

CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION

July 28, 2025
10:00 AM

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

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Documents:

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

In Attendance:

- Commissioner Ava Callender Concepcion
- Commissioner Kimberly Roy
- Acting Chair Bruce Stebbins

Minutes:

- I. Call to Order
 - The Acting Chair (AC) recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order.
 - The AC gave notice that the meeting is being recorded.
 - The AC gave an overview of the agenda.
- II. Commissioners' Comments & Updates – 00:01:13
 - Commissioners thanked staff for preparing the day's meeting and Commissioner Roy celebrated the recent \$8 billion adult-sales milestone.
- III. Staff Recommendations on Changes of Ownership – 00:03:49
 - Licensing Analyst Jaime Wakefield (Analyst Wakefield) presented on behalf of the Licensing department the Staff Recommendations for Changes of Ownership, Renewals, Provisionals, Final Licenses and Responsible Vendor Training Renewal Licenses.



1. Beacon Compassion Inc.

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

2. PharmaCannis Massachusetts, Inc.

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

IV. Staff Recommendations on Renewal Licenses – 00:06:54

- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the renewal of items numbered 1 – 17 as indicated on the agenda.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the renewal of items numbered 1 – 17 as indicated on the agenda.

V. Staff Recommendations on Provisional Licenses – 00:08:06

1. Charles Town Cannabis, Inc. (#MRN285114), Marijuana Retailer

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

2. Rivers' Leaves of Natural Healing, Inc. (#MRN285254), Marijuana Retailer

- Commissioner Concepcion moved to approve the Provisional License.



- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the Provisional License.

VI. Staff Recommendations on Final Licenses – 00:11:13

1. Ignited Culture, Inc (#MR284438), Marijuana Retailer
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Final License.
 - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Final License.

VII. Staff Recommendations on Responsible Vendor Training Renewal Licenses – 00:12:25

1. DSBWorldWide, Inc. (#RVR453156)
 - Commissioner Roy moved to approve the Responsible Vendor Training License Renewal.
 - Commissioner Concepcion seconded the motion.
 - The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
 - The Commission unanimously approved the Responsible Vendor Training License Renewal.

VIII. Commission Discussion and Votes – 00:13:53

1. Open Meeting Law Complaint Update
 - General Counsel Kajal Chattopadhyay (GC Chattopadhyay) explained that the Commission had received an Open Meeting Law (OML) complaint on June, 25, 2025 alleging that the Commission had intentionally failed to post notice for the State of Cannabis event. He noted that the complaint was not timely and discussed the actions taken by the Commission prior to the event to highlight it publicly. He suggested that the Commissioners direct him to reply to the complaint in order to explain that there had been no attempt to evade OML. Commissioner Concepcion stated that she had first created the State of Cannabis event to highlight the work completed by staff and not focused on the board.



- Commissioner Concepcion moved to direct the General Counsel to respond to the OML complaint consistent with his presentation at the July 28, 2025, meeting.
- Commissioner Roy seconded the motion.
- The AC took a roll call vote:
 - Commissioner Concepcion – Yes
 - Commissioner Roy – Yes
 - AC Stebbins – Yes
- The Commission unanimously approved the motion.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 00:44:56.)

2. Discussion and Review of Draft Regulations and Policy

- The AC stated that the purpose of this discussion item was to revisit sections which Commissioners had agreed to circle back to before the official public comment period. The group began with 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.002 and Enforcement Counsel Timothy Goodin (EC Goodin) proposed new definitions for Diversion and Inversion which Commissioners discussed with staff. They found consensus on “Diversion means the unauthorized or intentional removal of Marijuana or Marijuana Products from the Cannabis Control Commission's regulated market” and “Inversion means the unauthorized insertion of Marijuana or Marijuana Products cultivated or produced by an individual entity not licensed by the Cannabis Control Commission into the regulated market.” Deputy General Counsel Michael Baker (DGC Baker) noted that a significant change to the draft before the group was the definition of Event Plan and asked for public feedback.
- Commissioner Roy requested a new definition of Commission Delegee to allow for the Commission to partner with non-governmental organizations to carry out the Secret Shopper Program. DGC Baker suggested edits later in the regulations to allow for this as Commission Delegee was used throughout the regulations. He volunteered to work offline to address the issue and the Executive Director (ED) stated that he would provide a timeline to get this edit into the current round of regulatory amendments. The AC suggested an edit to the definition of Consumption Area to strike “or” after the word “purchase.” Commissioners discussed the edit and agreed to include it. The AC suggested a further edit to the definition of Principal Place of Business and Commissioners agreed to a new definition to read: “Principal Place of Business means the primary location where a Licensee manages its licensed operations.”
- Commissioners discussed 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.030(3) and how to reduce the costs of unnecessary Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) checks with staff and decided to recess.
- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 03:30:35.)
- The AC resumed discussion of 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.030(3) and how to best eliminate the need for duplicative CORI checks. DGC Baker suggested including “in accordance with 803 CMR 2.00” at the end of the section and there were no objections. Commissioners continued discussing (3) and decided to change the ending



to "... provided however, that a CORI shall not be required when one was already completed within the previous calendar year for an employee transferring to, or working within and between Licensees who share the same Persons or Entities Having Direct and Indirect Control in accordance with 803 CMR 2.11(7)."

