject's conduct and experience since the time of the offense, including, but not limited to, professional or educational certifications obtained; and
 - x. Any other relevant information, including information submitted by the subject.
- c. Consider appeals of determinations of unsuitability based on claims of erroneous information received as part of the background check during the application process in accordance with 803 CMR 2.17: Requirement to Maintain a Secondary Dissemination Log and 2.18: Adverse Employment Decision Based on CORI or Other Types of Criminal History Information Received from a Source Other than the DCJIS.
- Upon adverse determination, Elevation will provide the applicant a copy of their background screening report and a pre-adverse determination letter providing the applicant with a copy of their right to dispute the contents of the report, who to contact to do so and the opportunity to provide a supplemental statement.
- After 10 business days, if the applicant is not disputing the contents of the report and any provided statement does not alter the suitability determination, an adverse action letter will be issued providing the applicant information on the final determination made by Elevation along with any legal notices required.

- All suitability determinations will be documented in compliance with all requirements set forth in 935 CMR 500 et seq. and guidance provided by the Commission.
- Background screening will be conducted by an investigative firm holding the National Association of Professional Background Screeners (NAPBS®) Background Screening Credentialing Council (BSCC) accreditation and capable of performing the searches required by the regulations and guidance provided by the Commission.
- References provided by the agent will be verified at the time of hire.
- As deemed necessary, individuals in key positions with unique and sensitive access (e.g. members of the executive management team) will undergo additional screening, which may include interviews with prior employers or colleagues.
- As a condition of their continued employment, agents, volunteers, contractors, and subcontractors are required to renew their Program ID cards annually and submit to other background screening as may be required by Elevation or the Commission.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION PLAN

Statement of Purpose

Elevation is dedicated to promoting equity in its operations for diverse populations, which the Commission has identified as the following:

- 1. Minorities;
- 2. Women;
- 3. Veterans;
- 4. People with disabilities; and
- 5. LGBQT+

To support such populations, Elevation has created the following Diversity Plan (the "Plan") and has identified and created goals/programs to promote equity in Elevation's operations.

<u>Goals</u>

In order for Elevation to promote equity for the above-listed groups in its operations, Elevation has established the following goals:

- 1. Increasing the number of individuals falling into the above-listed demographics working in the establishment by using best efforts to hit or exceed the following demographic mix for individuals:
 - a. 50% Women
 - b. 30% Racial Minorities
 - c. 15% Veterans
 - d. 15% Persons with Disabilities
 - e. 15% LGBTQ+
- 2. Providing tools such as training, education, and information to ensure the success of individuals falling into the above-listed demographics.

Programs

Elevation has developed specific programs to effectuate its stated goals to promote diversity and equity in its operations, which will include the following:

1. Advertising employment opportunities as they become available every month, in diverse publications including bilingual media such as El Sol Latino , and networking groups, such as the Taunton Diversity Network, for those who identify with the above-listed demographics, and posting job options on public boards, including but not limited to Indeed, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

- 2. Providing briefings to representatives from recruitment sources and job boards tailored to individuals falling in the above-listed demographics concerning current and future job openings such as Diversity Job Board; and
- 3. Sharing the company's goals under this plan with staff and encouraging employees to refer applicants from diverse groups in their network for employment.
- 4. Develop training programs that will increase the number of individuals qualifying under the above-listed demographics in management and executive positions.
- 5. Develop training programs that will increase internal promotions and cross functional training for all positions.
- 6. Establish a development program for individuals falling under the above-listed demographics. The Program will support 4 individuals per year, and Elevation will provide those individuals with training from the Cannabis Training University to achieve a Masters of Marijuana Certificate. The training will cover topics such as:
 - a. Cannabis Laws and Regulations
 - b. Cannabis Dispensary & Delivery Service Management
 - c. Cannabis as Medicine
 - d. Becoming a product specialist: Essential Skills Training

<u>Measurements</u>

The President will administer the Plan and will be responsible for developing measurable outcomes to ensure Elevation continues to meet its commitments. Such measurable outcomes, in accordance with Elevation's goals and programs described above, include:

- Counting the number of individuals hired who are women, minorities, veterans, persons with disabilities and members of the LGBTQ+ community. This number will be assessed from the total number of individuals hired to ensure that 50% of all individuals hired fall within this goal.
- Number of positions created since initial licensure;

- Number of and type of information sessions held or participated in with supporting documentation;
- Number of postings in diverse publications or general publications with supporting documentation;
- Number and subject matter of trainings and courses held and the number of individuals falling into the above-listed demographics in attendance; and
- A comprehensive description of all efforts made by Elevation to monitor and enforce the Plan.

The President will review and evaluate Elevation's measurable outcomes no less than annually to ensure that Elevation is meeting its commitments.

In the event that Elevation is not meeting its commitments, Elevation will re-evaluate its programs and implement a corrective action plan to ensure the commitments are met. Elevation is mindful that demonstration of the Plan's progress and success will be submitted to the Commission upon renewal.

Acknowledgements

• Elevation will adhere to the requirements set forth in 935 CMR 500.105(4) which provides the permitted and prohibited advertising, branding, marketing, and sponsorship practices of every Marijuana Establishment.

Any actions taken, or programs instituted, by Elevation will not violate the Commission's regulations with respect to limitations on ownership or control or other applicable state laws.