Commissioners agreed to circle back to this section after obtaining more data on outdoor cultivators and EC Goodin suggested an additional potential amendment to indicate that agents must notify the Commission of any changes to their suitability status and to cross reference the suitability sections in the regulations. The AC moved to (8) and suggested an edit to read: "A Marijuana Establishment Agent may be issued a single Agent Registration card covering all Licenses held by the same Persons or Entities Having Direct or Indirect Control." No Commissioners objected to the change and there were no further amendments until 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.050(9)(a)1. where Commissioner Roy suggested striking the sentence indicating that Marijuana Transporters could not hold another Marijuana Establishment (ME) License in order to allow them to participate in Social Consumption. Commissioner Concepcion suggested an alternative amendment to allow Third-party Transporters to move to the Existing Licensee Transporter License-type and DGC Baker offered to work offline with her to develop an amendment. There were no further requested amendments until 935 Code Mass. Regs. §500.101(3)(i)8., where DGC Baker explained that the requirement to submit summaries of policies and standards was intended to reduce the burden on Licensees. Chief of Investigations and Enforcement Nomxolisi Jones (Chief Jones) suggested that this might create unnecessary back and forth on not-yet-finalized policies, which Commissioners discussed and the ED stated he would revise and bring the section back for Commissioner's consideration.

- The Commission took a brief recess. (Returned at 05:04:03.)
- Commissioner Concepcion resumed conversation of 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.101(3)(i)8. and suggested replacing "summaries" with "plans" and there were no objections. DGC Baker continued to summarize the redline amendments until 935 Code Mass. Regs. §500.105(12) where Director of Investigations Katherine Binkoski (Director Binkoski) explained that edits had been made to reduce the number of agents who must be present at the time of wasting and to provide flexibility for wasting different product types.
- Commissioner Roy asked if the current policy of a 72-hour waiting period to commence operations following notification of approval to do so was still useful to Investigations and Enforcement and Chief Jones stated that, in her opinion, it was no longer necessary. Chief Jones suggested providing some time to debrief the ED on the topic and for the Legal department to draft motion language for a future Public Meeting.
- Commissioners continued reviewing the redline amendments and there were no further requested edits until 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.110(9)(a)7. and 10. where Commissioner Concepcion requested to strike the word "applicable". The next edit was to 935 Code Mass. Regs. § 500.140(3)(e), where Commissioner Concepcion requested to replace "may" in the second sentence with "shall" and Commissioner



Roy asked if “Marijuana Establishment” should be changed to “Marijuana Retailer.” Commissioners discussed the latter and decided to leave the section as-is. Related to these sections, EC Goodin suggested revisiting the definition of Shelf-stable Foods to provide more clarity. DGC Baker stated that he would confirm if this was necessary with the Department of Public Health (DPH) and Commissioner Roy noted that further edits to 935 Code Mass. Regs. §§ 500.145(g) and .146(4)(f) may be necessary depending on their feedback. Commissioners discussed the potential outcomes of allowing MEs to sell Shelf-stable food products and the AC suggested revisiting the topic in the next day’s meeting and after hearing from stakeholders during the public comment period.

- The AC continued the review of the redline amendments and EC Goodin suggested an edit to 935 Code Mass. Regs. §500.141(2)(k) to indicate what action the Commission would take in the event that a municipality’s chief law enforcement officer did not provide comment on a Licensee’s procedures on assisting impaired Consumers as well as the extent to which the officer’s comments were taken under advisement. Commissioner Concepcion suggested striking “for comments” and the AC suggested revisiting this section.
- Regarding 935 Code Mass. Regs. §500.141(2)(p)4., the AC indicated that he would like to add a specific level of filtration system for the negative pressure ventilation system and for (12)(c), he suggested striking “tap”.
- DGC Baker asked that Commissioners review 935 Code Mass. Regs. §500.141(2)(e) and (3) before discussing the next day.

IX. Next Meeting Date – 06:39:04

- The AC stated that the next meeting was scheduled for the following day.

X. Adjournment – 06:40:00

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

